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DepSec M/C 1-1-30  
SEP 20 2001  
4PM



ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

2400 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-2400  
ACTION MEMO

SEP 20 2001



INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

SEP 21 11:19

SecDef D/B? I-01/011107  
September 20, 2001 7:27 AM

FOR: SECRETARY OF DEFENSE DepSec Action Info

FROM: Assistant Secretary of Defense, International Security Affairs  
(Peter W. Rodman, (b)(6)) WML 20 SEP 2001

SUBJECT: (U) SecDef Phonecall to Indian MOD Jaswant Singh

- (U) Request SecDef call Minister of External Affairs and Defense Singh to convey thanks for Indian offers of support to U.S.-led war on terrorism. *→SD This is important to do, I think. Doug Feith*
- (U) Call should be made soonest—preferably prior to Monday Sept 24, when India's National Security Advisor will be in Washington (meeting requested for DepSecDef).
- (U) Indian offers of support were made immediately after Sept 11 and have been reinforced repeatedly since then, to include unconditional offers of logistical support, overflight clearance, and staging of combat assets, including aircraft.
- (U) Indian officials have expressed concern at the dearth of official communication and public statements from the USG on their offers. Exceptions include: Sept 15 POTUS call to India's PM, Sept 19 ASD/ISA Rodman's call to India's AMB to U.S.
  - We are also developing talking points for ASD PA Clarke to address this issue in an upcoming press briefing.
- (U) The GOI's positive response to the new Strategic Framework and unconditional offer of support for the U.S. war on terrorism in wake of Sept 11 have put the Indian leadership out on a limb. MOD Singh is the architect of this support.
  - Current Indian offer runs counter to 50 years of precedent. The GOI is already taking heat from within India, accused of acting in haste as they watch the U.S. on CNN focus intense attention and kind words on Pakistan.
  - Given Indian public sensitivities, it is important for DoD to publicly, officially and repeatedly acknowledge the GOI offer that is on the table at this critical time. Such a DoD response will have the added benefit of facilitating the sustained cooperation we will need during this long-term campaign.
- (U) Proposed talking points are attached at Tab A.

RECOMMENDATION: SecDef call Jaswant Singh by Friday Sept 21.

COORDINATION: Tab B

Attachments: As stated

DASD W. Smith 9/20  
~~Classified by DASD William J. Smith  
Reason: L, S, T, F, A, C, D, E, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z  
Declassify on: 092006~~

SECDEF: \_\_\_\_\_  
APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_  
DISAPPROVE \_\_\_\_\_  
OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

SPL ASSISTANT DI RITA  
SR MA GAMBASTIANI  
MA BUCCI  
EXECSEC WHITMORE

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Prepared by: (b)(6) ISA/NESA (b)(6)  
X01407 /01  
SECDEF CONTROL

# TAB A

## TALKING POINTS

### Campaign Against Terrorism

- I want to convey my sincere and heartfelt appreciation for the unprecedented, unconditional, and broad offer of support from your government in our hour of need.
- The speed with which you made your decision and the breadth of your offer are stunning examples of the strong relationship that our two great countries are finally achieving.
- The entire Department is benefiting from your intelligence sharing. My thanks goes to your Director General for Military Intelligence for his openness with our attaches in New Delhi.
- Your offers of cooperation from all three of your Military Services may be critical in the time ahead.
- We continue to develop our plans and thus remain uncertain to what degree we will take you up on your offers. However, our policy personnel and our operational planners are fully aware and appreciative of the comprehensive nature of your offer.
- We will make every effort to remain in communication with you as our plans develop.
- Regardless of the degree to which we take up your offer of support in the short term, I hope you will agree that we are partners for the long haul in this war on terrorism and in the effort to build and sustain peace, democracy and prosperity for our people.

### Pakistan

- Understand your concerns about Pakistan's role. Critical that India not do anything to complicate President Musharraf's difficult situation.
- It is our hope that this will be the beginning of a process that could transform Pakistan for the better with the added benefit of reducing terrorism in Kashmir.

### Upcoming Visit to Washington/Strategic Framework

- I look forward to your visit in early October. Although the situation is fluid, I intend to make time to meet with you during your visit, so that we can talk in more detail on our plans for carrying out this war on terrorism.
- I also hope we can continue the discussion we began last April on other issues, such as the President's Strategic Framework.
- Additionally, my staff will be ready to brief you on our latest developments in the area of missile defense.