



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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INFO OCT-01 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 1026 R

66604  
DRAFTED BY: NEA/INC:QUANTON  
APPROVED BY: NEA: SISCO  
NEA: VANHOLLEN  
S/S: MILLER

- ANDERSON
- HOLDRIDGE
- HORNATS
- JESSUP
- KENNEDY
- LEHMAN
- NACHMANOFF
- NEEDSPONTE
- ODEEN
- RONDO
- SACHS
- SCHEIDT
- WALSH
- WELLS
- WILSON

064296

P 141848Z DEC 71  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY  
CINCPAC  
CINCSTRIKE PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA  
AMCONSUL DACCA  
USMISSION USUN NY

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SUBJ: CARRIER DEPLOYMENT IN INDIAN OCEAN

1. INDIAN AMBASSADOR JHA CALLED AT HIS REQUEST ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY SISCO TO EXPRESS GOI CONCERN OVER REPORTED US DEPLOYMENT OF NUCLEAR CARRIER IN INDIAN OCEAN FOR EVACUATION PURPOSES. AMBASSADOR ACCOMPANIED BY FIRST SECRETARY VERMA; VAN HOLLEN, SCHNEIDER AND QUANTON PRESENT FROM NEA.

2. JHA SAID HE WISHED TO RAISE SUBJECT WHICH HAS ARISEN OUT OF HIS TALKS WITH UNDER SECRETARY IRWIN. UNDER SECRETARY HAD, HE SAID, INFORMED HIM THAT HELICOPTERS HAD BEEN PRE-POSITIONED IN THAILAND FOR EVACUATION PURPOSES. IMPRESSION WHICH HE HAD RECEIVED WAS THAT THEY WERE IN BANGKOK. HOWEVER, SUBSEQUENT REPORTS INDICATE THAT HELICOPTERS WERE ONI

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NUCLEAR-POWERED AIRCRAFT CARRIER, EQUIPPED WITH "ALL KINDS OF DEVICES AND GADGETS". IN EARLIER CONVERSATIONS JHA SAID HE HAD TRIED TO MAKE CLEAR THAT GOI ANXIOUS TO HELP IN EVACUATION OF FOREIGN PERSONNEL AND HAD MADE EVERY FACILITY AVAILABLE FOR THAT PURPOSE. GOI IS AS ANXIOUS AS BEFORE TO INSURE SAFETY OF PERSONNEL IN DACCA OR THEIR EVACUATION IF NECESSARY. IN VIEW OF AIRCRAFT CARRIER REPORT, GOI HAD INSTRUCTED HIM TO SEEK ASSURANCE FROM USG THAT THERE WILL BE NO EVACUATION OPERATION WITHOUT PRIOR AGREEMENT WITH GOI OR BY FORCE.

3. SISCO SAID HE WOULD REPORT WHAT JHA HAD SAID, BUT HAD NOTHING TO ADD TO DECEMBER 13 STATEMENT BY SECRETARY LAIRD RE AIRCRAFT CARRIER. HE SAID HE WOULD BE BACK IN TOUCH IF HE HAD ANYTHING TO ADD.

4. JHA SAID HE HAD ALSO A REPORT FROM NEW DELHI THAT USG HAD SOME PLAN OR INTENTION TO ESTABLISH A BEACHHEAD IN SOME PART OF BANGLA DESH FOR EVACUATION OF US PERSONNEL OR TO FACILITATE TRANSFER OF PAKISTANI PERSONNEL TO WEST PAKISTAN. ANY SUCH ATTEMPT WOULD BE A VERY SERIOUS MATTER AND WOULD ENDANGER LONG-TERM INDO-US RELATIONS. IT MIGHT ALSO HAVE OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND IN ANY EVENT WOULD NOT HAVE EFFECT OF BRINGING CONFLICT TO SPEEDY END.

5. SISCO SAID HE HAD SEEN REPORT; WHILE HE WAS PERSONALLY NOT AWARE OF ANY SUCH PLAN, HE WOULD TAKE NOTE OF AMBASSADOR'S REMARKS AND IF HE HAD ANYTHING FURTHER WOULD BE BACK IN TOUCH. SISCO SAID HE FELT CONSTRAINED TO SAY, IN VIEW OF JHA'S MENTION OF POSSIBLE IMPACT ON BILATERAL RELATIONS, THAT, ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT WISH TO GO INTO PAST HISTORY, WE DO SEE IN GOI'S ACTIONS THINGS WHICH NOT ONLY REFLECT PRESENT STRAINS IN OUR RELATIONS BUT ALSO WHICH OBVIOUSLY COULD HAVE IMPLICATIONS FOR OUR LONG-TERM RELATIONS, WHICH BOTH SIDES WILL BE LOOKING AT IN THE FUTURE. IRWIN

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