179659Z NOV 78
M AMBASSAD NEW DELHI
S STATE WASHDC 5351
E C R E T NEW DELHI 17682

SECRET

FROM: JN, PK, US
SUBJECT: ACHIEVING USG NONPROLIFERATION OBJECTIVES IN PAKISTAN

RELEASED IN PART B3, CIA

DECAPTIONED

A.D. 11652: GDS
AGS: MNUL, TECH, PEPR, JN, PK, US
SUBJECT: ACHIEVING USG NONPROLIFERATION OBJECTIVES IN PAKISTAN

EFS: A. ISLAMABAD 11119; B. STATE 290757

THE GOI HAS KNOWN FOR SOME TIME THAT WE BELIEVE PAKISTAN IS REACHING A NUCLEAR WEAPONS CAPABILITY. THAT WE HAVE SUCH SUSPICIONS AS CONFIRMED TO THEM DURING MY VISIT HERE. HOWEVER, SO FAR AS I KNOW WE HAVE OFFERED THE INDIANS FACTUAL INFORMATION TO SUPPORT OUR VIEW.

IN ANY CASE THE GOI HAS ITS OWN GROUNDS FOR THE SAME BELIEF, UNTIL RECENTLY IN TALKS WITH US GOI LEADERS HAD INDICATED LITTLE CONCERN OVER PAKISTAN'S INTENTIONS AND ABILITIES IN NUCLEAR-WEAPONS AREA. LAST WEEK HOWEVER, V. HANKAR VOLUNTEERED TO ME THAT GOI NOW BELIEVES THAT PAKISTAN IS WITHIN TWO OR THREE YEARS OF THE AFOREMENTIONED TARGET AND HAS HELP FROM A FOREIGN COUNTRY WHOSE IDENTITY HE WOULD NOT REVEAL. WHEN I SAID THAT THIS TIMETABLE DID NOT SQUARE WITH OUR CALCULATIONS, HANKAR SAID HE HAD CONFINED IN HIS INFORMATION.

TOVA B3

MADE AT MY REQUEST, TO FIND OUT SOMETHING ABOUT WHERE HANKAR GOT HIS INFORMATION HAS DRAWN A BLANK. MY PERSONAL HUNCH IS THAT SPANKAR IS ON LESS FIRM GROUND SECRET

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HERE THEN HE WANTED ME TO BELIEVE. THIS IS NOT TO SAY
WHAT HE WAS CONSCIOUSLY DISSEMBLING, BUT THAT LIKE OTHER
INDIANS HE TENDS TO ACCEPT UNCITICALLY THE WORST
POSSIBILITIES WHERE PAKISTAN IS CONCERNED.

3. DEPARTMENT PLEASE REPEAT THIS TO ISLAMABAD AND OTHERS
AS DESIRED.

GHONEIN

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