ECON EFFORTS TO BLOCK IRAN'S OBTAINING NUCLEAR WEAPONS, AND IT IS OF COURSE A FACT THAT THE ISRAELIS AND THE IRANIANS BOTH USE F-4'S AS THE BACKBONE OF THEIR AIR FORCES. THE IDF COULD BELIEVE IT COULD CARRY OUT AN F-4 STRIKE.
DURING A DISCUSSION OF VARIOUS SUBJECTS WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY DIRECTOR GENERAL DAVID KIMCHI AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL HANAN BAR-ON ON DECEMBER 10, I INQUIRED HOW FOREIGN MINISTER SHAMIR REGARDED HIS DISCUSSIONS IN PARIS CONCERNING THE IRAQI NUCLEAR PROBLEM. SPECIFICALLY, HOW WELL SATISFIED HE HAD BEEN WITH THOSE TALKS.

IN A SUBSEQUENT INTERVIEW FOREIGN MINISTER SHAMIR GAVE
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0 Israeli radio on December 11, he made the following
statements on this subject:

In-text: question: what is the French position on the
Iraqi nuclear reactor?

Answer: we have obvious misgivings regarding the presence
of a French nuclear reactor in the hands of a country like
Iraq. We know about the Iraqi rulers’ aspirations as they
have declared more than once that they wish to go as far as
producing nuclear weapons and for this reason they estab-
lish ties on nuclear projects with France, Italy, Brazil
and other countries. I raised this issue in the meeting
with French President Giscard d’Estaing and he attempted
to convince me that there are no grounds for Israel’s
ears and that Iraq is unable to achieve the goal of
nuclear weapons production. He explained that French

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Policy is to prevent the proliferation of nuclear arms.

Question: did the French President sound hostile in his
approach to Israel?

Answer: I would not say it in these words. The meeting
with him was friendly and interesting and he hoped that
Israel would regard him in a more positive light. He
seeks to appear as a man who seeks peace and who hopes
for Israel’s wellbeing. Obviously, he made it clear that
French interests have a priority as far as he is concerned.

And text:

Comment: our impression is that French efforts to
assure Shamir on this subject were not overly successful,
though they seemed to have made at least some impression
on him. We would anticipate that the goi will continue to
press the French at any and all occasions. Lewis

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