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SECRET NOD621

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ACTION NODS-00 RELEASED IN FULL *R21*

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5580

SECRET PARIS 24112

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DECAPTIONED

DEPT PLEASE PASS ISLAMABAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PERP, MNUC, TECH, MILI, PK, FR, US

SUBJECT: FRENCH COMPLAINT CONCERNING US ACTION ON
PAKISTAN REPROCESSING PLANT

REF: PARIS 23772

1. MFA NON-PROLIFERATION ADVISER ANDRE JACOMET CALLED
IN POLITICAL COUNSELOR AUGUST 1 TO TRANSMIT, ON BEHALF
OF FOREIGN MINISTER GUIRINGAUD, COMPLAINT THAT
AMBASSADOR HUMMEL HAD INFORMED THE CHINESE AMBASSADOR
IN ISLAMABAD OF THE FRENCH DECISION NOT TO PROCEED
WITH THE REPROCESSING PLANT.

2. JACOMET SAID THAT AMBASSADOR HUMMEL'S INITIATIVE
TO INFORM THE CHINESE WAS A MISTAKE FOR TWO REASONS:
(A) THE FRENCH HAVE ASSURED GENERAL ZIA THAT THEY
WOULD KEEP THEIR DECISION CONFIDENTIAL PENDING
GISCARD'S CONSIDERATION OF A RESPONSE TO ZIA'S LETTER
(JACOMET DID CONCEDE THAT THE FRENCH HAD INFORMED
THE BRITISH, THE INDIANS, THE IRANIANS, AND THE
GERMANS.) (B) THE FRENCH HAVE BEEN MADE TO LOOK

SECRET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: SHARON E AHMAD
DATE/CASE ID: 12 MAR 2007 200502061

*383-99-0167
Box 3*

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IN CHINESE EYES AS IF THEIR DECISION ON THE PLANT HAD BEEN TAKEN EITHER TO PLEASE THE U.S. OR UNDER U.S. PRESSURE. JACOMET EMPHASIZED THAT THE FRENCH ACTED AS THEY DID PURELY BECAUSE OF FRENCH NON-PROLIFERATION POLICY.

3. JACOMET IMPLIED THAT FRENCH HESITANCY IN INFORMING THE CHINESE WAS BASED ON THE BELIEF THAT THE CHINESE SHARES THE PAKISTANI VIEW OF THE SECURITY SITUATION IN THE AREA AND WANTED THE REPROCESSING PLANT TO BE BUILT. JACOMET SAID THAT A CHINESE EMBASSY OFFICER HAD SAID AS MUCH TO A FRENCH EMBASSY OFFICER IN ISLAMABAD FOLLOWING JACOMET'S DEPARTURE.

4. IN MAKING HIS DEMARCHE JACOMET MADE IT CLEAR THAT THIS INCIDENT WOULD NOT TROUBLE THE OVERALL U.S.-FRENCH RELATIONSHIP ON THE REPROCESSING ISSUE. POL COUNS NOTED THAT HE OBVIOUSLY COULD NOT COMMENT ON THE SUBSTANCE OF JACOMET'S DEMARCHE SINCE HE HAD NO INFORMATION ON THE PARTICULAR ISSUE.

5. IN CONCLUSION JACOMET EMPHASIZED THAT THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT REMAINS FIRM IN ITS DECISION NOT TO CONTINUE WITH THE REPROCESSING CONTRACT. JACOMET EXPECTS THAT GISCARD WILL ANSWER ZIA'S LETTER QUITE SOON, POSSIBLY THIS WEEK. HE ADDED THAT HE DID NOT THINK GISCARD WOULD ADOPT HIS SUGGESTION TO SEND AN ENVOY TO ISLAMABAD (REFTEL).

HARTMAN

NOTE: NOT PASSED ISLAMABAD BY OC/T 8/1/78.

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