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By \_\_\_\_\_ Date *4/14/83*

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

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December 2, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HENRY A. KISSINGER  
THE WHITE HOUSE

**RS/R FILES**

**MRS. TROMBLY**

Subject: Statement by Indian  
Foreign Minister

Attention \_\_\_\_\_  
Keep this study together.

An analysis of Indian Foreign Minister Swaran Singh's November 30 statement on Indo-U.S. relations is attached. This analysis was prepared by the Department's Bureau of Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs.

Theodore L. Eliot, Jr.  
Executive Secretary

*POL INDIA - US*

Attachment:

As stated.

*NEA - Mr. Kissinger*

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INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

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STATEMENT BY INDIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

Indian Foreign Minister Swaran Singh's November 30 statement is noteworthy as the most balanced and positive review of Indo-U.S. relations by the GOI since the 1971 War. His remarks constitute a strong signal that India now desires better relations.

The Foreign Minister's remarks were addressed to the United States, and, equally important, to Indian public opinion. Swaran Singh's statement provides a well-reasoned basis for domestic acceptance of an effort to improve relations with the U.S.

In his remarks, he describes differences between the U.S. and India, which he characterizes as "temporary", in a calm and rational manner.

--On Vietnam, he sees the conflict on the way to a peaceful solution. Once peace is resolved, India will cooperate with the U.S. and others in the reconstruction effort.

--On Bangladesh, he welcomes our recognition and our participation in the reconstruction effort.

--On South Asia policy, he sees "every reason to believe" that the U.S. will "encourage and support" the spirit of the Simla Agreement.

While expressing interest in improved relations with the United States, Swaran Singh makes clear what India will seek from the U.S. in this relationship.

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E.O. 12958, as amended  
June 9, 2005

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He underscores continuing Indian concern about possible U.S. military assistance to Pakistan; he urges the U.S. to accept the "realities of the new situation in the area" (i.e., a predominant Indian role); he seeks U.S. support of the policy of bilateralism in South Asia (i.e., India and Pakistan should work out their disputes by themselves).

Several factors have contributed to the evolution of the more forthcoming Indian attitude toward the U.S. articulated yesterday by Swaran Singh. Domestically, the euphoria of victory over Pakistan has worn off. India is facing major economic difficulties and a potential food shortage. The flow of U.S. resources, including food, into India looms more important than six months back.

Events influencing the timing of the Foreign Minister's statement probably include our favorable action in participating in multilateral debt relief and the President's friendly response to Mrs. Gandhi's congratulatory message on his reelection. An additional element may be strains in Indo-Soviet relations, about which we have received intelligence reports. The Indians have reportedly resisted Soviet pressures to join COMECON, to undertake joint naval exercises and to provide more active support for the Asian security proposals.

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