

Afghanistan

Prime Minister

To see all

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FM KABUL 110810Z

TO ROUTINE FCO

TELEGRAM NO 243 OF 11 AUGUST 80.

INFO ROUTINE ISLAMABAD, NEW DELHI, MOSCOW, WASHINGTON, UKDEL
NATO AND MODUK (DI4)

INFO SAVING TO UKMIS NEW YORK.

MY TELEGRAM NO 240 : AFGHANISTAN : SITREP.

POLITICAL.

1. THE NEED FOR PARTY UNITY CONTINUES AS THE MAIN THEME IN PARTY STATEMENTS. BABRAK CALLED ON THE AFGHAN WOMEN'S ORGANISATION TO CLOSE RANKS SO THAT "THERE MAY REMAIN NO SELF-CENTERED CRITICISMS, INAPPROPRIATE RIVALRIES, COMPETITIONS AND SELFISHNESS". THE CHIEF OF THE AFGHEN SECURITY FORCES, SAR RAWZA WAL, MADE THE SAME CALL TO A MEETING OF PROVINCIAL AND PARTY ACTIVISTS AND ADDED THAT THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO "STRENGTHEN THE POLICE ORGANS AND ENHANCE THEIR CAPABILITY".

2. THE GOVERNMENT HAVE ISSUED A STATEMENT CONDEMNING THE ISRAELI PARLIAMENTARY DECISION TO DECLARE JERUSALEM THE CAPITAL OF ISRAEL.

3. IT IS EXPECTED THAT NEW CHARGE D'AFFAIRES WILL SHORTLY BE ANNOUNCED FOR ISLAMABAD AND MOSCOW. THERE IS NO SATISFACTORY EXPLANATION OF WHY REPRESENTATION IN MOSCOW REMAINS AT CHARGE LEVEL, UNLESS THE POST OF AMBASSADOR IS BEING KEPT FOR SOME IMPORTANT EXILE. THERE IS ALSO A REPORT, SO FAR UNCONFIRMED, THAT MINISTER OF INTERIOR GULABZOI IS TO GO AS AMBASSADOR TO WARSAW.

INTERNAL SECURITY.

4. SECURITY HAS BEEN NOTICEABLY TIGHTENED IN AND AROUND KABUL OVER THE LAST FEW DAYS WITH WIDESPREAD SEARCHES OF VEHICLES BY DAY AND BY NIGHT. IT MAY BE AN ATTEMPT TO PREVENT TOO MANY WEAPONS BEING AROUND THE TOWN OVER EID (12-14 AUGUST).

5. AERIAL ACTIVITY OVER KABUL AND MOVEMENT OF MILITARY CONVOYS HAS BEEN LIGHT. ON 7 AUGUST THERE WAS SOME BOMBING BY HELICOPTERS IN THE BAGRAMI/SHEWAKI AREA JUST OUTSIDE KABUL, REASON NOT KNOWN, PROBABLY SUSPECTED PRESENCE OF INSURGENTS. FIGHTING ON A MODERATE SCALE ON 7 AUGUST AND INVOLVING RUSSIAN TROOPS WAS REPORTED FROM THE AREA AROUND KALAKAN, SOME 40 KMS NORTH OF KABUL.

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6. PUBLICITY CONTINUES FOR GOVERNMENT SUCCESSES AGAINST COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARIES AND THE PROVINCES CURRENTLY FEATURED ARE SAMANGAN, BALKH AND HERAT. THERE HAS ALSO BEEN FIGHTING IN FARYAB AND BADGHIS, AND SUCCESS STORIES MAY BE EXPECTED FROM THERE ALSO.

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