



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

IO-10 /074 W

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R 031123Z DEC 75
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3106
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY DACCA
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, BG, PK

SUBJECT: BD OFFICERS CLAIM THAT THEY WORKED TO
REUNITE PAKISTAN

REFERENCE: TRIPOLI 1365 (NOTAL)

1. NAWA-I-WAQT REPORTS THAT BANGALEE LT. COL. ABDUL RASHID KHONDHAR, WHO HAS BEEN GRANTED ASYLUM IN LIBYA, HAS CLAIMED THAT HIS GROUP OF MAJORS WAS WORKING TO REUNITE PAKISTAN AT TIME "REVOLUTION" TOOK PLACE. THE INDEPENDENT VERNACULAR LANGUAGE PAPER DECEMBER 2 GAVE PROMINENT COVERAGE TO STORY WITH TRIPOLI DATELINE ATTRIBUTED TO REUTERS AND RADIO REPORTS. RASHID AND LT. COL. FAROOQ UR REHMAN REPORTEDLY TOLD T.V. NEWSMAN ON ARRIVAL THERE (REFTEL) THAT THEY AND COLLEAGUES BEGIN QUOTE BROUGHT ABOUT THE REVOLUTION WITH VIEW TO REUNITING TWO PARTS OF PAKISTAN END QUOTE, BUT WERE PREVENTED BY "SMALL GROUP OF IMPERIALIST AGENTS". RASHID REPORTEDLY SAID THAT ALTHOUGH EFFORTS FAILED

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FOR THE TIME BEING, THE TIME WOULD COME WHEN BOTH WINGS WILL BE REUNITED.

2. INDEPENDENT NAWA-I-WAQT DECEMBER 3 RAN EDITORIAL ON SUBJECT ENTITLED "OBJECTIVE OF REVOLUTION IN BANGLADESH". SYNOPSIS OF EDITORIAL AS FOLLOWS: IT HAS BEEN DISCLOSED IN LIBYA THAT THE OBJECT OF THE REVOLUTION WAS TO REUNITE PAKISTAN. INDIAN RULERS WITH SOVIET BACKINGS, IN COLLUSION WITH THE TRAITOR MUJIB, DEALT A FATAL BLOW TO PAKISTAN'S INTEGRITY. NOW, HOWEVER, REALIZATION AMONG BANGALI MUSLIMS ABOUT THEIR PAST MISTAKES AND THEIR EFFORTS TO RECTIFY THEM IS QUITE ENCOURAGING. WE ARE HAPPY OVER THE MOVEMENT IN BANGLADESH DESIGNED TO REUNITE PAKISTAN. IN THIS CONNECTION, THE INITIATIVE FOR SUCH REUNIFICATION MUST COME FROM MUSLIM BANGALIS, WHO WILL HAVE TO TAKE STEPS TO REMOVE THE HURDLES WHICH HAVE BEEN LAID BY IMPERIALIST AGENTS. ISLAMIC WORLD CAN ALSO PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THIS RESPECT. PROPAGATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF ISLAMIC TEACHINGS IN PAKISTAN WILL ATTRACT MUSLIM BENGAL AND PROVIDE A NEW BASIS FOR UNITY BETWEEN MUSLIM BENGAL AND PAKISTAN.

3. WE HAVE SEEN NO OTHER MENTION OF SUBJECT. WE ARE REPORTING STORY AND EDITORIAL AT SOME LENGTH SINCE (AS MFA DIRECTOR GENERAL HAYAT MEHDI AGREED THIS MORNING) INDIANS MAY WELL PICK BOTH UP AND CITE THEM AGAINST PAKS. EDITORIAL IS VERY MUCH IN LINE WITH NAWA-I-WAQT'S STRONGLY NATIONALIST, PRO-ISLAMIC AND ANTI-INDIAN APPROACH AND WE DO NOT BELIEVE IT OR PROMINENT COVERAGE OF TRIPOLI REPORT IS GOP PROMPTED.
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