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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 22, 1989

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NATIONAL SECURITY REVIEW 8

MEMORANDUM FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR
NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS
CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

SUBJECT: U.S. Policy Toward South Asia (Ø)

The changing situation in Afghanistan and our continuing stake in South Asian stability require that we undertake a comprehensive review of U.S. policy toward South Asia, with a principal focus upon U.S. relations with India and Pakistan. (Ø)

The review should be completed not later than March 24, 1989. It should include clear policy options/recommendations. Any differences in views between agencies should be noted. At a minimum, the review should address the following questions and issues:

PART I: ASSESSMENT

-- What are the prospects for internal stability within India and Pakistan? Similarly, what are the prospects for democracy and economic growth? (Ø)

-- What are U.S. interests in South Asia? How does the Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan affect these, especially in Pakistan? (Ø)

-- What can be anticipated from India in terms of its regional diplomacy? (b)(1) (b)(1)

-- How do we expect Pakistan to view its relationship with the United States in the post-Zia era and in the wake of the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan? (b)(1) (b)(1)

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-- What is the status of the Indian and Pakistani nuclear and ballistic missile programs? (b)(1) (b)(1)

-- What are the prospects for improved Indo-Pakistani relations? What developments within each country and within the region are most likely to affect their relationship? (C)

-- What are Soviet and Chinese interests in the region? (b)(1) (b)(1)

PART II: OPTIONS FOR POLICY

-- What can and should the United States do to promote internal stability within India and Pakistan? What can we do to strengthen democracy and support economic growth? (S)

-- (b)(1)

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-- What can the United States do to promote a better relationship between India and Pakistan? What can the United States do to enhance regional stability, both with regard to the nuclear dimension of Indo-Pakistani relations and more generally? (S)

-- What if anything should the United States do to affect Soviet (b)(1) behavior toward South Asia (b)(1) (b)(1) (S)

-- What should be U.S. policy toward the other states of South Asia? (C)