

RELEASE IN PART
B6

From: Strobe Talbott [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2010 8:51 AM
To: H
Subject: That issue: the bad and the good (and the ugly)

B6

Assume the following two pieces from Dawn in Karachi reached you through other channels, but just to be sure. The first is exactly the bad story I was worried about. The second is the Administration's attempt to shoot it down. Bottom line (another four-letter word): "Whew!"

FIRST STORY

Talks under way for N-deal with US: Haqqani

By Zulqernain Tahir

Monday, 15 Feb, 2010 | 06:02 AM PST |

LAHORE: Pakistan's Ambassador to US Husain Haqqani has said the government has started negotiating with the United States for an agreement on nuclear technology.

"The US is not sceptical about our nuclear programme. Talks between Pakistan and the US for cooperation on atomic programmes are under way and we want the US to have an agreement with us like the one it had with India on civil nuclear technology," Mr Haqqani said at a reception hosted by Punjab Governor Salmaan Taseer on Sunday.

He said Pakistan would get 16 latest F-16 aircraft in June. He said although the expectations of Pakistan and the US with each other usually did not fulfil, both were indispensable for each other.

"We have to largely depend upon the US for our defence related matters.

"India is our main concern as it is buying weapons worth \$100 billion from five countries, including China, and to balance it our relations with the US are very significant," he said and added that India had 5,500 tanks and there was a question against whom they would be used. "We cannot be assured by statements that India will not wage a war against us."

Giving a reason as to why Pakistan had to look towards the US for enhancing its military capacity and capability, Mr Haqqani said the European countries did not offer soft terms for buying weapons. "Ties with the US are important for a secure, stable and prosperous Pakistan."

Mr Haqqani said Pakistan had also made it clear on the US that it should ensure a strengthened and Islamabad-friendly regime in Kabul before leaving.

He said Pakistan had sought drone technology from America. "On one hand our innocent people are losing their lives while on the other Taliban leaders like Baitullah Mehsud get killed in such attacks," he said.

Mr Haqqani said the US wanted to strengthen democracy in Pakistan and aid under the Kerry-Lugar Bill had started coming from January.

In reply to a question, he said Pakistan's embassy in the US was working on diplomatic and legal aspects in Dr Aafia Siddiqui case and was making efforts for securing her release or transfer of her case to a Pakistani court.

SECOND STORY

No nuclear deal with Pakistan, says US

By Anwar Iqbal

Monday, 01 Mar, 2010 | 07:15 AM PST |

WASHINGTON: The Obama administration has told Pakistan it would not get an atomic power plant or a civilian nuclear deal from the United States.

A senior US official, while briefing Indian journalists in Washington, said the United States was working closely with Pakistan to help meet its growing energy needs.

"But nuclear power is not currently part of our discussions," and the United States had conveyed its decision to Pakistan, the official said.

He said the administration had also told Pakistan that "there is no way they can get a civilian nuclear deal similar to the one the Obama administration has signed with India".

The Indo-US civilian nuclear deal, the official said, was "specific to India only and there is no thinking going on in the administration to create a template for it."

-----Original Message-----

From: H [mailto:HDR22@clintonemail.com]

Sent: Sunday, February 28, 2010 3:13 PM

To: Strobe Talbott

Subject: Re: The matter I raised on my end of the conversation last night.....

Message received--thx.

----- Original Message -----

From: Strobe Talbott [redacted]

To: H

Sent: Sun Feb 28 14:27:47 2010

Subject: The matter I raised on my end of the conversation last night.....

Just reached Tom about it. Alerted him to the version as it came to me, including potential of its breaking. He seemed a) aware of the basis for what I'd heard, b) to share my assessment/concern (though asked me to elaborate, which I did

vividly), and c) prepared to make sure that whatever ready to be is said publicly - and whatever happens diplomatically - put the kibosh on the version as it came to me.

Incidentally, unbidden by me on both points-i.e., volunteering-he went out of his way to says upbeat things about you and downbeat things about OMF. Said he wanted to discuss that with me in person. I said nothing of substance, except always glad to talk.

Over and out, tho would appreciate you're confirming receipt, since I'm not cc'ing anyone on this.

Cha-cha-cha (even though you're not going to Argentina-and rightly so).

-----Original Message-----

From: H [mailto:HDR22@clintonemail.com]

Sent: Saturday, February 27, 2010 8:03 PM

To: Strobe Talbott

Subject: Re: Our mutual friend

Could you talk now or tomorrow early morning?

----- Original Message -----

From: Strobe Talbott

To: H

Sent: Fri Feb 26 18:20:13 2010

Subject: Our mutual friend

B6

Have had 2 sessions since u & I talked, having another Sat afternoon. No particular need for further guidance from u, but glad to connect at any time. Tks for terrific event in the 4-letter-word fishinf village.