September 07, 1978
'Next Steps on Pakistan Reprocessing Deal,' State Department Cable 227260 to US Embassy France

Citation:


Summary:

The United States wants a public announcement from the French that the Pakistan plutonium reprocessing plant project is officially canceled.

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TAGS: MNUC, TECH, PK, FR, US

SUBJECT: NEXT STEPS ON PAKISTAN REPROCESSING DEAL

REF: A) PARIS 29233; B) PARIS 28319

1. WE APPRECIATE RECEIVING JACOMET’S VIEWS REGARDING CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTATIONS AND HIS STATEMENT THAT HE SEES NO BAR TO THE GOF NOTIFYING US THAT THE REPROCESSING SECRET

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ROBERT O HOMME
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PAGE 02           STATE 227264

DEAL HAS BEEN CANCELLED AND THERE WILL BE NO MORE DELIVERIES TO THE PLANT. WE BELIEVE UP-COMING MEETING BETWEEN AMBASSADOR SMITH AND JACOMET ON SEPTEMBER 12 WOULD PROVIDE GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO OBTAIN OFFICIAL FRENCH ASSURANCES AND WE HAVE PREPARED APPROPRIATE MATERIAL FOR SMITH’S BRIEFING BOOK.

2. WE ARE NOW REVIEWING OUR POSITION ON RESUMPTION OF AID AND MILITARY SALES TO PAKISTAN BUT HAVE NOT YET TAKEN ANY FIRM DECISIONS. AN ASSURANCE FROM THE FRENCH THAT THE REPROCESSING DEAL IS DEFINITELY OFF AND THAT NO TRANSFERS OF EQUIPMENT, MATERIAL OR TECHNOLOGY HAVE BEEN MADE SINCE ENACTMENT OF THE GLENN AMENDMENT (AUGUST 4, 1977) WOULD BE VERY USEFUL WHEN WE CONSULT WITH KEY MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.

3. AT YOUR DISCRETION, YOU MAY CONVEY SUBSTANCE OF PARAS 1 AND 2 TO JACOMET. WE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION ON FRENCH PLANS TO WITHDRAW TECHNICIANS FROM THE REPROCESSING FACILITY AT CHASMA AND ON FRENCH NUCLEAR INTENTIONS WITH RESPECT TO PAKISTAN. YOU MAY ALSO ASSURE JACOMET THAT WE WILL CONTINUE TO TRY TO MANAGE THE ISSUE IN WASHINGTON IN AS LOW-KEY A MANNER AS POSSIBLE.

4. SMITH ALSO WOULD BE GLAD TO BRIEF JACOMET ON OUR LATEST VIEW OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN SITUATION. CHRISTOPHER

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