Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISLAMA 04808 160718Z ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 EA-10 INR-10 /037 W

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P R 151130Z MAY 78 FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7195 INFO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

S E C R E T ISLAMABAD 4808

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, MPOL, PEPR, XD

SUBJECT: OBJECTIVES OF IOTG DEPLOYMENT IN JULY-AUGUST 1978

REF: CINCPAC 100445Z MAY 78

- 1. REFERENCE MESSAGE IS CINCPAC'S ROUTINE CLASSIFIED INDIAN OCEAN DEPLOYMENT PLAN FOR FOURTH QUARTER INVOLVING OPERATIONS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN BY AN NPTG LED BY THE CARRIER ENTERPRISE AND INCLUDING CURISERS LONG BEACH AND TRUXTON. AMONG OBJECTIVES LISTED, OF COURSE, IS TO "PROJECT U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE IN INDIAN OCEAN IN SUPPORT OF NATIONAL OBJECTIVES."
- 2. I FULL WELL RECOGNIZE THAT THIS DEPLOYMENT HAS SOME NEW WRINKLES, INCLUDING EXERCISING IN EASTERN I.O. WITH SINGAPORE AND SUTRALIAN FORCES AND A LOGISTICS LIFT FROM DIEGO GARCIA. I RECOGNIZE ALSO A THE CONTINUING SENSITIVITY IN SOME PARTS OF SOUTH ASIA TO I.O. DEPLOYMENTS BY ENTERPRISE, GIVEN PAST HISTORY.
- 3. NONETHELESS, I THINK WE ARE MISSING A RELATIVELY
 PAINLESS AND TIMELY OPPORTUNITY TO REASSURE A NOW-JITTERY
 PAKISTAN BY NOT SCHEDULING A KARACHI PORT VISIT FOR AT LEAST ONE
 OF THE NPW'S DURING THE NPTG'S PLANNED NINE DAYS OF STEAMING
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PAGE 02 ISLAMA 04808 160718Z

IN THE ARABIAN SEA. DEPLOYMENT PLANS, I KNOW, ARE MADE FAR IN ADVANCE AND INVOLVE A LOT OF CAREFUL PLANNING ON ALL SIDES; BUT I THINK WE SHOULD BE FLEXIBLE ENOUGH SO AS TO MAKE THE TG'S ACTIVITIES MORE IMMEDIATELY RESPONSIVE, "IN SUPPORT OF NATIONAL OBJECTIVES," TO SIGNIFICANT CHANGES AND NEEDS IN THE REGION. I AM CONFIDENT, IN ANY EVENT, THAT THE GOP WOULD NOTE, UNEASILY, THE FAILURE OF ANY IOTG

UNITS TO CALL AT KARACHI THIS TIME ONCE THE DEPLOYMENT BECOMES PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT DEPARTMENT RAISE WITH OSD/JCS AND NSC THE POSSIBILITY OF HAVING AT LEAST ONE OF THE NPTG UNITS VISIT KARACHI DURING THE PLANNED FOURTH QUARTER DEPLOYMENT AS A POLITICAL GESTURE OF OUR CONTINUING SUPPORT TO PAKISTAN. HUMMEL

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: MILITARY PLANS, NAVAL EXERCISES

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 15 may 1978 Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978ISLAMA04808
Document Source: CORD

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Expiration: Film Number: D780206-0239 Format: TEL

From: ISLAMABAD **Handling Restrictions:**

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780559/aaaabybj.tel

Line Count: 70 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History: Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Message ID: 198c1c9f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION NEA

Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS

Reference: n/a Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 09 may 2005 Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a

Review Media Identifier: Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 2691767 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

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TAGS: MARR, MPOL, PEPR, XD

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/198c1c9f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014