



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 ISLAMA 12497 210848Z
ACTION PH-03

INFO OCT-01 65-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 NEA-07 NSC-05 INR-05
CIAE-00 NSAE-00 DODE-00 L-01 ACDA-10 IO-06 SP-02
DES-02 SAS-01 EA-06 DOE-01 SOE-01 /073 W
-----088625 210854Z /17/15

P R 191055Z DEC 78
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 520
INFO AMCONSUL KARACHI
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

~~SECRET~~ ISLAMABAD 12497

**Declassified Case:
NW# 50711 Date:
07-24-2017**

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CORRECTED COPY (TEXT)

NOFORN

E.O. 112065: XGDS I (CONSTABLE P.D) OR-M
TAGS: MNUC ENGR TECH PK FR
SUBJECT: (S) DISCUSSION WITH FRENCH OFFICIAL ON NUCLEAR MATTERS

1. JEAN FORLOT, FRENCH EMBASSY FIRST SECRETARY WITH WHOME WE HAVE BEEN HAVING A REGULAR EXCHANGE OF NUCLEAR-RELATED INFORMATION, CALLED ON POLCOUNS 19 DEC TO DISCUSS A NUMBER OF MATTERS, ONE OF WHICH IS THE "VERY STRANGE" CONSTRUCTION WHICH IS PROCEEDING AT A "VERY RAPID PACE" AT KAHUTA, A VILLAGE SOUTHEAST OF ISLAMABAD NOTED MAINLY FOR ITS ROLE AS THE SITE OF A MASSACRE OF HINDUS AT THE TIME OF PARTITION.

2. FORLOT SAID HE HAD LOOKED AT THE SITE, WHICH HE

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ASSUMES IS NUCLEAR-RELATED, SIX MONTHS AGO, AND IN THE

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KODAK SAFETY FILM

E025x1 CIA

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TIME SINCE THEN, 10 BUILDINGS, INCLUDING A VERY LARGE, RECTANGULAR SHED-TYPE BUILDING, HAVE BEEN BEGUN AND PROCEEDED WITH UNCHARACTERISTIC SPEED FOR PAKISTAN. THE AREA IS FENCED, BUT THERE ARE NO SIGNS TO IDENTIFY THE PROJECT. AFTER CHECKING AROUND, FORLOT SAYS THE FRENCH HAVE DISCOVERED A KARACHI COMPANY WHICH HAS THE AIR CONDITIONING CONTRACT FOR THE PLACE, WORTH -- HE SAYS -- MORE THAN \$5 MILLION. HE SHOWED POLCOUNS SEVERAL PICTURES HE AND THE AUSTRALIAN DCM TOOK OF THE PLACE (IDENTICAL TO THOSE ALREADY PASSED BY THE AUSTRALIAN TO ANOTHER EMBOFF AND POUCHED TO [REDACTED] AND HE SPECULATED THAT THE INSTALLATION MAY WELL BE AN ENRICHMENT PLANT. THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR SUGGESTED FORLOT SHOW THE PHOTOS TO US BEFORE HE POUCHES THEM OFF TO PARIS FOR ANALYSIS VIA THE FRENCH MILITARY ATTACHE'S CHANNELS.

3. IN RESPONSE TO QUERY, POLCOUNS SAID HE HAD HEARD OF CONSTRUCTION WORK AT KAHUTA BUT INDICATED HIS KNOWLEDGE WAS LIMITED ON DETAILS. HE THANKED FORLOT FOR OPPORTUNITY TO SEE THE PHOTOS AND TO LEARN OF HIS OBSERVATIONS.

4. ON THE REPROCESSING PLANT, FORLOT SAID THE LAST OF THE TWO RESIDENT FRENCH TECHNICIANS -- THE CHEMIST -- WILL DEPART ON 2 JAN. HIS COLLEAGUE, WHO WAS A CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, DEPARTED LAST WEEK. THE ENGINEER SAID HE MIGHT TRY TO COME BACK ON A PRIVATE CONTRACT IF JOB OPPORTUNITIES ARE NOT ATTRACTIVE IN FRANCE. FORLOT DOUBTS THE ENGINEER WILL RETURN, HOWEVER, SINCE HIS WIFE AND FAMILY WERE UNHAPPY HERE AND HAVE VOWED THEY WILL NOT RETURN. THE SUPERVISORY ENGINEER FOR THE PROJECT WHO COMMUTED BETWEEN FRANCE AND PAKISTAN, WAS IN
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KARACHI LAST MONTH AND IS NOT EXPECTED BACK. THERE REMAINS ONE FRENCH CONSULTANT, RESIDENT IN LAHORE AND NOT AN "ATOMICIAN," BUT RATHER A CONSULTING CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER ON LOAN FROM A FRENCH COMPANY WITH THE INITIALS "S.E.E.E." FORLOT SAID HE HAS BEEN INVOLVED WITH THE PROJECT, OCCASIONALLY CONSULTS ON CONSTRUCTION MATTERS, AND WILL BE APPARENTLY STAYING ON IN PAKISTAN.

5. FORLOT EXPRESSED THE PERSONAL VIEW THAT THE PAKISTANIS WILL ATTEMPT TO GO AHEAD WITH THE PLANT BUT

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THAT IT WILL TAKE A VERY LONG TIME, AT CONSIDERABLE EXPENSE,
TO SHOW ANY RESULTS. FORLOT VOLUNTEERED NOTHING WHEN ASKED,
FO THE CONTENT OF PAC CHAIRMAN MUNIR KHAN'S TALKS WITH
FRENCH OFFICIALS.
HUMMEL

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