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ACTION NEA-11

INFO	OCT-00	COPY-01	ADS-00	AID-00	INR-10	SS-00	CIAE-00
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	L-03	TRSE-00	PM-10	EAP-00	PA-01	OMB-01	INRE-00
	SAL-01	ANAE-00	OES-09	ACDA-12	SP-02	DOEE-00	NRC-02
	SNP-01	PRS-01	/089 W				

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O 221207Z JUN 84
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3165
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
USIA WASHDC 2051

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 NEW DELHI 14048

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: PREL IN PK CH TNUC PRAM
SUBJECT: NEWS REPORTS OF PAKISTAN NUCLEAR CAPABILITIES

1. THE NATIONALLY LARGEST CIRCULATION "TIMES OF INDIA" FRONT-PAGED JUNE 22 A REPORT BY WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT J.N. PARIMOO CLAIMING IN PART THAT "SENATOR CRANSTON MADE THE SENSATIONAL DISCLOSURE IN THE U.S. SENATE TODAY THAT GOVERNMENT SOURCES HAD TOLD HIM THAT, WITH CHINESE HELP, PAKISTAN HAD ALREADY ACQUIRED THE CAPABILITY TO MAKE THE NUCLEAR BOMB. HE REVEALED THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN HIDING THESE FACTS FROM CONGRESS BECAUSE OFFICIALS FEARED THAT IF CONGRESS CAME TO KNOW ABOUT THIS, IT WOULD STOP THE DOLS. 3.2 BILLION AID TO PAKISTAN..." OTHER MAJOR PAPERS FRONT-PAGED ASSOCIATED PRESS AND UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL VERSIONS OF THE CRANSTON DISCLOSURE. (TEXT OF "TIMES OF INDIA" ARTICLE FOLLOWS IN PARA 3).

2. ACTION REQUESTED: IF ASKED, EMBASSY WILL DECLINE
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TO MAKE ANY IMMEDIATE COMMENT, NOTING THAT WE HAVE NO INFORMATION BEYOND THE PRESS REPORTS. WOULD APPRECIATE

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: FRANK E.
SCHMELZER
DATE/CASE ID: 9 MAY 2003 199902565

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APPROPRIATE PRESS GUIDANCE ASAP. CRANSTON REPORTEDLY REFERRED TO 15-PAGE SECRET DOCUMENT ON SUBJECT WHICH HAD BEEN DECLASSIFIED. PLEASE ADVISE NATURE AND CONTENT IF POSSIBLE.

3. TEXT OF "TIMES OF INDIA" ARTICLE, WHICH WAS HEADLINED "U.S. SENATOR FEARS INDO-PAK N-WAR," FOLLOWS:

- BEGIN TEXT: SENATOR CRANSTON MADE THE SENSATIONAL DISCLOSURE IN THE U.S. SENATE TODAY THAT GOVERNMENT SOURCES HAD TOLD HIM THAT, WITH CHINESE HELP, PAKISTAN HAD ALREADY ACQUIRED CAPABILITY TO MAKE THE NUCLEAR BOMB. HE REVEALED THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN HIDING THESE FACTS FROM CONGRESS BECAUSE OFFICIALS FEARED THAT IF CONGRESS CAME TO KNOW ABOUT THIS, IT WOULD STOP THE DOLS. 3.2 BILLION AID TO PAKISTAN.

- ACCORDING TO MR. CRANSTON, IT HAS BEEN ESTIMATED THAT PAKISTAN CAN MAKE "AT LEAST A DOZEN NUCLEAR WEAPONS DURING THE NEXT THREE TO FIVE YEARS". THE SENATOR WARNED THAT THERE WAS A GRAVE DANGER OF A NUCLEAR WAR BREAKING OUT BETWEEN INDIA AND PAKISTAN AND THAT EVEN THOUGH SUCH A WAR WOULD BE REGIONAL IN THE BEGINNING, IT WOULD ULTIMATELY INVOLVE THE TWO SUPERPOWERS.

- THE SENATOR DEMANDED THAT ALL AID TO PAKISTAN SHOULD BE STOPPED FORTHWITH AND THAT "HENCEFORTH U.S. POLICIES MUST BE PREMISED ON THE FACT THAT PAKISTAN NOW HAS THE DESIGN, HARDWARE, PLANTS AND PERSONNEL CAPABLE OF PRODUCING SEVERAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS PER YEAR".

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- HE SAID: "THIS INCREASES THE DANGER THAT EXTREMIST FORCES MAY EMPLOY NUCLEAR THREATS IN A HOLY WAR AGAINST INDIA, ISRAEL OR OTHER NATIONS. THIS WEAKENS AMERICA IN THE THIRD WORLD."

- MR. CRANSTON SAID THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION HAD FAILED TO KEEN CONGRESS "FULLY AND CURRENTLY INFORMED ON THESE DEVELOPMENTS" AND THAT MR. REAGAN HAD FAILED TO COMPREHEND THE FULL SIGNIFICANCE OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS WHEN HE NEGOTIATED THE NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH CHINA IN APRIL THIS YEAR.

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- ACCORDING TO SOURCES CLOSE TO MR. CRANSTON, THE SENATOR OBTAINED HIS INFORMATION MAINLY FROM SOME DISGRUNTLED GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WHO FELT THAT THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION WAS HIDING IMPORTANT FACTS FROM CONGRESS. ACCORDING TO THE SENATOR HIMSELF, MOST OF THE INFORMATION CAME TO HIM FROM A 15-PAGE SECRET DOCUMENT THAT HAD NOW BEEN DECLASSIFIED. THE DOCUMENT ON PAKISTAN'S NUCLEAR WEAPONS PROGRAM AND CHINA'S ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN HAD BEEN PREPARED BY 90 EXPERTS.

- THE SENATOR ANNOUNCED HE WOULD FORMALLY MOVE FOR AN IMMEDIATE STOPPAGE OF ALL MILITARY AID IN PAKISTAN AND THAT HE WOULD MOVE AN AMENDMENT TO THE FOREIGN AID BILL WHEN THE SENATE RESUMES CONSIDERATION OF IT. HE DEMANDED THAT THE SHIPMENT OF ALL THE REMAINING F-16 PLANES MEANT FOR PAKISTAN SHOULD BE STOPPED IMMEDIATELY.

- MR. CRANSTON SAID THE PAKISTANIS HAD BEEN ENGAGED IN ADVANCED NUCLEAR WARHEAD DESIGN WORK FOR THE LAST FOUR YEARS AND THAT IT HAD BEEN RECEIVING ASSISTANCE FROM THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA FOR THE LAST 10 TO 12 YEARS. PAKISTAN HAD EXPANDED ITS NUCLEAR WEAPONS DESIGN FACILITY AT WAH AND STEPPED UP IMPORT OF NUCLEAR WARHEAD COMPONENTS AND HAD ALSO EXPANDED ITS SECRET ENRICHMENT FACILITY AT

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	SAL-01	ANAE-00	OES-09	ACDA-12	SP-02	DOEE-00	NRC-02
	SNP-01	PRS-01	/089 W				

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O 221207Z JUN 84
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3166
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

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E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: PREL IN PK CH TNUC PRAM

SUBJECT: NEWS REPORTS OF PAKISTAN NUCLEAR CAPABILITIES

KAHUTA BESIDES OPERATING ITS CLANDESTINE PLUTONIUM AND REPROCESSING FACILITY AT THE PAKISTAN INSTITUTE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.

- USUALLY WELL-INFORMED SOURCES HERE BELIVE THAT, BASED ON CHINESE BLUEPRINTS, PAKISTAN HAS ALREADY MADE A CRUDE BOMB AND THAT IT IS NOW TRYING TO BUILD A LED SHELL TO COVER THE BOMB SO THAT THE RADIATION FROM THE CRUDE WEAPON MAY NOT EXPOSE ITS MEN TO HAZARDS. PAKISTAN, ACCORDING TO THESE SOURCES, IS HOPING TO USE THE HALF-A-DOZEN C-130S IT HAS PURCHASED FROM THE U.S. AS DELIVERY VEHICLES FOR THE ATOM BOMB.

- THE F-16S, ACCORDING TO THESE SOURCES, CANNOT CARRY THE TYPE OF BOMB THAT PAKISTAN HAS MADE. THE SOURCES BELIEVE THAT EVEN THIS INFORMATION WAS AVAILABLE WITH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE U.S. INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES BUT THE STATE DEPARTMENT KEPT IT BACK FROM CONGRESS BECAUSE IT DID NOT WANT TO PUT THE PAKISTANI MILITARY AID PACKAGE IN JEOPARDY.

- THE DISCLOSURES MADE BY SENATOR CRANSTON HAVE PROVED THAT THE U.S. THEORY THAT ONCE PAKISTAN RECEIVED AMERICAN MILITARY AID IT WOULD STOP BUILDING A NUCLEAR WEAPON WAS BASED ON FALSE ASSUMPTIONS AND ON WRONG ESTIMATES OF PAKISTAN'S INTENTIONS. THE DISCLOSURE HAVE ALSO INTRODUCED SERIOUS SECOND THOUGHTS IN CONGRESSIONAL CIRCLES ABOUT THE PROPOSED U.S.-CHINA NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT WHICH IS CURRENTLY BEING EXAMINED BY A NUMBER OF REAGAN ADMINISTRATION AGENCIES AND IS SOON TO COME UP BEFORE CONGRESS FOR APPROVAL. END TEXT. CREEKMORE

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