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Action

Classification

Control: 5442

EUR

Rec'd: May 8, 1960
11:15 a.m.

Info

FROM: Kabul

SS

TO: Secretary of State

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SP

NO: 1083, May 8, 5 p.m.

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INR

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SENT DEPARTMENT 1083, REPEATED INFORMATION KARACHI NIACT 370, ANKARA PRIORITY 50, TEHRAN PRIORITY 128, LONDON 42, MOSCOW 28

ADVANCE COPY

Incident of downing American U-2 plane appears likely attain considerable proportions in Kabul.

1. Pakistan Ambassador suddenly summoned by Foreign Minister today at 1100 apparently in response to longstanding request for appointment. Interview cut short after 30 minutes because Soviet Ambassador waiting see Naim, during interview Naim stated he informed (did not give source information) that missing plane took off from Peshawar and overflowed Afghan. Foreign Minister stated RGA took extremely serious view this violation Afghan air space. Accordingly Pakistan counselor Abbas, Pakistan Ambassador denied plane took off from Peshawar and added that even if it had, GOP had no control over what it might have done after take-off qdjcsbe* volunteered opinion RGA probably would address official note protest to GOP.
2. About 1230 today Italian Charge called my house to say in confidence, that Minister of Commerce Sherzad had told him less than hour earlier that both Pakistan Ambassador and American Charge would no doubt be summoned by Foreign Minister. Since I have not been called thus far I assume it will not be today.
3. Event Foreign Minister summons me I shall relay his statements to Department but will refer to circular 1408 in reply to any question. Copy circular already sent Foreign Office.
4. Soviet Embassy obviously doing everything to exploit incident

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Authority NLE 2006-135 *7
By MKK NLDDE Date 12/22/10

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-2- 1083, May 8, 5 p.m. from Kabul.

incident to prove US bad faith on eve summit. At social functions they buttonholing Afghans and diplomats to pound home the point and linking it with CENTO. Soviet Ambassador called on Turk Ambassador Thursday afternoon to tell him plane overflow Afghan "which lacked modern means detection". Soviet Counselor told Iranian Ambassador plane shot down over Kazakhstan. Another Soviet used incident to illustrate to Pakistan Counselor how US uses some friendly countries for aggressive purposes.

HANNAH

LMS:DGH/1

* Apparent omission. Correction to follow.

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