

April 7, 1972

**State Department cable 59655 to US Embassy
United Kingdom, 'Indian Nuclear Intentions'**

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Summary:

The British Government took the same view as the Canadians, seeing no evidence that the Indians had made a decision to do a nuclear test, although they had the "capability."

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NEA/INC:DTSCHNEIDER

EUR/BMI:MR BURNS (DRAFT)

ROUTINE LONDON

ROUTINE OTTAWA, MOSCOW, IAEA VIENNA, NEW DELHI,
BOMBAY, TOKYO

LIMDIS, NOFORN

SUBJ: INDIAN NUCLEAR INTENTIONS

REF: 049597

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BURNS *[Handwritten initials]*

1. MOBERLY OF BRITISH EMBASSY INFORMED DEPARTMENT OFFICER APRIL 6 THAT FOLLOWING INQUIRY BY US (REFTEL) HMG HAD TAKEN NEW PRELIMINARY LOOK AT INDIAN NUCLEAR INTENTIONS. UK HAD CONCLUDED THAT INDIA HAD CAPABILITY OF PROCEEDING TO NUCLEAR EXPLOSION BUT THAT IT HAD DETECTED NO INDICATION THAT GOI HAD IN FACT DECIDED TO DO SO.

2. MOBERLY SAID THAT BRITISH WERE UPDATING 1969 STUDY ON THIS SUBJECT AND IF THIS STUDY PRODUCES CONCLUSIONS DIFFERENT FROM PRELIMINARY ESTIMATE USG WILL BE INFORMED.

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