

Inward Telegram to Commonwealth Relations Office

FROM: U.K. HIGH COMMISSIONER IN PAKISTAN

D: Karachi 13.53 hours, 11th April 1953  
R: 10.26 hours, 11th April 1953  
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CIPHER  
PRIORITY

No. 620 TOP SECRET

My Top Secret letter of 8th April TS/P/72. (64)

ZAFRULLAH

American Charge d'Affaires asked to see me today and said that he had had long conversation with Zafrullah which as described by him followed same line as Zafrullah with me. Zafrullah had told him that he had spoken to me but to no one else. State Department had been concerned by this report and had asked Charge d'Affaires to get my estimate of

(A) Nazimuddin's "motivation" in wanting to get rid of Zafrullah

(B) desirability or otherwise of any demarche by us designed to discourage him from doing so.

2. In reply to first question I spoke generally on lines of paragraph 5 of my letter to Liesching and said that Prime Minister had never seemed to me to appreciate value of Zafrullah or extent of his reputation overseas and that he had always been deeply influenced by Mullahs and by concern for holding internal situation. I felt however that unless Zafrullah as result of indirect pressure felt that he had no choice but to resign he was right in assuming that Prime Minister would not dismiss him or get rid of him.

3. In reply to second question I said I thought it would be a grave error to make any move. It might be that Zafrullah would get round this corner if he could only hold on. Pakistan Government would however I thought be entitled to take strong exception to any demarche by us though I should not myself hesitate if Prime Minister gave me the opportunity by touching on possible disappearance of Zafrullah of giving him my personal view as to misunderstanding to which this might give rise. I thought however that it was very unlikely that either Charge d'Affaires or I would be given that opportunity.

Copy to:-

D.V. ✓

Foreign Office  
(S.E. Asia Dept.)

11/4  
Mr. Burrows (3)

ALLOTTED TO SOUTH ASIAN DEPARTMENT