

6b

TELEGRAM INFORMATION REPORT TELEGRAM

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

EXEMPT
NLK-82-99, NLK-91-8

~~SECRET~~
(When Filled In)

CLASSIFICATION — DISSEMINATION CONTROLS

COUNTRY INDIA

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

SUBJECT ATTEMPTS OF DEFENSE MINISTER MENON TO JUSTIFY HIS RECENT SPEECHES IN THE UNITED NATIONS

DATE DISTR. 4 NOVEMBER 1961 ~~Smith-Bundy~~

PRECEDENCE ROUTINE
--- Taylor
--- Rostow
--- Belk

DATE OF INFO. [REDACTED]

REFERENCES [REDACTED]

PLACE & DATE ACQ. APPRAISAL [REDACTED]

FIELD REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

--- Kayser
--- Komer

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF [REDACTED]

INITIATIVE [REDACTED]

SOURCE [REDACTED]

1. [REDACTED] DEFENSE MINISTER KRISHNA MENON (WHOSE CURRENT ILL HEALTH DEMANDS THE SERVICES OF AN ATTENDANT WHILE CLIMBING STAIRS) MET WITH PRESIDENT PRASAD WHO, AFTER SOME FORMAL CONVERSATION ON EACH OTHERS AILMENTS, SAID THAT HE HAD NOTED THAT MENON'S REMARKS IN THE UNITED NATIONS ON THE NUCLEAR ISSUE HAD RECEIVED UNFAVORABLE PUBLICITY IN THE UNITED STATES. MENON REPLIED THAT THE UNITED STATES DID NOT FULLY UNDERSTAND INDIA'S POSITION ON THE ISSUE, AND IN HIS SPEECHES, HE WAS SIMPLY MAINTAINING INDIA'S NEUTRALITY BY BLAMING BOTH OFFENDERS. PRASAD RETORTED THAT THE RESUMPTION OF NUCLEAR TESTING HAD BEEN INITIATED BY THE SOVIETS, AND MENON INTERRUPTED HIM SAYING THAT INDIA CANNOT SINGLE

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CLASSIFICATION — DISSEMINATION CONTROLS

TELEGRAM INFORMATION REPORT TELEGRAM

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MANDATORY REVIEW
CASE # NLK-98-70
DOCUMENT # 6b

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: JAN 2002

EO 12958 3.4(b)(1)>25Yrs
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OUT THE SOVIETS FOR CRITICISM AS "WHO KNOWS WHETHER OR NOT THE AMERICANS HAVE BEEN TESTING SECRETLY ALL THE TIME". PRASAD ANSWERED THAT HE THOUGHT IT VERY FOOLISH OF INDIA TO ALIENATE ITS FRIENDS ON THE BASIS OF ASSUMPTIONS.

2. WHEN VICE PRESIDENT RADHAKRISHNAN CALLED PRASAD TO SAY GOODBYE BEFORE LEAVING FOR CALCUTTA, PRASAD GAVE HIM THE GIST OF HIS CONVERSATION WITH MENON. RADHAKRISHNAN REMARKED THAT "THIS MAN (MENON) WILL HAVE THE WHOLE WORLD AGAINST US SOONER OR LATER." PRASAD REPLIED SOMEWHAT TESTILY, "IF YOU BELIEVE SO, TELL THE PRIMIN."

3. [] DISSEM: STATE

END OF MESSAGE

~~SECRET~~