E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: HMUC, TECH, PK
SUBJECT: U.S. DEMARCHE ON PAKISTANI REPROCESSING PLANT

REF: STATE 281962

1. DCM PASSED NON-PAPER AND CONVEYED REFTEL TALKING POINTS TO MOFA DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER MASUD TAKASHIMA, NOVEMBER 7. TAKASHIMA, WHO HAD JUST RECENTLY RETURNED FROM ANNUAL BILATERALS WITH MEMBERS OF PAKISTANI FOREIGN MINISTRY, SAID IT WAS FIRST TIME HE HAD HEARD THAT NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVE DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT WORK WAS POSSIBLY UNDERWAY IN PAKISTAN. HE SAID AT RECENT BILATERALS IN ISLAMABAD, ONLY NUCLEAR PROBLEM TOUCHEP UPON BY PAKISTANI FOREIGN MINISTER WAS THAT OF REPROCESSING PLANT FROM FRANCE; PAKISTANIS ALSO EXPRESSED ANNOYANCE AT USG "INTERFERENCE."

2. TAKASHIMA SAID THAT GOJ SHARED U.S. VIEWS ON DANGERS OF PAKISTANI MOVES, ALTHOUGH HE CONVEYED HIS IMPRESSION THAT PAKISTAN FELT PARTICULARLY THREATENED BY RECENT EVENTS IN AFGHANISTAN AND INSTABILITY IN SUR-CONTINENT. TAKASHIMA ADDED THAT PAKISTAN'S VICE-FOREIGN MINISTER HAD REMARKED RUFEULLY THAT CENTO WAS JUST A "PIECE OF PAPER."

SECRET
3. DEPARTMENT REPEAT AS DESIRED.
MANFIELD