

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 276525
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 /000 R

DRAFTED BY ACDA/NP/NX:TWGRAHAM
APPROVED BY ACDA/NP:CVANDOREN
NEA:JCOON S/AS:ALOCKE
OES:RDEMING S/P:RGALLUCCI
NEA/PAB:MHORNBLow
P:RSUDDARTH D:RDEITZ
INR/STA:JSIEGEL PM/NPP:GSUCHAN
AF/B:PBORG T/D:WSALMON
NEA/AFW:DHESTER ACDA/NP:DRUST
IO/SCT:AJILLSON S/S:SBUTCHER
-----023677 232026Z /70

P 231958Z OCT 79 ZFF6
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 276525

NODIS
USIAEA

E.O. 12065 RDS-1 10/23/99 (VAN DOREN, C.N.) ACDA/NP
TAGS: PARM, TECH, MNUC, PK, FR, NG

SUBJECT: EXPORT OF NIGER-ORIGIN URANIUM TO PAKISTAN AND
LIBYA

REFS: (A) PARIS 30200 (NOTAL); (B) VIENNA 10746
(C) NIAMEY 4938; (D) STATE 264607 (NOTAL); (E) VIENNA 10979

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1. (S) DURING THE SEPTEMBER US-FRANCE DISCUSSIONS ON
PAKISTAN'S NUCLEAR PROGRAM (REF A), THE GOF DID NOT PROVIDE
DEFINITIVE SET OF NUMBERS ON NIGER-ORIGIN URANIUM EXPORTS
TO PAKISTAN AND LIBYA, BUT GOF STATED THAT SIGNIFICANT
AMOUNTS OF URANIUM (200-300 TONS) HAVE BEEN TRANSPORTED
FROM NIGER TO PAKISTAN VIA LIBYA. US TEAM ATTEMPTED TO
OBTAIN SPECIFICS ON DATES AND AMOUNTS, AND OTHER INFORMA-

TION WHICH LED GOF TO CONCLUDE THAT URANIUM WAS SHIPPED TO LIBYA AND WAS ULTIMATELY TRANSFERRED TO PAKISTAN. GOF OFFICIALS WOULD NOT PROVIDE ANY ADDITIONAL SPECIFIC INFORMATION. US DELEGATION AGREED TO PROVIDE A NON-PAPER TO GOF ON SUBJECT AND TO REQUEST FRENCH TO PROVIDE COMMENTS ON US INFORMATION AND ANALYSIS OF THIS ISSUE.

2. (S) DURING A SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION ON FRINGES OF INERTIAL CONFINEMENT FUSION MEETING IN PARIS, A FRENCH OFFICIAL WHO HAD PARTICIPATED IN PREVIOUS EXCHANGE OF

INFORMATION ON THIS SUBJECT REPEATED DESIRE OF GOF TO RECEIVE US PAPER AND STRESSED THE SENSITIVITY OF FRENCH INFORMATION WHICH HAD BEEN PASSED TO USG. THE GOF OFFICIAL THEN IMPLIED THAT URANIUM WHICH WAS EXPORTED BY NIGER TO LIBYA AND THEN WAS TRANSFERRED TO PAKISTAN WAS EXPORTED FROM NIGER "UNDER PRESSURE, FROM LIBYA. NO FURTHER DETAILS WERE PROVIDED.

3. (S) NON-PAPER ON NIGER URANIUM EXPORTS IS BEING COMPLETED AND WILL BE PROVIDED TO THE FRENCH. AFTER FRENCH REACTIONS ARE RECEIVED, A BACKGROUND PAPER ON THIS SUBJECT WILL BE SENT TO EMBASSIES NIAMEY, VIENNA, TRIPOLI AND ISLAMABAD. NON-PAPER REFLECTS OUR CURRENT UNDERSTANDING OF THIS SUBJECT, BUT GOF COMMENTS COULD CONFIRM THAT 200-300 TONS OF NIGER-ORIGIN URANIUM, WHICH HAVENOT BEEN
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REPORTED TO THE IAEA,HAVE BEEN SENT TO PAKISTAN. PENDING RECEIPT OF FRENCH COMMENTS, WE BELIEVE NO APPROACH SHOULD BE MADE TO NIGER, LIBYA OR PAKISTAN.

4. (C) WE ARE CONSIDERING WHETHER US SHOULD TAK- UP GON OFFER TO HOLD TECHNICAL EXPERTS MEETING (REF C) IN NIGER. WE NEED TO ALLOW TIME FOR FRENCH TO RESPOND TO US NON-PAPER, AND FOR AMBASSADOR BISHOP TO REVIEW ALL RELEVANT INFORMATION ON SUBJECT DURING HIS MID-NOVEMBER CONSULTATION IN WASHINGTON.

5. (C) DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED FIGURES ON NIGER-ORIGIN URANIUM EXPORTS FROM DIPLOMATIC, PUBLIC AND OTHER SOURCES. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE BE AWARE OF ALL THE FRAGMENTS OF INFORMATION ON NIGER URANIUM EXPORTS TO LIBYA AND PAKISTAN. EMBASSIES TRIPOLI AND ISLAMABAD ARE REQUESTED TO CONDUCT COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF ALL INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO COUNTRY TEAMS ON SHIPMENTS OF NIGER-ORIGIN URANIUM TO LIBYA AND PAKISTAN. INFORMATION SHOULD BE SENT TO INR/STA.

6. (S) MISSION'S INITIAL REPORT ON EKLUND'S VISIT TO NIGER DID NOT EXPLICITLY STATE THAT PRESIDENT OF NIGER COMMITTED

NIGER TO REPORTING ON ACTUAL EXPORT OF URANIUM TO NNWS.
REFS B AND E STATE THAT GON MADE COMMITMENT TO REQUIRE
SAFEGUARDS FOR URANIUM EXPORTED TO NNWS AND TO REPORT
ACTUAL EXPORT OF URANIUM TO NNWS. PLEASE COMMENT ON
DEPARTMENT'S UNDERSTANDING THAT GON HAS MADE A COMMITMENT
BOTH TO REQUIRE SAFEGUARDS AND TO REPORT ACTUAL EXPORTS OF
URANIUM TO IAEA. IN ADDITION, WAS NIGER'S COMMITMENT TO
REPORT ON URANIUM EXPORTS LIMITED TO FUTURE EXPORTS OR WILL
INFORMATION ON PAST EXPORTS ALSO BE PROVIDED? BEGIN FYI:
MISSION RECOMMENDATIONS IN REF B WILL BE REVIEWED IN CONTEXT
OF DECISION ON US TECHNICAL TEAM VISIT TO NIGER. ENDFYI.
CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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