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R 240616Z AUG 78 FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAU TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8781 INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS AMEMBASSY TEHRAN AMEMBASSY KABUL

S E C R E T ISLAMABAD 8281

DECAPTIONED EXDIS HANDLE AS NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, MNUC, PK,

SUBJECT: FON SEC SAYS REPROCESSING PROBLEM IS SOLVED

REF: ISLAMABAD 8280

REFTEL DESCRIBES FRANK AND RELAXED CONVERSATION WITH FONSEC SHAHNAWAZ DURING SPIKE DUBS VISIT TO ISLAMABAD AUG 21. DURING THAT DISCUSSION SHAHNAWAZ COMPLAINED ABOUT LACK OF USG SUPPORT AND I SAID A SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION OF THE REPROCESSING PLANT ISSUE WAS A NECESSARY FIRST STEP TO RESUMPTION OF MORE NORMAL RELATIONS (PARA 5 REFTEL). AT THAT POINT SHAHNAWAZ SAID. AND REPEATED WITH UNUSUAL ANIMATION, THAT THE REPROCESSING ISSUE IS ALREADY BEHIND US AND THAT NOW THE TIME TO GET BACK ON NORMAL TRACKS. HE WAS OBVIOUSLY REFERRING TO GISCARD'S REPLY TO ZIA. I TAKE THIS AS A GOOD SIGN THAT THE GOP INTENDS TO DO WHAT IT CAN TO INDUCE NORMALIZATION OF US-PAK RELATIONS.

SECRET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE REVIEW AUTHORITY: SHARON E AHMAD

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