

SECRET

PTQ7094

RELEASED IN PART  
B1, 1.4(B), 1.4(D)

PAGE 01 ISLAMA 07510 061411Z  
ACTION NODS-00

INFO LOG-00 CCOE-00 SAS-00 /000W  
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O 061412Z OCT 98  
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0621

S E C R E T ISLAMABAD 007510

DECAPTIONED

NODIS

FOR U/S PICKERING AND SA A/S INDERFURTH

E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/6/08  
TAGS: PREL, PTER, PK  
SUBJECT: PAKISTAN: AMBASSADOR RAISES BIN LADEN WITH FOREIGN  
SECRETARY SHAMSHAD AHMED

REF: STATE 184659

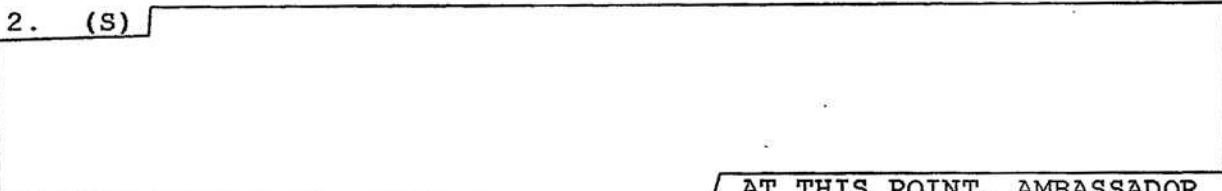
(U) CLASSIFIED BY AMBASSADOR WILLIAM B. MILAM. REASON 1.5(D).

1. (S) IN AN OCTOBER 5 MEETING WITH FOREIGN SECRETARY SHAMSHAD  
AHMED ON ANOTHER SUBJECT, AMBASSADOR BRIEFLY RAISED THE ISSUE OF  
OSAMA BIN LADEN. HE TOLD SHAMSHAD THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED BIN  
LADEN WITH THE PRIME MINISTER THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND WERE LOOKING  
TO PAKISTAN TO HELP US ON THIS AND OTHER ISSUES RELATING TO  
AFGHANISTAN. AMBASSADOR NOTED THAT THE UNITED STATES WAS TRYING  
TO GET A DIALOGUE GOING WITH THE TALIBAN, TO DATE WITH LIMITED

SECRET

PAGE 02 ISLAMA 07510 061411Z  
SUCCESS. ALTHOUGH THERE WERE A NUMBER OF STICKING POINTS IN OUR  
RELATIONSHIP WHICH WE WERE WILLING TO DISCUSS, PREEMINENTLY THE  
STATUS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS, THERE WAS ONE ISSUE ON WHICH WE HAD NO  
FLEXIBILITY. THIS WAS THE PRESENCE OF OSAMA BIN LADEN AND HIS  
ORGANIZATION IN AFGHANISTAN.

2. (S)



AT THIS POINT, AMBASSADOR  
INTERRUPTED TO THAT URGENT ACTION WAS REQUIRED WITH RESPECT TO

B1

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BIN LADEN NOT A PROLONGED PROCESS. HE STRESSED THAT U.S. PATIENCE WAS GROWING THIN AND THAT WE NEEDED TO HAVE WANTED THIS MATTER SETTLED "IN A MATTER OF DAYS" RATHER THAN WEEKS OR MONTHS.

[REDACTED]

4. (S) AMBASSADOR REPLIED THAT THE U.S. SHARED AN INTEREST IN PREVENTING A CONFLICT FROM DEVELOPING BETWEEN IRAN AND THE  
SECRET

PAGE 03 ISLAMA 07510 061411Z  
TALIBAN AND HAD MADE OUR VIEWS CLEARLY KNOWN. AT THE SAME TIME, OUR PARAMOUNT INTEREST IN AFGHANISTAN AT THE PRESENT TIME WAS TO SECURE THE IMMEDIATE EXTRADITION OF BIN LADEN FROM THE COUNTRY. HE ONCE AGAIN EMPHASIZED THAT TIME WAS RUNNING SHORT. AMBASSADOR THEN TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE OCCASION TO ASK SHAMSHAD WHETHER HE KNEW WHY THE IRANIANS HAD DRAWN DOWN THEIR EMBASSY IN ISLAMABAD.

[REDACTED]

5. (S) IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION FROM THE AMBASSADOR, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

6. (S) COMMENT: THE CONVERSATION WITH SHAMSHAD ON BIN LADEN WAS IN NO WAY A SUBSTITUTE FOR REFTEL INSTRUCTED MEETING WITH THE PRIME MINISTER. THE REQUEST FOR THAT MEETING IS NOW IN AND WE ARE WAITING FOR AN APPOINTMENT. END COMMENT.  
MILAM

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