

THE U.S. MUST TERMINATE DELIVERIES OF MILITARY MUNITIONS AND WEAPONS TO ISRAEL BECAUSE ISRAEL HAS NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND WILL NOT SIGN ONTO THE NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION TREATY

Israel is presently violating, and has for at least 47 years actively violated U.S. federal laws which prohibit the provision of U.S. military assistance to a nation that possesses nuclear weapons but refuses to sign the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty of 1968 (NPT). Israel is believed to possess from 90¹ to 200² nuclear warheads and is capable of delivering a nuclear warhead from 4000 miles away.³ Israel has acquired the Bomb wholly outside of international legal controls. Its rogue nuclear status is of mounting concern during the present genocidal war it is waging in the Gaza Strip.

In 1976 Congress passed the Arms Export Control Act, which prohibited U.S. military aid to any country which had not signed the NPT and was acquiring equipment and materials for a nuclear weapons program. This “Symington Amendment” nevertheless allowed the President to provide U.S. foreign military aid to violators if he certified in writing to Congress that the termination of assistance would seriously affect vital U.S. interests.

In 1977, Senator John Glenn expressed concern that Israel was stealing and diverting U.S. government-owned weapons-grade uranium from a U.S. government contractor for its own nuclear weapons program at Dimona in Israel.⁴ Senator Glenn successfully pushed Congress to enact the “Nuclear Enrichment And Reprocessing Transfers; Nuclear Detonations Act.” This toughened the Symington prohibition by making the aid cutoff mandatory if a country refusing to sign the NPT either “receives a nuclear explosive device, or . . . detonates a nuclear explosive device . . .” 22 U.S.C. § 2799aa-1(b)(1)(B). Despite Israel’s continuous nuclear weapons program for decades, there has never been a public finding made nor sanctions imposed.

President Biden may not waive the cutoff of aid to Israel because Israel has staged at least one nuclear test explosion and has received nuclear weapons. It would require a new act of Congress to waive the sanctions. The evidence of Israel’s strategic nuclear bombs goes back decades.

A Central Intelligence Agency “Special National Intelligence Estimate” in 1960 pronounced that Israel “will produce some weapon-grade plutonium in 1963-1964, and possibly as early as 1962.”⁵

In 1964, Israel intended to purchase 80-100 tons of yellowcake from Argentina and the Johnson administration tried unsuccessfully to head off the sale.⁶ Yellowcake, which is processed uranium ore, was critically important to Israel for fueling its nuclear reactor at Dimona to produce plutonium for weapons.⁷ And so Israel began to create plutonium for bomb-making at Dimona in 1966 and was building bombs by the time of the 1967 Six-Day War.⁸

¹ <https://thebulletin.org/premium/2022-01/nuclear-notebook-israeli-nuclear-weapons-2022/#post-heading>

² <https://www.armscontrol.org/factsheets/nuclear-weapons-who-has-what-glance>

³ <https://thebulletin.org/premium/2022-01/nuclear-notebook-israeli-nuclear-weapons-2022/#post-heading>

⁴ <https://nsarchive.gwu.edu/document/22164-29-briefing-senator-john-glenn-democrat-ohio>

⁵ <https://nsarchive2.gwu.edu/nukevault/ebb510/docs/doc%208.pdf>

⁶ <https://foreignpolicy.com/2013/07/02/israels-secret-uranium-buy/>

⁷ <https://www.wilsoncenter.org/publication/israels-quest-for-yellowcake-the-secret-argentina-israel-connection-1963-1966>

⁸ <https://nsarchive.gwu.edu/briefing-book/nuclear-vault/2020-11-10/duplicity-deception-self-deception-israel-united-states-dimona-inspections-1964-65>

In 1968 the CIA concluded that some 100 kg of highly-enriched uranium (HEU) had been diverted from the Nuclear Materials and Equipment Corporation (NUMEC) in Apollo, Pennsylvania to the Dimona reactor complex in Israel for nuclear weapons use.⁹ A chemical signature retrieved by the U.S. matched the signature of HEU created at a Department of Energy enrichment plant in Piketon, Ohio. This suspected theft propelled Senator Glenn's push for legislation to terminate U.S. military aid to any country not complying with the NPT.

Also in 1968, Israel secretly purchased and diverted 200 tons of natural uranium from West Germany in what came to be known as the Plumbat Affair.¹⁰ The European Atomic Energy Commission (EURATOM) approved the sale based on misleading statements that the uranium was bound for an Italian chemical company. The cargo was secretly transferred by the Mossad at sea to an Israeli freighter.

U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger kept Israel's nuclear weapons a secret in the late 1960s by concealing Israel's purchase of U.S. warplanes that could be fitted to drop nuclear bombs. On July 16, 1969, Kissinger sent a memo to President Richard Nixon outlining Israel's policy of "nuclear ambiguity," neither confirming nor denying that Israel has nuclear bombs.¹¹ Kissinger verified that Israel possessed nuclear weapons and warned Nixon that by declining the sale, "we will be the ones to make Israel's possession of nuclear weapons public with all the international consequences this entails."

A 1974 CIA "Special National Intelligence Estimate"¹² concluded, "that Israel already has produced and stockpiled a small number of fission weapons."

In 1976, the CIA estimated Israel had 10-20 nuclear bombs.¹³

On September 22, 1979 an American satellite detected the "double flash" of a joint Israeli-apartheid South Africa nuclear test¹⁴ in the Atlantic Ocean. The CIA found a "90% plus" probability that Israel had caused a "nuclear explosion in the atmosphere"¹⁵ jointly with South Africa.¹⁶

In the 1980's, before he was Israel's Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu allegedly was directly involved in an Israeli international smuggling ring that resulted in the theft of 800 nuclear weapons triggers from a U.S. firm.¹⁷ The Israeli Ministry of Defense deployed a network of front companies to smuggle sensitive nuclear weapons technology out of the United States. There were 15 shipments from 1979 to 1983, totaling 800 krytron switching devices, which are readily usable as nuclear weapons triggers. The smuggling ring included Benjamin Netanyahu.¹⁸

⁹ <https://www.nrc.gov/docs/ML1112/ML11124A063.pdf>

¹⁰ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operation_Plumbat

¹¹ https://www.nixonlibrary.gov/sites/default/files/virtuallibrary/documents/mr/071969_israel.pdf

¹² <https://nsarchive2.gwu.edu/NSAEBB/NSAEBB240/snief.pdf>

¹³ <https://archive.org/details/islamicbombnu00weis>

¹⁴ <https://nsarchive.gwu.edu/document/19606-national-security-archive-doc-5-jerry-oplinger>

¹⁵ https://books.google.com/books?id=z0RwEAAAQBAJ&pg=PA456&lpg=PA456&dq=%E2%80%9Csignals+were+consistent+with+detection+of+a+nuclear+explosion+in+the+atmosphere%E2%80%9D&source=bl&ots=sHNwgVWj5N&sig=ACfU3U2Fhl1rNN_p3yOgx7z1F0yVXqyfQ&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjBxeTmrWGaxVH6ckDHcnOBRYQ6AF6BAGIEAM#v=onepage&q=%E2%80%9Csignals%20were%20consistent%20with%20detection%20of%20a%20nuclear%20explosion%20in%20the%20atmosphere%E2%80%9D&f=false

¹⁶ <https://thebulletin.org/2015/09/flash-from-the-past-why-an-apparent-israeli-nuclear-test-in-1979-matters-today/>

¹⁷ <https://original.antiwar.com/smith-grant/2012/07/03/netanyahu-worked-inside-nuclear-smuggling-ring/>

¹⁸ https://www.israellobby.org/krytons/06272012_milco_mdr.pdf

In 1986, Israel prosecuted Mordechai Vanunu, a former technician at the Dimona nuclear complex, for treason because he had provided information about Israel's weapons program to a British newspaper. This fueled speculation that Israel had sufficient material for 150 two-stage thermonuclear bombs.¹⁹

A 1987 Pentagon update on Israel's nuclear weapons program revealed that "The SOREQ and the Dimona/Beer Shiva facilities are the equivalent of our Los Alamos, Lawrence Livermore and Oak Ridge National Laboratories" and provided "the technology base required for nuclear weapons design and fabrication."²⁰

In December 2006, Israel's then-prime minister Ehud Olmert compromised the nuclear ambiguity deception when he criticized Iran for aspiring "to have nuclear weapons, as America, France, Israel, Russia."²¹

In 2010, the U.S. Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) charged the U.S.-based Tology LLC with violating U.S. Export Administration Regulations (EAR) for delivering 22 oscilloscopes to Israel.²² Oscilloscopes graph electrical signals and can be used in nuclear weapons systems. Then on April 30, 2012, the BIS outed the California company Mattson for selling pressure transducers to Israel.²³ Transducers measure the gas pressure inside centrifuge cascades which enrich uranium for nuclear weapons.

Former speaker of the Israeli Knesset Avraham Burg broke Israel's nuclear ambiguity taboo in 2014 when he exposed Israeli possession of both nuclear and chemical weapons and described the official nuclear secrecy policy as "outdated and childish."²⁴

On November 4, 2023, Amichay Eliyahu, Israel's minister of heritage, said that dropping a nuclear bomb on Gaza was "one way" of dealing with the threat from Hamas.²⁵ No one from the Israeli government has contradicted Eliyahu's statement that Israel possesses nuclear weapons.

Israel's provocative approach to foreign relations during the Gaza genocide suggests a real possibility that it might use nuclear weapons. Israel undoubtedly has targeted Tehran for nuclear attack.²⁶ In May 2023, Prime Minister Netanyahu assessed that "95 percent of Israel's security problems come from Iran."²⁷

Israel has been a rogue nuclear weapons state for at least 60 years and in the Palestinian crisis, there is growing worry that they might be used. Israel threatens to expand its genocidal war to additional Middle East countries, thus it is of the highest priority that President Biden cut off aid to Israel because of its rogue nuclear weapons program.

¹⁹ <https://nuke.fas.org/guide/israel/barnaby.pdf>

²⁰ https://www.irmep.org/cfp/dod/071987_ctaiiann.pdf

²¹ <https://www.nbcnews.com/id/wbna12342829>

²² <https://isis-online.org/isis-reports/detail/u.s.-company-faces-penalties-for-alleged-nuclear-export-attempts-to-india-i/35>

²³ <https://isis-online.org/isis-reports/detail/case-study-u.s.-company-charged-with-pressure-transducer-sa%20les-who-were-the/>

²⁴ <https://www.timesofisrael.com/avraham-burg-panned-for-breaking-nuclear-ambiguity/>

²⁵ <https://www.timesofisrael.com/far-right-minister-says-nuking-gaza-an-option-pm-suspends-him-from-cabinet-meetings/>

²⁶ <https://apnews.com/article/3109382e1a894c13b5a014a23a743fd>

²⁷ <https://iranprimer.usip.org/blog/2023/jan/25/israel-iran-threat-options>