

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

03E
JK
August 23, 1973


Henry -

On the Pakistan flood relief.

The biggest problem is that there is virtually no wheat, and cooking oil is already under export control. What we have to do is find out what we can do for them based on the real need (which has not yet been precisely defined). Anything we do will have to be taken from other needy groups, so it is not a easy issue.

The Paks have asked for a million tons of wheat, apparently without any real knowledge of actual need (the request came in within 48 hours of the floods hitting). We can probably not come up with much more than 100,000 tons, which is a drop in the bucket -- if they really need a million.

Kennedy thinks they will have a better handle on what is possible by Monday. At best it will be tough, but I don't think we should announce until we know where we stand.


Brent

As you can see from attached, the Paks do not seem agreed among themselves on priorities.
I can assure you this issue has top priority.

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ACTION AID:80

INFO OCT-81 NEA-83 IGA-82 PDRE-88 FB-88 CIAE-88 DOHE-88
030-88 2A-87 EUR-88 10-89 L-88 1.888 037878

O P 231602Z AUG 78
FM ANEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 607
INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
CINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY PRIORITY
USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY
AMCONSUL KARACHI PRIORITY
AMCONSUL LAHORE PRIORITY

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 ISLAMABAD 8878
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AID/W FOR PDRC

CINCPAC FOR DISASTER RELIEF COORDINATOR LCDR PROCKEY (J-6)
CINCEUR FOR DISASTER RELIEF COORDINATOR LTC RIMBLE (J-4)

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJ: PAKISTAN FLOOD RELIEF

SUMMARY: BUCHA, SPECIAL ASSISTANT WITH FOOD/AGRICULTURE FOOD COORDINATION RESPONSIBILITY INDICATED MAGNITUDE OF DISASTER STILL VERY POORLY ASSESSED. EXPECT GET BETTER INFORMATION IN 1-2 WEEKS. FIRST PRIORITY APPLICATION PESTICIDE AND FERTILIZER TO MAXIMIZE YIELD SURVIVING CROPS AFFECTED AREA AND SEED FOR RABI PLANTING. MEDICATION FOR PEOPLE AND ANIMALS. AUGMENTATION OF DOMESTIC FOOD SUPPLY INCLUDING WHEAT, OTHER GRAINS, OILS, DAIRY PRODUCTS. MAJOR REHABILITATION NEED FROM OUTSIDE WOULD BE FOOD TO ENABLE AFFECTED PEOPLE DEVOTE FULL TIME TO RESTORATION LAND, CANALS AND BUILDINGS. ACTION REQUESTED: THIS IS FOR INFORMATION. ACTION SUBJECT SEPARATE CABLES. END SUMMARY.

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1. AT HIS INVITATION NEWBERG AND WILLIAMS CALLED ON SPECIAL ASSISTANT BUCHA TO DISCUSS FLOOD EMERGENCY. DURING THE COURSE OF THE 1 1/2 HOUR CONVERSATION BUCHA INDICATED HE HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO COORDINATE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT FOOD AND AGRICULTURE EFFORTS IN EMERGENCY AND REHABILITATION. FIRST CONCERNS WERE RELIABLE ASSESSMENT OF DAMAGE TO STORED GRAINS, STANDING CROPS, FARM STRUCTURE AND IRRIGATION WORK. HE OUTLINED AN ORDER OF PRIORITIES AND IMMEDIATE ACTION TO MAXIMIZE OUTPUT SURVIVING CROPS.

2. DAMAGE ASSESSMENT. BUCHA VIEW DAMAGE ASSESSMENT AS NOW VERY POOR, WITH SOME WILD STATEMENTS BEING MADE. FIRST JOB TO GET MORE RELIABLE INFORMATION AND CONTINUE REFINING THIS REPORTING.

IN RESPONSE TO OUR OFFER OF ASSISTANCE IF NEEDED, HE INDICATED FIELD RESPONSIBILITY WOULD REST WITH PROVINCES BUT WOULD LIKE SUGGESTIONS ON METHODOLOGY AND WOULD PROVIDE INFORMATION TO US AS RECEIVED. (WE ARE PROVIDING SUGGESTIONS ON METHODOLOGY.) HE INDICATED MAJOR DAMAGE AS NOW ASSESSED WAS ALONG CHENAB AND RAVI, AND TO A LESSEER EXTENT ON SUTLEJ. THE JHELUM AND UPPER INDUS WERE RELATIVELY BETTER BEHAVED. IN THE EASTERN MOST AREA, PARTICULARLY STALKOT, UNUSUALLY HEAVY RAINS HAD CAUSED WIDESPREAD FLOODING PRIOR TO OVERFLOW OF RIVERS. MAJOR AMOUNTS OF DAMAGE ALSO HAD OCCURRED FURTHER SOUTH WHERE RIVERS JOINED.

3. PRIORITIES: FOLLOWING WAS LISTED AS HIS VIEW OF ORDER OF PRIORITIES, WITH EMPHASIS ON IMMEDIATE MEASURES TO REDUCE HUMAN SUFFERING AND TO SUSTAIN OUTPUT.

(A) PESTICIDES SUPPLY AND EQUIPMENT FOR SPRAYING OF RICE AND COTTON AS WATERS RECEDES.

(B) CHOLERA VACCINE AND OTHER HUMAN MEDICATION.

(C) LIVESTOCK VACCINE AND MEDICATION.

(D) BLANKETS, CLOTHING AND ROOFING MATERIAL.

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ACTION AID:39

INFO OCT-01 NEA-05 10-09 10A-02 FORN-00 ED-03 CIAE:00

DODZ:00 850-09 7A-07 EUR-05 L-09...? SBR J.W.

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O P 231302Z AUG 73
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 600
INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
CINCEUR VAHINGEN GERMANY PRIORITY
USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY
AMCONSUL KARACHI PRIORITY
AMCONSUL LAHORE PRIORITY

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ON FERTILIZER, ADEQUATE STOCKS OF UREA ARE HERE FOR SUCH DRESSING, BUT USE OF THIS ON RICE NOW WOULD CREATE A NEW PROBLEM FOR WHEAT. THE MAIN QUESTION IS WHETHER U.S. MIGHT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE SOME ADDITIONAL REPLACEMENT OF UREA IN TIME FOR WHEAT SIDEDRESSING IN JANUARY.

BUCHA NOTED THE PROBLEM OF ZINC DEFICIENCY IN RICE IN SOME AREAS AND ASKED IF WE THOUGHT THE ZINC COULD BE APPLIED WITH THE FERTILIZER. WE INDICATED WE THOUGHT IT COULD BE AND THAT WE WOULD ASCERTAIN THE MOST SUITABLE TYPE OF ZINC COMPOUND AND THE REQUIRED APPLICATION RATE.

(B) CHOLERA AND OTHER HUMAN MEDICATION; WE INDICATED U.S. IS IN CONTACT ON THE PROBLEMS WITH GOP AND OTHER DONORS.

(C) LIVESTOCK VACCINE AND MEDICATION; BUCHA INDICATED HIS CONCERN ABOUT THE PROBLEM AND SOLICITED OUR SUGGESTION; WE SAID WE WOULD ASK DR. MAURER OF AID LIVESTOCK TEAM TO MAKE SUGGESTIONS. (WE ARE SUBMITTING MAURER'S RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH EMPHASIZE FOLLOWING ORDER PRIORITIES: VACCINATIONS FOR HEMORRHAGIC SEPTICEMIA, BLACKLEG,

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(5) SUPPLIES OF SEED OF ALL TYPES FOR RASI PLANTING INCLUDING OILSEED (MUSTARD, RAPE) PULSES (GRAM, MPEAS) WHEAT, POTATOES, AND VEGETABLES.

(9) SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD SUPPLIES OF ANY TYPE INCLUDING FOOD GRAIN, MILK OR MILK SUBSTITUTE, BUTTER OR OTHER OILS.

(10) LIVESTOCK FEED.

4. HE DISCUSSED IN REALISTIC FASHION LIMITATIONS OF U.S. AND INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IN ASSISTING WITH THESE NEEDS AND INDICATED HE FELT THE LARGE JOB OF REHABILITATION OF IRRIGATION SYSTEM MUST BE DONE LARGELY BY GOP. ILLUSTRATIVELY, NOT FEASIBLE AIR SHIP HEAVY EARTH MOVING EQUIPMENT. HOWEVER, ANY FOOD AND RELATED SUPPLIES TO SUSTAIN PEOPLE ENGAGED IN HOUSE, FARM AND IRRIGATION SYSTEM REHABILITATION WOULD BE EXTREMELY VALUABLE.

5. SEVERAL AREAS WERE DISCUSSED IN DETAIL INCLUDING POSSIBLE GUIDANCE WE MIGHT GIVE IN IMMEDIATE ASSESSMENT AND HANDLING OF SITUATION AND POSSIBLE MATERIAL ASSISTANCE.

(A) PESTICIDE AND FERTILIZER

BUCHA INDICATED FIRST PRIORITY SHOULD BE PLACED NOW ON MAXIMIZING PRODUCTION FROM FLOODED RICE AND COTTON CROPS AS WATER RECEDES. ADEQUATE PESTICIDE AND SPRAY EQUIPMENT TO OFFSET INCREASED CROP VULNERABILITY AND UREA FOR TOP DRESSING WOULD BE MAJOR FEASIBLE ACTION. HE INDICATED OUR AGREEMENT ON THESE PRIORITIES AND GAVE HIM OUR PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT OF SUPPLY OF DIAZINON AND SPRAY EQUIPMENT BOTH OF WHICH ARE EXPECTED TO BE SHORT OF NEED. HE INDICATED HE DO NOT HAVE A FIX ON DIMICRON SUPPLIES. HE ASKED IF HE COULD CHECK ON POSSIBILITY OF ADDITIONAL PESTICIDE SUPPLIES.

HE INDICATED HE HAD REQUESTED SPRAY PLANES FROM IRAN AND ASKED ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF U.S. GOVERNMENT HELICOPTERS. HE AGREED TO CHECK ON THIS AND EQUIPMENT NEEDED TO FIT LOCAL SMALL PLANES FOR SPRAYING. HE NOTED PUNJAB HAS 1.9 MILLION ACRES OF RICE AND IT NEEDED AT LEAST TWO SPRAYINGS.

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ANTHRAX AND RINDERPEST FOR CATTLE AND BUFFALO NOT VACCINATED IN THE LAST 6-12 MONTHS, FOR SHEEP AND GOATS VACCINATION FOR BLACKLEG, ANTHRAX, SHEEP POX AND ENTEROTOXEMIA. U.S. NOT LIKELY SOURCE FOR PRIORITY VACCINES.)

(D) BEDDING, CLOTHING, BOOF MATERIAL. HE INDICATED MAJOR PROBLEM WOULD BEHOOOFING MATERIAL FOR NEARLY 1 MILLION HOMES ESTIMATED TO BE AFFECTED, PARTICULARLY ROOFING MATERIAL FOR MUD HOUSES WHICH WILL BE BUILT QUICKLY BY REFUGEES ON RETURN. HE DISCUSSED POSSIBILITY OF USING CANVAS AND/ OR HEAVY SHEET PLASTIC FOR THE PURPOSE, BLANKETS WERE INDICATED ALSO AS A MAJOR NEED FOR PEOPLE IN AREA.

(E) SEED. BUCHA INDICATED SEED WOULD BE A MAJOR PROBLEM FOR RABI AS PEOPLE RETURN AND START REHABILITATION. SOME VEGETABLES COULD BE PLANTED IMMEDIATELY, WHEAT WOULD BE MAJOR NEED, BUT NEEDS INCLUDE RAPE, MUSTARD, PULSE, POTATOES AND OTHER VEGETABLE SEED. FOR WHEAT HE REQUESTED HE CHECK POSSIBILITY FOR PROCUREMENT HIGH YIELDING VARIETIES FROM MEXICO. THEY WOULD BUY SOME QUALITY SEED IN LIEU OF SOME OF FOOD WHEAT IMPORT IF PRICE REASONABLE. FOR RAPE AND MUSTARD AND PULSES HE INDICATED INDIA LOGICAL PLACE BUT PROBABLY UNFEASIBLE UNLESS U.S. COULD DO SOMETHING. NORTH AMERICA AND EUROPEAN VARIETIES UNTESTED. FOR POTATOES, HOLLAND HAS BEEN TRADITIONAL SUPPLIER AND THEY WILL LOOK TO HOLLAND. FOR OTHER VEGETABLE INCLUDING PEAS, IT APPEARS U.S. CAN BE HELPFUL. HE AGREED TO LOOK AT LOCALLY AVAILABLE SUPPLIES AND POSSIBILITY OBTAIN U.S. SUPPLIES WHERE NOT AVAILABLE LOCALLY. (WE ARE ASSESSING NEED AND OUTLINING PROGRAM FOR SUPPLY OF SEEDS FOR KITCHENS GARDENS TO MAJOR PART OF VILLAGES IN AFFECTED AREAS WITH SOME 10 TYPES OF SEED. HE WILL ADVISE SHORTLY ON ANTICIPATED DEFICIENCIES LOCAL SUPPLIES, IF ANY).

(F) FOOD SUPPLIES. HE RETURNED SEVERAL TIMES TO FOOD SITUATION. IN DISCUSSION EVIDENT HE VERY WELL INFORMED AND SYMPATHETIC TO U.S. SITUATION. HE STRONGLY CONCERNED OVER FOOD FOR FLOOD AFFECTED PEOPLE AND ALREADY EVIDENT INFLATIONARY AND HOARDING EFFECTS OF FLOOD LOSSES. HE ASKED WHAT HE HAD FROM WASHINGTON ON PL-480 REQUEST FOR WHEAT AND OIL.

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COULD WE GET SOME COMMITMENT ON THIS SOON? HE INDICATED A COMMITMENT ON EVEN PART WOULD BE PSYCHOLOGICALLY IMPORTANT. HE SAID HE WERE IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH WASHINGTON ON THIS AND WOULD KEEP HIM INFORMED. HE INDICATED MILK AND BUTTER ALSO MAJOR PROBLEMS IN AFFECTED AREAS WHERE LARGE NUMBER OF ANIMALS LOST AND THOSE RETURNING PROBABLY WILL PRODUCE LITTLE MILK. HE AGREED TO CHECK ON THIS AND SUGGESTED HE CHECK ALSO EUROPE, AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND. VEGETABLE OIL ALSO BADLY NEEDED.

HE INQUIRED ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF OBTAINING OTHER COARSE GRAINS INCLUDING SORGHUM AND CORN. NOTING U.S. SORGHUM CROP LOOKED FAVORABLE. HE AGREED TO CHECK. HE SUGGESTED SUGAR AS ONE CROP WHERE WORLD PRICES NOT SO INFLATED. HOWEVER HE FELT SUGAR THE ONE COMMODITY FOR WHICH NATIONAL SITUATION LOOKED FAVORABLE. HE DISCUSSED LIVESTOCK FEED, BUT AGREED LITTLE COULD BE DONE FROM OUTSIDE ON THIS PROBLEM IMMEDIATELY AND FORAGE WOULD COME BACK QUICKLY. HOWEVER, MAJOR PROBLEM WOULD BE LOSS OF WHEAT AND RICE STRAW WHICH NORMALLY ARE MAJOR FEED ITEMS DURING RABI PERIOD FROM NOVEMBER TO APRIL. HE INDICATED OUR VIEW THAT CONSIDERING BOTH WORLD SHORTAGE AND PRICES PROBABLY NOT FEASIBLE IMPORT U.S. FEED GRAINS FOR PAKISTAN LIVESTOCK.

(G) REHABILITATION OF IRRIGATION WORK, BUCHA'S VIEW
REHABILITATION OF IRRIGATION WORK WILL DEPEND ON PAKISTAN SOURCES. CAN'T AFFORD FLY IN HEAVY EQUIPMENT. A MAJOR OUTSIDE HELP WOULD BE FOOD FOR PEOPLE RETURNING WHILE THEY DEVOTE TIME TO CLEANING MINOR DITCHES BY HAND AND EVEN RESTORING SOME LARGE WORKS WITH HEADBASKETS. (THIS AND RESTORATION AND PLANTING CROP LAND AND BUILDING HOUSES LOGICAL TITLE II CANDIDATES).

G. TO ANSWER NUMBER OF QUESTIONS RAISED BY BUCHA, WE WILL NEED ASSISTANCE OF AID/W INCLUDING QUESTIONS OF USE OF U.S. HELICOPTERS FOR SPRAYING, AVAILABILITY SEEDS, FOODS INCLUDING PL-480 TITLE I AND II FOOD COMMITMENTS, PESTICIDES, FERTILIZER, OTHER NEEDS. SOME OF THESE HAVE ALREADY BEEN SUBJECT CONSIDERABLE CABLE TRAFFIC. HE WILL SEND SEPARATE CABLE NEW SUBJECTS AS NEEDS BETTER DEFINED.

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