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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

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RELEASED IN FULL

DATE: October 6, 1978

SUBJECT: Consultations on Pakistan: Details on
Indigenous Nuclear Capabilities
(Supplement to Oct. 6, 1978 memcon prepared
by Ambassador Hummel)

PARTICIPANTS: Senator Glenn
Mr. Werner
Mr. Weiss

State
Under Secretary Newsom
Ambassador Hummel
Mr. Nye
Mr. Flaten

When the conversation came to Pakistan's nuclear intentions, Nye said that we should expect Pakistan to explore a variety of options other than the French reprocessing plant as routes to acquiring weapons-usable material. In this regard, we had indications that Pakistan is attempting to acquire an indigenous centrifuge enrichment capability. However, Nye mentioned that this would take time and we intended to take steps through suppliers consultations to reduce the possibilities for Pakistan to acquire sensitive "grey areas" equipment. In response to a staff (Len Weiss) question whether Pakistan could complete the French plant, Nye replied that a Livermore study doubted their ability to complete the French plant, but they would probably be able to build a smaller and less efficient plant. Toward the end of the conversation, Nye said he hoped it was clear that there would be a variety of Pakistani efforts to get access to weapons-usable material. We would monitor these efforts closely and try to deal with them during the time we gained from the French cancellation. Senator Glenn did not demur.

T/D - Mr. Nye
(Drafting Office and Officer)

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Clearance:
Amb. Hummel

GDS