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Authority WNO 969030

By es NARA Date 10-19-01 9

POL AFG

FORM DS 322-0CR3

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NEA/PAF:RAFLATEN:GCB  
4/28/72 EXT 29552  
NEA:CVANHOLLEN

NEA/PAF:LBLAINGEN

S/S - O: RDCHRISTIANSEN

ROUTINE KABUL

EXDIS

SUBJ: POLITICAL SITUATION  
REF: {A} KABUL 2210; {B} KABUL 2042.  
REF: {A} KABUL; {B} 2042.

747676  
CVH  
RAF  
LBL  
S/S Rm

1. WE HAVE NOTED AND WELCOME YOUR REPORT OF CONVERSATION WITH KING ON CURRENT POLITICAL UNCERTAINTIES AND YOUR ASSESSMENT OF QUOTE CREEPING CRISIS UNQUOTE. LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING REPORTING ON THIS SUBJECT, ESPECIALLY ON SPECIFICALLY CITED UNREST IN CERTAIN PROVINCIAL CITIES, AND ANY FURTHER ASSESSMENT YOU COULD GIVE US OF CAUSES AND NATURE OF PROBLEM AND IMPLICATIONS FOR US POLICY.

2. RUMORS OF POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES ALSO REACHING HERE FROM OTHER SOURCES, MOST NOTABLY IBRD WHICH TOLD US THAT ITS REPRESENTATIVE IN KABUL HAS REPORTED THAT DOWNFALL OF ZAHIR GOVERNMENT IS EXPECTED IN COUPLE OF WEEKS WITH REPLACEMENT EITHER BY DAUD OR DEPUTY PM HAMED. (DEPTOFF TOLD IBRD THAT SIMILAR RUMORS HAD BEEN REPORTED TO US, BUT WE DID NOT GIVE THEM GREAT CREDENCE.)

3. ALSO APPRECIATE DISCREET HANDLING OF WAHID ABDULLAH AS REPORTED REF B, AND NOTE HIS INTEREST IN QUOTE CONTINUING DIALOGUE UNQUOTE. WE SEE NO ADVANTAGE IN ENCOURAGING OR TAKING INITIATIVE IN SUCH DIALOGUE BUT SHOULD WAHID AGAIN RAISE SUBJECT, EMBOFF MIGHT TAKE OPPORTUNITY TO REMIND HIM OF USG SUPPORT FOR EXPERIMENT IN DEMOCRACY AS EXPRESSED IN VARIETY WAYS OVER RECENT YEARS. FYI. REGARDLESS OF WAHID ABDULLAH'S ASSURANCES IN REF B, WE SEE NO WAY THAT DAUD

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RETURN COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED WITHOUT VIOLATION OR ABROGATION  
OF 1964 CONSTITUTION. END FYI. GP-3 44

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