

June 26, 1972

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

Citation:

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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 "story" "may have been created largely on personal basis" by the Pakistani source.

Credits:

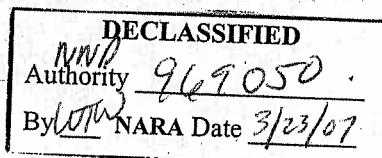
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Original Scan



AE 1 INDIA

XR Do 12-1 INDIA

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 FM USMISSION GENEVA
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4792
 INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
 AMEMBASSY LONDON
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 AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
 AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
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 USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

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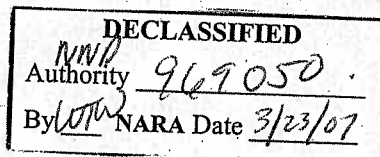
SUBJECT: JAPANESE - PAKISTANI CONVERSATIONS RE INDIAN
 NUCLEAR PLANSREFS: (A) STATE 113523; (B) TOKYO 6692 AE 1 INDIA
XR Do 12-1 INDIA

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 REFTELS). NEIDLE ASKED TO DISCUSS
 MATTER WITH OTSUKA (JAPANESE DEP.), WHO SUBSEQUENTLY
 SAID THAT JAPANESE DEL. NOT ONLY HAD

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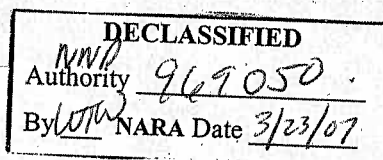
PAKISTANI SOURCE BUT ALSO AN ADDITIONAL ONE ON WHICH TO BASE ITS CONCERN; ON THURSDAY, JUNE 22 OTSUKA GAVE US A COPY OF PRESS CLIPPING QUOTING FROM INDIAN DEFMIN STATEMENT OF MAY 2. NEIDLE LIMITED HIMSELF TO COMMENTING THAT U.S. DEL HAD NO INFORMATION INDICATING SPECIFIC GOI PLANS TO PROCEED WITH NUCLEAR 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 NEIDLE THAT HE WISHED SHORTLY TO HAVE LENGTHY CONVERSATION ABOUT A "MUTUAL PROBLEM", WHICH HE SAID CONCERNED INDIAN NUCLEAR QUESTION. NEIDLE 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



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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

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