National Security Study Memorandum 98

TO: The Secretary of State
    The Secretary of Defense
    The Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Further Review of Israeli Arms Requests

As a follow-on to the procedures for initial review of Israeli requests for military equipment established by the Secretary of Defense, the President has requested that a study be prepared quickly outlining the principal Israeli strategies, their technical feasibility and their relation to political courses of action.

This study should include a range of options such as the following:

For the sake of comparison, a list of all current Israeli requests should be provided with a rationale for those major items not included in one of the packages.
Because of the close relationship between the provision of arms and U.S. diplomatic strategy the NSC Interdepartmental Group for Near East is charged with the preparation of this study and with the formulation of policy options in responding to Israeli requests. This and any following similar studies will incorporate the technical conclusions of the task force established by the Secretary of Defense.

This study should be forwarded for consideration in the NSC through the NSC Special Review Group no later than the opening of business August 17.

Henry A. Kissinger

cc: Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff