

July 14, 1987
**State Department Telegram 215122 to Embassy Islamabad,
'Maraging Steel Case: Press Guidance'**

Citation:

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Summary:

The Pervez arrest immediately raised questions in the media but the State Department would say little other than: let the legal system do its work, no speculation about Pervez’s intentions, and the admission that the Department had expressed concern to Pakistan about the “overall nature and direction of [its] nuclear program.”

Credits:

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Original Language:

English

Contents:

- Scan of Original Document

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Department of State

TELEGRAM R42

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UNCLAS STATE 215122

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: ECPS, MNUC, PARM, PREL, US, PK
SUBJECT: MARAGING STEEL CASE: PRESS GUIDANCE

1. FOLLOWING IS PRESS GUIDANCE ON PERVEZ ARREST IN
MARAGING STEEL EXPORT CASE PREPARED FOR SPOKESMAN 13
JULY. GUIDANCE WAS NOT/NOT USED.

2. BEGIN GUIDANCE. QUOTE:

-- S/NP PRESS GUIDANCE JULY 13, 1987

-- PAKISTANI NUCLEAR EXPORT CASE

Q: ANY COMMENT ON THE ARREST OF A PAKISTANI FOR
ALLEGEDLY ATTEMPTING TO EXPORT MARAGING STEEL ILLEGALLY
TO PAKISTAN'S NUCLEAR WEAPONS PROGRAM?

A: -- WE UNDERSTAND THAT A CANADIAN RESIDENT OF PAKISTANI
ORIGIN HAS BEEN ARRESTED IN PENNSYLVANIA ON FRIDAY AND
CHARGED WITH ATTEMPTING TO EXPORT SPECIALTY STEEL AND
BERYLLIUM TO PAKISTAN IN VIOLATION OF U.S. EXPORT CONTROL
LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

Q: WHAT IS YOUR REACTION TO PAKISTAN'S VIOLATION OF U.S.
LAWS AND REGULATIONS?

A: -- THE CASE IS CURRENTLY THE SUBJECT OF A CRIMINAL
PROCEEDING, AND IT IS UP TO THE COURTS TO DETERMINE
WHETHER ANY VIOLATION OF U.S. LAW OCCURRED.

Q: DO YOU THINK THAT PAKISTAN SOUGHT THIS STEEL SO THAT
IT COULD PRODUCE HIGHLY ENRICHED URANIUM FOR BOMBS?

A: -- I AM NOT PREPARED TO SPECULATE ABOUT THE INTENTIONS
OF THE INDIVIDUALS OR GOVERNMENTS THAT MAY BE INVOLVED IN
THIS CASE. THE U.S. HAS REPEATEDLY VOICED ITS CONCERNS
ABOUT THE OVERALL NATURE AND DIRECTION OF PAKISTAN'S
NUCLEAR PROGRAM, AND ABOUT PAKISTAN'S ONGOING
UNSAFEGUARDED URANIUM ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES.

Q: ARE YOU GOING TO SUSPEND ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN, AS
REQUIRED BY THE SOLARZ AMENDMENT?

A: NO JUDGMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE IN THIS CASE. SHULTZ

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

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Box 3

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