June 26, 1972
US Mission Geneva Cable 2755 to State Department, 'Japanese-Pakistani Conversations Regarding Indian Nuclear Plans'

Citation:

Summary:
Report on conversations between Japanese officials and a Pakistani source who indicated the location of the upcoming Indian nuclear test. The cable expressed doubts about the information, suggesting that the "stir" "may have been created largely on personal basis" by the Pakistani source.

Credits:
This document was made possible with support from Carnegie Corporation.

Original Language:
English

Contents:
- Scan of Original Document
SECRET 805

PAGE 01 GENEVA 2755 262047Z

ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-10 EA-13 SS-14 PM-03 DODE-00 INR-05 ACOA-10

AEC-01 SCI-03 NSC-10 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 NSA-00 PRS-01

L-02 GAC-01 T-01 OMB-01 RSC-01 RSR-01 IO-03 9087 W

RI: 261815Z JUN 72

FM: USMISSION GENEVA

TO: SECSTATE WASHDC 4792

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

S: ECAR GENEVA 2755

DISTO

LIMDIS

SUBJECT: JAPANESE - PAKISTANI CONVERSATIONS RE INDIAN NUCLEAR PLANS

AEC INDIA

REFS: (A) STATE 113623 (B) TOKYO 6692 (C) DOD 12-1 INDIA

1. ON TUESDAY, JUNE 21, AFTER OPENING CCD

PLENARY MEETING, MATSUMOTO (JUNIOR OFFICER OF

JAPANESE CCD) DEL) WAS OBSERVED IN EXTENSIVE

PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH MIRZA (PAKISTAN DEPUTY).

NEXT MORNING, MATSUMOTO IN CONVERSATION WITH

NEIDLE (US DEP) SAID THAT JAPANESE DEL HAD

JUST RECEIVED VERY SPECIFIC INFORMATION REGARDING

PLACE OF FORTHCOMING INDIAN NUCLEAR EXPLOSION

(SAME AS IN REFETS). NEIDLE ASKED TO DISCUSS

MATTER WITH OTSUKA (JAPANESE DEP*) WHO SUBSEQUENTLY

SAID THAT JAPANESE DEL NOT ONLY HAD
SECRET

PAGE 02 GENEVA 02755 262047Z

PAKISTANI SOURCE BUT ALSO AN ADDITIONAL ONE ON WHICH TO BASE ITS CONCERN ON THURSDAY, JUNE 22 OTSUKA GAVE US A COPY OF PRESS CLIPPING QUOTING FROM INDIAN DEFMIN STATEMENT OF MAY 2, NEILD LIMITING HIMSELF TO COMMENTING THAT U.S. DEL HAD NO INFORMATION INDICATING SPECIFIC GOI PLANS TO PROCEED WITH NUCLEAR DETONATION.

2. JAPANESE DEL OFFS ALSO TOLD US THAT BASED ON MIRZA'S REPORT OF HIS CONVERSATION WITH NAZARKINE (SOVIET DEPUTY) THE SOVIETS WHILE CONCERNED DID NOT SEEM INCLINED TO DO ANYTHING TO DISCOURAGE INDIAN EXPLOSION.

3. LATER ON THURSDAY, MIRZA TOLD NEILD THAT HE WISHT SHORTLY TO HAVE LENGTHY CONVERSATION ABOUT A "MUTUAL PROBLEM" WHICH HE SAID CONCERNED INDIAN NUCLEAR QUESTION. NEILD SUBSEQUENTLY ATTEMPTED FOLLOW-UP BY ARRANGING MEETING WITH MIRZA, BUT LATTER HAD LEFT TOWN TO ATTEND A CONFERENCE AND WOULD NOT RETURN UNTIL NEXT WEEK. IN MEANTIME, AMB. MARTIN (U.S.) WILL SEEK EARLY OPPORTUNITY TO TALK INFORMALLY TO AMB. NAIK (PAKISTAN CCD REP).

4. ON MONDAY, JUNE 26, MARTIN COMMENTED TO AMB. NISIBORI THAT APPARENTLY JAPANESE PRESS CONTAINED STORY THAT INDIA PLANNING TO DETONATE A NUCLEAR DEVICE. NISIBORI SAID JAPANESE HAD NOTHING DEFINITE ON THIS. WHEN ASKED IF HE HAD ANY OTHER COMMENT, NISIBORI SAID HE THOUGHT INDIAN TEST "VERY LIKELY".

5. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH WE CANNOT BE CERTAIN WHETHER OR NOT ANY HARD INTELLIGENCE IS INVOLVED, OUR IMPRESSION IS THAT STIR ABOUT POSSIBLE INDIAN TEST MAY HAVE BEEN CREATED LARGELY ON PERSONAL BASIS BY MIRZA OF PAKISTANI DEL. (IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT MIRZA WAS PRIME MOVER BEHIND PAKISTANI UN DEL'S EFFORT AT UNGA IN 1970 TO SELL UN RESOLUTION DIRECTED AGAINST INDIA ON THIS SAME PROBLEM.) WE WILL
SECRET

PAGE 03  GENEVA 2755  262047Z

SEE WHAT AMB. NAIK IS WILLING TO TELL US AND
ALSO WILL REPORT MEETING WITH MIRZA WHEN HE
RETURNS NEXT WEEK. WE ALSO WILL BE SEEING SOVIET
DELOFFS FOR GENERAL INFORMAL CONVERSATION TOMORROW,
JUNE 27, AND WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET FIRST-HAND
IMPRESSION OF PRESENT VIEWS OF SOVIET DEL ON
THE MATTER.

GP-1, RIMESTAD