



~~SECRET~~
THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

Mr. Goss

CM-946-81
29 May 81

#40

MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR POLICY

Subject: Aircraft Options for Pakistan (U)

1. (U) Reference your memorandum* which asks for comments/concurrence on a proposed letter to the Secretary of State regarding alternatives for upgrading Pakistan's tactical air capability.

2. (S) I agree that during Secretary Buckley's forthcoming visit to Pakistan, he should be prepared to discuss various options, which DOD could support, concerning procurement of the F-16 by Pakistan. However, the options should not be presented in the context of an offer. Instead, it would be preferable to suggest that if Pakistan is serious about acquisition of the F-16 we should begin preparation of an LOA immediately since this could take up to six months by itself. At the same time a small team of experts in procurement, training, and operations from the PAF should meet with their counterparts from the US Air Force to develop a comprehensive program to phase the F-16 into the PAF inventory. These technical experts could discuss the various options in detail within the context of an overall upgrade program for the PAF. This approach would free Secretary Buckley from the need to become involved in discussions which can be better handled in military-to-military channels.

3. (S) As regards the specific options in your proposed letter, standard delivery of the F-16 perhaps in combination with interim acquisition of the F-104G appears to be the only viable option. Early delivery of F-16s for a Pakistani training element could not be logistically supported without severe adverse impact on our own readiness, would be inefficient in terms of Pakistani training, and would not provide any real interim capability. A more practical approach would be to begin early training of a Pakistani cadre at a CONUS base (approximately 30 months after signature of an LOA). Upon completion of initial training (approximately six-months) 6-8 F-16s could be delivered to the CONUS base for training of additional Pakistani personnel. These aircraft could ultimately be deployed to Pakistan as part of the overall aircraft purchase.

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL
Authority: EO 13526
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date: JUL 24 2018

~~CLASSIFIED BY SP4RMB/SGS~~
~~DECLASSIFY ON: 20 MAR 1987~~

~~SECRET~~

330-88-0104, bx 21, Pakistan (Qa-Auh)

18-M-1483

~~SECRET~~

4. (U) US Air Force F-16 familiarization deployments to Pakistan could not be logistically supported on any kind of a regular basis until approximately FY 1984-85. However, occasional TACAIR deployments (including F-16s when available) could be supported, and if combined with joint exercises or other show of force operations in the Indian Ocean, would provide a strong signal of our commitment to Pakistan's security.

David C. Jones

DAVID C. JONES
General, USAF
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

Office of the Secretary of Defense
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS

Date: 24 JUL 2018 Authority: EO 13526 + Supp 555a

Declassify: X Deny in Full: _____

Declassify in Part: _____

Reason: _____

MDR: 18 -M- 1483

Reference:

* Memorandum by The Under Secretary of Defense, I-22473/81,
"Aircraft Options for Pakistan (U)"

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL
Authority: EO 13526
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date:

JUL 24 2018

~~SECRET~~