

*Weekend box*

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FM KABUL 070712Z  
TO ROUTINE FCO

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*Prime Minister  
To see all*

TELEGRAM NO 240 OF 7 AUGUST 80.  
INFO ROTINE ISLAMABAD, NEW DELHI, MOSCOW, WASHINGTON, UKDEL  
NATO AND MODUK (DI4).  
INFO SAVING UKMIS NEW YORK.

*MAJ  
7/8*

MY TELEGRAM NO 237 : AFGHANISTAN : SITREP.  
POLITICAL.

1. A MEETING OF PARTY ACTIVISTS WAS HELD IN KABUL TO EXPLAIN THE CALL FOR UNITY MADE AT THE THIRD PLENUM OF THE PDPA. BABRAK'S SPEECH STRESSED THE PRIME DUTY OF ALL PARTY MEMBERS TO ANNIHILATE FOREIGN MERCENARIES, MOST OF WHOM, HE SAID, HAD ALREADY BEEN WIPED OUT. HE PRESENTED FLAGS TO CERTAIN VOLUNTEER GROUPS IN APPRECIATION OF THEIR STRUGGLE.
2. LOCAL PUBLICITY HAS BEEN GIVEN TO A REPORT SAID TO HAVE APPEARED IN THE "PATRIOT" IN DELHI THAT BRITAIN AND THE US ARE USING THE SURVEY TEAM ON THE KARAKORAM HIGHWAY FOR INTELLIGENCE GATHERING.
3. KABUL TV SHOWED ON 6 AUGUST THE WELCOME AFFORDED IN THE UK TO ATHLETS RETURNING FROM THE MOSCOW OLYMPICS.
4. AN AGREEMENT ON CO-OPERATION TO DEVELOP HEALTH SERVICES HAS BEEN SIGNED WITH THE SOVIET UNION. THE SOVIET DEPUTY MINISTERS OF FOREIGN TRADE AND OF TRANSPORT HAVE ARRIVED IN KABUL.
5. THERE HAS BEEN A SHORTAGE OF PETROL IN KABUL FOR SEVERAL DAYS AND TODAY ALL PETROL STATIONS HAVE RUN DRY.  
INTERNAL SECURITY.  
INTERNAL SECURITY.
6. RELIABLE REPORTS FROM HERAT INDICATE AN INCREASE IN VIOLENCE SINCE THE BEGINNING OF RAMADAN, SOME THREE WEEKS' AGO, WITH FREQUENT STREET BATTLES BY BOTH DAY AND NIGHT BETWEEN AFGHAN TROOPS AND RESISTANCE FORCES. THE OLD TOWN IS VIRTUALLY A NO-GO AREA FOR GOVERNMENT FORCES WITH ARMED BANDS OF INSURGENTS IN PLAIN EVIDENCE. THESE BANDS ARE FOR THE MOST PART DISORGANISED AND POORLY ARMED, AND THE ACTIVITIES OF BANDIT ELEMENTS AMONGST THEM IN DEMANDING MONEY AND SUPPLIES UNDER THREATS ARE SAID TO HAVE AROUSED RESENTMENT. THE RUSSIANS ARE IN LITTLE EVIDENCE WITHIN HERAT BUT ARE HEAVILY CONCENTRATED AROUND THE CITY. THEIR MAIN CONCERN SEEMS TO BE THE SECURITY OF THEIR SUPPLY ROUTE RUNNING NORTH TO SOUTH : REGULAR IN-COMING CONVOYS OF PETROL TANKERS AND OF ARMoured VEHICLES ARE SEEN, WITH OCCASIONAL ROCKET LAUNCHERS, AMMUNITION TRUCKS AND LOADS OF CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS. THERE IS SOME EVIDENCE THAT THE RUSSIANS ARE INFILTRATING SOME RESISTANCE GROUPS AND REMOVING RESISTANCE LEADERS SO IDENTIFIED.
7. PUBLICITY CONTINUES TO BE GIVEN TO THE TERRORIST ACTIVITIES OF COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY BANDS IN CERTAIN PROVINCES. KUNDUZ PROVINCE AND TOWN HAVE RECEIVED PARTICULAR MENTION OF

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LATE WHERE THE SITUATION FOR SOME TIME HAS BEEN SIMILAR TO THAT DESCRIBED IN HERAT, WITH RESISTANCE FORCES DISRUPTING MUCH OF THE ADMINISTRATION.

8. AERIAL ACTIVITY OF ALL KINDS HAS BEEN VERY LIGHT OVER THE PAST FEW DAYS. REPORTS STILL COME IN OF FIGHTING BETWEEN GOVERNMENTT AND RESSISTANCEEE FORCES IN LOGAR, MOST RECENTTLY AROUND BARAKI BARAK AND PULE ALAM.

9. THERE IS A REPORT FROM A GENERALLY RELIABLE SOURCE,, ALTHOUGH THE MACABRE NATURE OF THIS ONE STRAINS CREDULITY, OF A TTIIED AND SEALED SACK CONTAINING THE HEADS OF 5/6 RUSSIANS BEING DUMPED ON 5 AUGUST BY THE MICROROYAN COMPLEX OFF APARTMENTS IN KABUL WHERE MANY RUSSIANS LIVE.

PRESS DISTRIBUTIONN.

10. ANY OF THE ABOVE COULD BE CONSIDERED FOR PRESS TREATMENT. FCO PLEASE PASS SAVING TO UKMIS NEWYORK.

HOWELL.

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AFGHANISTAN STANDARD

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RENAD	ERD
FED	ECD (E)
SED	CABINET OFFICE

THIS TELEGRAM  
WAS NOT  
ADVANCED

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