



**Director of  
Central  
Intelligence**

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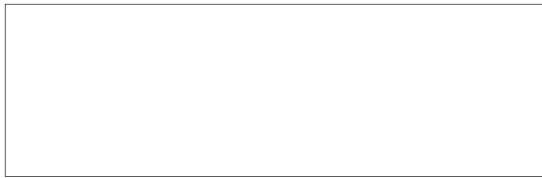
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# National Intelligence Daily

**Wednesday  
28 January 1987**

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**INDIA-PAKISTAN: Efforts To Ease Tensions**

***India and Pakistan appear to be taking steps to defuse the recent rise in bilateral tensions, but both are continuing military deployments.*** [Redacted]

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[Redacted]

India's Acting Foreign Secretary Gonsalves and Pakistan's Foreign Secretary Sattar have been named to head their respective delegations to talks in New Delhi aimed at calming border tensions. ~~According to press reports~~. Prime Minister Gandhi, who has held India's Defense portfolio during most of his tenure, named Finance Minister Singh as Defense Minister on Saturday and assumed the Finance portfolio himself. ~~According to press~~, Gandhi said the Defense Ministry would need the undivided attention of a senior official during the forthcoming talks with Pakistan. [Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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**Comment:** Gandhi may calculate that public criticism will be deflected from himself to Singh should the talks with Pakistan founder. The Prime Minister also has placed a premium on choosing cabinet members who faithfully echo his policies, and he may have seen an opportunity to further his moves to restock key posts with reliable officials. Singh already has earned a reputation as the highly effective architect and proponent of Gandhi's economic liberalization policies. In Pakistan, the appointment of Sattar, an experienced and respected senior diplomat, illustrates Islamabad's commitment to the talks. [Redacted]

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The military moves so far by each side are insufficient to constitute war preparations and appear to be prudent, defensive steps. Given the deep mistrust between the two countries, however, and the growing anxiety over border deployments, any military measure is likely to be viewed as provocative. [Redacted]

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