

November 09, 1978
'US Demarche on Pakistani Reprocessing Plant,' US Embassy Austria cable 10233 to State Department

Citation:

"'US Demarche on Pakistani Reprocessing Plant,' US Embassy Austria cable 10233 to State Department," November 09, 1978, History and Public Policy Program Digital Archive, Mandatory Declassification Review request. Obtained and contributed by William Burr and included in NPIHP Research Update #3.

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Summary:

Austrian response to U.S. demarche on Pakistani nuclear development, agreeing to cooperate fully.

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English

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

REF: STATE 281962

1. AFTER COVERING ALL THE "TALKING POINT" MATERIAL, I DELIVERED NON PAPER TO MFA SECRETARY GENERAL REITRAUER. I STRESSED U.S. AND BRITISH EFFORTS TO WITHHOLD EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY WHICH COULD ENHANCE PAKISTANI CAPABILITY TO BUILD EITHER A REPROCESSING OR AN ENRICHMENT PLANT. DESCRIBED THE PROBLEM OF "GREY AREA" ITEMS AND EMPHASIZED U.S. DESIRE THAT ALL OTHER POTENTIAL SUPPLIERS BE ALERTED TO PAKISTANI EFFORTS TO OBTAIN PERTINENT MATERIALS OR TECHNOLOGY. U.S. WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR INFORMATION ON ANY ATTEMPTS OF PAKS TO OBTAIN SUCH MATERIALS OR TECHNOLOGY IN AUSTRIA.

2. REITRAUER, WHO HAD NOT PREVIOUSLY BEEN AWARE OF THIS DEVELOPMENT, REPLIED THAT HE CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD THE DANGERS OF PAKISTAN BECOMING A NUCLEAR POWER, AND SAID "WE SHALL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO PREVENT EXPORT" FROM AUSTRIA. HE SAID THAT HE WAS NOT AWARE THAT THE PAKISTANIS HAD MADE ANY ATTEMPTS TO GET MATERIAL IN AUSTRIA, BUT THAT HE WOULD TRY TO FIND OUT AND LET US KNOW.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
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3. I CONCLUDED BY TELLING REITBAUER THAT WE ARE CONTACTING ALL COUNTRIES WHO COULD SUPPLY MATERIALS OR TECHNOLOGY TO WARN THEM ABOUT THE PAKISTANI INTENTIONS. REITBAUER THEN ASKED IF WE HAD RAISED THE MATTER WITH IAEA. I REPLIED WE HAD NOT. HE SAID IN THAT CASE HE WOULD NOT DISCUSS THE QUESTION WITH IAEA OFFICIALS. FINALLY HE SAID THAT AUSTRIA TAKES ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE NON PROLIFERATION TREATY VERY SERIOUSLY AND SAID THAT WE CAN BE ASSURED ON THE FULLEST AUSTRIAN COOPERATION IN THIS MATTER. WOLF

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