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Recommendation:	na ang s
That you sign the attached letter to President Zia.	
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DECLASSIFIED Authority NND 78957

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Dear Mr. President:

I was gratified to read the statement you made on Nay 31 that Pakistan has been proud of its good and cordial relationship with the United States since the founding of Pakistan in 1947, but that sometimes like old friends we have something to quarrel about. I want you to know that I share those feelings and have been deeply concerned over the state of the relationship between our countries in recent months. In that spirit I wish to exchange with you some thoughts about the relationship between our two countries.

Secretary Vance has told Foreign Adviser Shahi that we share the serious concerns you have over developments in Afghanistan and Iran. We want to see what we can do to enhance your security in the face of this new and disturbing situation. We are keenly aware of the consequences for stability in the region.

I would hope that ______steps by both of us could lead to a rekindling of our relationships and a forging of bonds of even greater friendship.

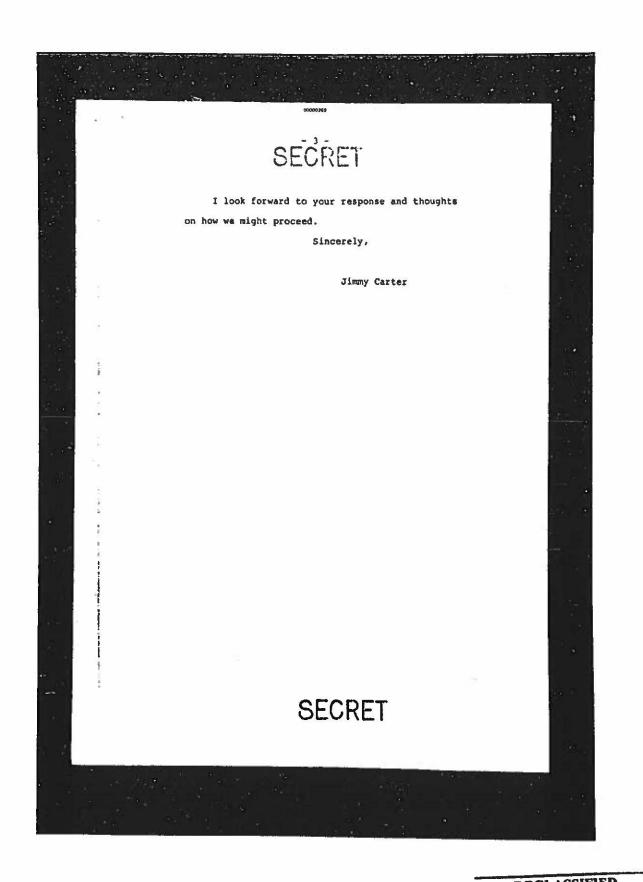
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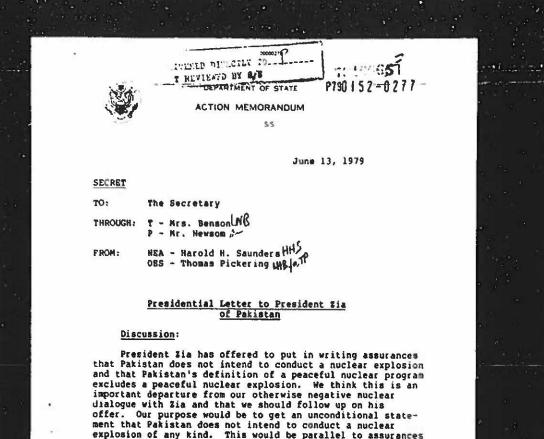
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Secretary Vance also explained to Adviser Shahi our deep concern over the possibility of a nuclear arms race developing in the subcontinent. I know you share this concern, but as Ambassador Hummel has explained to you certain activities of your government, including enrichment and reprocessing and their relationship to explosives research, have raised questions about Pakistan's peaceful intentions in this area. It is to my great regret that our inability so far to resolve these questions has led to an unfortunate deterioration in our normally good relations. I was most encouraged, therefore, to hear of your _____ conversation with Peter Constable, our Charge, in which you offered to write to us your assurance that Pakistan does not intend to conduct a nuclear explosion and that Pakistan's definition of a peaceful nuclear program excludes a nuclear explosion for any purpose. I would be gratified if you wished to convey these assurances to me directly in the course of our correspondence. I believe it could be an important first step in resolving the uncertainties which have arisen between us. More importantly, it may give us a basis for further steps we might both be able to take to restore our relations to a more constructive state.

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important departure from our otherwise negative nuclear dialogue with Zia and that we should follow up on his offer. Our purpose would be to get an unconditional state-ment that Pakistan does not intend to conduct a nuclear explosion of any kind. This would be parallel to assurances India has given publicly. Although this could not solve our fundamental non-proliferation problem with Pakistan, it could help provide the basis for improving our strained relations with Pakistan and could set the stage for further steps which could enhance our regional and global non-proliferation objectives.

At this stage we would propose a Presidential letter to Zia. This would be the first direct communication by the President to the Pakistanis solely on nuclear issues. In such a message we could restate our deep concern over the deterioration in our relations and our desire to reverse this trend. While we would not be specific in the letter, we would indicate that we are willing to discuss means of meeting Pakistan's security needs. We could also

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