



Department of State

**TELEGRAM**

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SECRET 739

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ACTION SS 70

INFO CIAE: 00, /070 W

R: 280300Z AUG 68  
FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4444

S E C R E T KATHMANDU 4685

LIMDIS/NOFORN

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y

PASS: DEFENSE

REF: STATE 221878 - *SP 16*

*Kathmandu 4685*  
*8-28-68*

1. AMBASSADOR, MILATT AND DEFENSE TECHNICIANS, SWORTZEL AND VAN WINKLE, CALLED ON FOREIGN SECRETARY KHANAL AUGUST 26 TO PRESENT PRELIMINARY REPORT OF TEAM'S FINDINGS ON UNIDENTIFIED SPACE OBJECTS IN GON POSSESSION. REPORT WHICH WILL BE FORWARDED THROUGH APPROPRIATE DOD CHANNELS MADE UNEQUIVOCAL STATEMENT THAT OBJECTS NOT OF U.S. ORIGIN. IT CONCLUDED, ON BASIS OF EXAMINATION AND COLLATERAL TRACKING DATA, THAT SOME PIECES COULD BE OF SOVIET ORIGIN, POSSIBLY COSMOS 208 WHICH RE-ENTERED THE EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE ON NIGHT OF MARCH 25, 1968. REPORT ALSO NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT BECAUSE SOVIET ROCKET TECHNOLOGY HAS HAD PROFOUND INFLUENCE ON CHINESE ROCKET DEVELOPMENT DEFINITE IDENTIFICATION OF LAUNCHING AUTHORITY BY U.S. TECHNICIANS WOULD BE POSSIBLE ONLY AFTER FURTHER EXAMINATION IN THE U.S. UNDER LABORATORY CONDITIONS. POINT ALSO MADE THAT SOME PIECES APPEARED TO BE FROM DIFFERENT SPACE OBJECT WHICH LIKELY FELL ON A DIFFERENT DATE.

2. FOREIGN SECRETARY EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR INFORMATION AND QUESTIONED US CLOSELY ABOUT HOW DOUBT AS TO ORIGIN COULD BE RESOLVED. ALTHOUGH HE SAID IT WAS UNLIKELY ALL OBJECTS COULD BE RELEASED FOR

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EXAMINATION IN U.S., HE THOUGHT THAT AS GON ANXIOUS TO HAVE DEFINITIVE IDENTIFICATION OF OWNERSHIP IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO GET GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT TO ALLOW SOME PIECES TO BE TAKEN TO THE U.S. FOR FURTHER EXAMINATION. HE PROMISED TO INQUIRE AND ADVISE AMBASSADOR RESULTS HIS EFFORTS. IN RESPONSE TO AMBASSADOR'S QUESTION ABOUT WHICH OTHER COUNTRIES HAVE SHOWN INTEREST IN OBJECTS, FOREIGN SECRETARY REPLIED THAT INDIA AND CHINA HAVE ASKED TO SEE OBJECTS. BOTH ONLY TOOK PICTURES. THE SOVIETS HAVE SHOWN NO INTEREST AT ALL.

3. WHILE WE CANNOT PREDICT GON WILLINGNESS ALLOW US TO SEND BACK SOME PIECES OF OBJECTS, SITUATION APPEARS TO FAVOR THIS COURSE. GON HAS NO USE FOR OBJECTS ONCE POSSIBLE LAUNCHING AUTHORITIES HAVE BEEN GIVEN CHANCE TO CLAIM THEM. SOVIET LACK OF INTEREST, IF IT CONTINUES, WOULD LEAVE OWNERSHIP PERPETUALLY IN DOUBT AND GON SEEMS DESIROUS TO RESOLVING POSSIBLE QUESTION OF CHINESE ORIGIN.

4. FOREIGN SECRETARY AGAIN REQUESTED NO PUBLICITY BE GIVEN TO THIS MATTER.

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NOTE: NOT PASSED DEFENSE BY DC/T.

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