

**November 24, 1978**

**'Pakistan Proliferation Problem,' US Embassy United Kingdom Cable 19322 to Department of State**

**Citation:**

"'Pakistan Proliferation Problem,' US Embassy United Kingdom Cable 19322 to Department of State", November 24, 1978, Wilson Center Digital Archive, Mandatory Declassification Review request. Obtained and contributed by William Burr and included in NPIHP Research Update #3.

<https://wilson-center-digital-archive.dvincitest.com/document/112912>

**Summary:**

Britain agrees with U.S. thinking on the matter of State Department cable 292469, except on its approach to the Soviet Union. Britain decided not to approach the Soviets because they were unsure whether Moscow's "commitment to nonproliferation outweighs their special political interests vis-à-vis Pakistan."

**Credits:**

This document was made possible with support from Carnegie Corporation of New York (CCNY)

**Original Language:**

English

**Contents:**

Original Scan

UNCLASSIFIED

RI



Department of State

INCOMING TELEGRAM

RELEASED IN FULL

NODIS-NDIS-NDIS-NDIS-NDIS

SECRET

NOD634

PAGE 01 LONDON 19322 241451Z COPY 15 OF 15 COPIES  
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W  
-----054268 241453Z /53

O 241444Z NOV 78  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2097  
INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE

SECRET LONDON 19322

DECAPTIONED

NODIS.

USIAEA PLEASE PASS AMBASSADOR SMITH

E. O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MNUC, PK, UK  
SUBJECT: PAKISTAN PROLIFERATION PROBLEM

REF: STATE 292469

1. CONTENTS OF REFERENCE PASSED TO ROBERT ALSTON, FCO, NOVEMBER 22. AFTER CONSULTATION, ALSTON REPORTED HMG AGREEMENT WITH PARAS (1), (3) AND (4).
2. USG PROPOSALS RE SOVIETS IN PARA (2) GIVE HMG SOME CONCERN. HMG HAD REVIEWED POSSIBILITY OF AN APPROACH TO THE SOVIETS AT TIME OF THEIR OWN DEMARCHE ON THIS MATTER. DECISION WAS NEGATIVE ON GROUNDS THAT HMG NOT CERTAIN SOVIET'S COMMITMENT TO NON-PROLIFERATION OUTWEIGHS THEIR SPECIAL POLITICAL INTERESTS VIS A VIS PAKISTAN.
3. IN LIGHT OF ABOVE, ALSTON SUGGESTS THIS QUESTION BE DISCUSSED BETWEEN ALSTON AND AMB SMITH IN VIENNA, EITHER DURING NOVEMBER 26 BILATERAL OR IN PRIVATE SESSION. BREWSTER

SECRET

NOT TO BE REPRODUCED WITHOUT THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY