September 03, 1978
'Pakistan Reprocessing vs. French Commercial Deals,'
Embassy Islamabad cable to State Department

Citation:

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Summary:

Report on status of France-Pakistan deal for saviem trucks, which was connected with the recently canceled plutonium reprocessing plant project.

Credits:

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Original Language:

English

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TAGS: MNUC, FR, PK, EGEN
SUBJECT: PAKISTAN REPROCESSING VS FRENCH COMMERCIAL DEALS

1. FRENCH AMBASSADOR LEGOURRIERC, TELLS ME GOE EXPECTS
A FURTHER LETTER FROM GENERAL ZIA TO PRESIDENT GISCARD
WILL BE DELIVERED BY PAK EMBASSY IN PARIS SOON. PRIMARY
PURPOSE WILL BE TO BUILD A PUBLIC RECORD OF GOP EFFORTS
TO OBTAIN THE REPROCESSING PLANT.

2. SECONDARY PAK PURPOSE, ACCORDING TO LEGOURRIERC,
WILL BE TO ATTEMPT TO MAINTAIN LINKAGE BETWEEN THE PLANT
AND THE COMMERCIAL SAVIEM TRUCK DEAL. PAKS HAD OBTAINED
ONE OR MORE EXTENSION OF EARLIER SAVIEM DEADLINES FOR
MAKING DOWN PAYMENT THAT WOULD FREEZE ORIGINALLY
ESTIMATED COSTS. CURRENT DEADLINE IS SEPT 11, AND PAKS
ARE PRESSING FOR ANOTHER EXTENSION TO SEPT 30. PAKS
LAST WINTER HAD EXPLICITLY LINKED REPROCESSING WITH
SAVIEM DEAL, BUT FRENCH HAVE CONSISTENTLY INSISTED
THERE IS NO CONNECTION BETWEEN THE TWO MATTERS. I
INFERRRED, ALTHOUGH LEGOURRIERC DID NOT SAY, THAT
FRENCH MAY RELUCTANTLY AGREE TO EXTEND SEPT 11 DEADLINE.
HOWEVER LEGOURRIERC WAS CATEGORICAL IN SAYING NO
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AMOUNT OF PAK PRESSURE ON COMMERCIAL DEALS CAN CHANGE.
Giscard Decision not to supply any kind of Reprocessing Plant. Hummel

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