

E13A

TALKING POINTS FOR WHITE HOUSE BRIEFING AFTER MEETING BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND PAKISTAN PRIME MINISTER ALI ZULFIKAR BHUTTO

-- President Ford and Pakistan Prime Minister Ali Zulfikar Bhutto met in the Oval Office for _____ minutes. Secretary of State Kissinger, _____, were also present on the American side, and _____ on the Pakistan side.

-- The President expressed his pleasure at this first opportunity to get to know Prime Minister Bhutto. The two leaders agreed that their personal meeting will strengthen ties of close cooperation long existing between Pakistan and the United States.

-- The President and Prime Minister discussed the steps being taken to achieve more normal relations among the nations of South Asia. The President expressed his strong admiration for the Prime Minister's contribution to that historic process, and reiterated American support for efforts to strengthen the basis for peace and security in South Asia. They exchanged views on Prime Minister Bhutto's efforts to improve the economic well-being of his people.

-- To help sustain Pakistan's own efforts, in particular to help overcome the serious Pakistan shortfall in foodgrain production in recent months and the continuing drought there, the President promised another 150,000 tons of wheat to the Prime Minister under the PL 480 program (Title I, concessionary sales). This wheat is available for immediate delivery, in addition to the 100,000 tons already made available this fiscal year. The President also assured the Prime Minister that the needs of Pakistan will continue to receive priority attention in the PL 480 program.

-- The President repeated continuing American support for the integrity and independence of Pakistan.

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The two leaders discussed their mutual security concerns with regard to strengthening peace in South Asia. In this context the Prime Minister explained his concern over the continuing American arms embargo in that area of the world. The President and Prime Minister had a full discussion of the issue.

-- The Prime Minister repeated his invitation given President Ford to visit Pakistan, and the President said once again that he hoped a visit would be possible later this year.