

DECLASSIFIED
PA/HO, Department of State
E.O. 12958, as amended
June 9, 2005

TELCON
Rogers/Kissinger
3:45 p.m. 12/3/71

R: On Pakistan Ambassador. Has no instructions but thought a good idea. Communications slow from here to his government so working out an arrangement for him to send through our channels. He feels sure they will not oppose. They feel same thing in UN.

K: I think we should wait until we ^{hear} ~~here~~ from them. We can wait until tomorrow morning.

R: There's a lot of criticism on why we don't do something. Ambassador had a press conference today and a lot of press criticizing us for not taking action. Otherwise if we don't do it someone else will.

K: As soon as we hear from the ^[?] If we can get an answer ^w tonight, sure.

R: Sooner we have the monkey off our back so the President can say he has acted.

K: The President does want to act. Wants to take a line to condemn the Indians.

R: It's not a matter of condemning or blaming. It's trying to stop it. If we blame India a general war will break out.

K: In the subcontinent.

R: We are short-sighted if we think our general approach is ~~castigating~~ ^{castigating} India. It's to bring a ceasefire.

K: And withdrawal.

R: If we say let's condemn India, what does that do? We are trying to bring about ceasefire.

K: That's what we want to do but ~~not what you get~~ in order to get that we have to make clear who started action.

R: That's in the Security Council. If we don't take lead ^[in the] security council in ^[for] action then first we have lost the opportunity because someone else will and no advantage for railing against India now if we have Security Council --

K: I mean before the Security Council.

R: Right.

K: I think we should get the Security Council in a way that's not offensive to Pakistan if it can be done. So what if the Belgians go to the Security Council?

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R: The President said don't let them blame me and people will. Church saying we are not doing a thing.

K: We should hit back.

R: How can we?

K: We have done a lot. Neglect India on refugee thing. He will hit at us no matter what we do.

R: ~~xxxxxx~~ If war breaks out and we do not move quickly to bring it to the Security Council in conjunction with others, the President will be blamed for inaction.

K: As soon as we know they don't object.

R: This fellow doesn't and getting in touch with ambassador in NY who has been in touch with his government. I don't think we should wait until tomorrow.

K: Let's talk again in a couple of hours.