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ACTION SA-01

INFO	LOG-00	CIAE-00	SMEC-00	INL-01	OASY-00	DOEE-00	SRPP-00
	EUR-01	OIGO-01	FBIE-00	INLB-01	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00
	IO-00	L-01	ADS-00	MOFM-04	MOF-03	M-00	NEA-01
	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-00	PRS-01
	P-00	SCT-00	SP-00	SSO-00	SS-00	TRSE-00	T-00
	USIE-00	FMP-00	SNIS-00	NISC-01	PMB-00	PRME-01	DRL-09
	G-00	/031W					

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O 301322Z NOV 95  
 FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6502  
 INFO AMCONSUL PESHAWAR PRIORITY  
 DIA WASHDC  
 AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
 USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
 AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
 AMEMBASSY RIYADH  
 AMEMBASSY PARIS  
 AMEMBASSY ROME  
 AMEMBASSY DUSHANBE  
 AMEMBASSY ASHGABAT  
 AMEMBASSY LONDON  
 AMEMBASSY TASHKENT

Dept. of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.  
 (✓) Release ( ) Excise ( ) Deny (✓) Declassify  
 Date 1/13/03 Exemption \_\_\_\_\_

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~ ISLAMABAD 011049

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LONDON FOR POL:TUELLER; PARIS FOR POL:ALLEGRONE; ROME FOR  
POL:STORELLA

E.O. 12958: DECL:11/27/05  
 TAGS: MOPS, PINS, UN, AF  
 SUBJECT: AFGHANISTAN: RUSSIAN EMBASSY OFFICIAL CLAIMS IRAN  
 - INTERFERING MORE THAN PAKISTAN

1. (U) CLASSIFIED BY JOHN C. HOLZMAN, CHARGE D'AFFAIRES,

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A.I., EMBASSY ISLAMABAD. REASON: 1.5 (D).

2. (C) ZAMIR KABULOV, THE WELL-INFORMED COUNSELOR FOR CENTRAL ASIAN AND AFGHAN AFFAIRS AT THE RUSSIAN EMBASSY HERE, BRIEFED POLOFF NOVEMBER 28 ON RUSSIAN PERCEPTIONS OF PAKISTANI AND IRANIAN INVOLVEMENT IN AFGHANISTAN. ON PAKISTANI SUPPORT FOR THE TALIBAN, HE ALLEGED THAT:

-- MOST TALIBAN FUNDING STILL COMES FROM AFGHAN TRADERS, BUT THE PAKISTANI GOVERNMENT ALSO PROVIDES MODEST FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO KEY TALIBAN FIGURES -- PARTICULARLY WITHIN THE CENTRAL SHURA IN KANDAHAR.

-- FORMER NAJIBULLAH REGIME PILOTS IN KANDAHAR SAY PAKISTAN INDIRECTLY AIDS PRO-TALIBAN AFGHAN TRADERS BY MAKING NO EFFORT TO STOP THE BOOMING SMUGGLING TRADE (MOSTLY ELECTRONICS FLOWN INTO KANDAHAR AIRPORT FROM DUBAI AND THEN SMUGGLED INTO PAKISTAN FOR SALE).

-- THE GOP PROVIDES JET AND DIESEL FUEL TO THE TALIBAN, AS WELL AS SOME LOGISTICS SUPPORT (MAINLY COMMO GEAR, REPAIR OF

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RADAR SYSTEMS, ETC.).

-- LETHAL ASSISTANCE IS LIMITED, ALTHOUGH PAKISTAN'S ISID GIVES THE TALIBAN SMALL AMOUNTS OF AMMUNITION, "MOSTLY TO MAINTAIN INFLUENCE -- THE TALIBAN CAPTURED ENOUGH AT SHINDAND AND HERAT TO MEET THEIR CURRENT NEEDS, INCLUDING A KABUL SIEGE."

-- PAKISTAN HAS PROVIDED TANK AND ARTILLERY TRAINING IN QUETTA TO 20-30 TALIBAN, AND ALSO GAVE "REFRESHER" FLIGHT INSTRUCTION TO FORMER NAJIBULLAH PILOTS NOW WORKING FOR THE TALIBAN.

3. (C) IN CONTRAST TO WHAT HE CHARACTERIZED AS PAKISTAN'S "MODEST BUT PERVASIVE" AID TO THE TALIBAN, KABULOV COMMENTED THAT IRAN WAS POURING LARGE AMOUNTS OF MONEY AND MATERIEL INTO AFGHANISTAN IN SUPPORT OF THE RABBANI GOVERNMENT. HE CLAIMED:

-- IRANIAN DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER BORUJERDI HAS OFFERED LARGE BRIBES TO DOSTAM, KARIM KHALILI AND HEKMATYAR IN AN EFFORT TO SHATTER THE OPPOSITION SCC COALITION.

-- TEHRAN WAS RECRUITING, ARMING, AND TRAINING "SEVERAL THOUSAND" ANTI-TALIBAN AFGHAN REFUGEES IN CAMPS INSIDE IRAN BUT CLOSE TO THE AFGHAN BORDER.

-- IRAN HAD ESTABLISHED AN "AIR BRIDGE" TO BAGHRAM FROM MASHHAD, WITH SEVERAL FLIGHTS EACH DAY BRINGING WEAPONS AND MONEY FOR THE KABUL GOVERNMENT. MOST OF THESE FLIGHTS CAME AT NIGHT, AND THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKMENISTAN HAD BECOME SUFFICIENTLY ANNOYED AT THE FREQUENCY OF THESE UNCLEARED FLIGHTS THAT IT HAD LODGED A PRIVATE PROTEST WITH TEHRAN.

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4. (C) AS TO RUSSIAN AID TO KABUL, KABULOV WAS COY, SAYING ONLY THAT MOSCOW COULD NOT CONTROL THE MANY AFGHAN AND RUSSIAN ENTREPRENEURS WHO ENGAGED IN 'PRIVATE' BUSINESS DEALINGS -- ALTHOUGH HE ADMITTED THAT ASSISTANCE TO RABBANI AND MASOOD FROM THE FORMER SOVIET UNION WAS PROBABLY ON THE INCREASE. HOLZMAN

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