

No. 39

Conference files, lot 59 D 95, CF 156

*Memorandum of Conversation, by the Secretary of State*¹

SECRET

NEW DEHLI, May 21, 1953—11:30 a. m.

ST D-8

Subject: India

Participants: Prime Minister Nehru
Secretary Dulles

1. Mr. Nehru emphasized India's need to create internal unity. There was danger that the country might fall apart. Independence had brought many exaggerated hopes, and it was easy to arouse discontent. That is why India concentrates upon its own internal economy and such topics as the Five Year Plan. India cannot risk renewed starvation.

2. India has almost no contacts, economic or political, with the Government of Soviet Russia. The contacts of the Indian Communist Party are largely via England rather than direct. The Indian Communist Party originally treated the Chinese Communists as "deviationists" and only within the last two years changed their attitude under instructions from Moscow. The Indian Communists had made alliances which gave them considerable political success in certain areas, but their political allies are tending to separate from them.

3. China, like Soviet Russia, is going through an expansionist phase. This is not wholly due to Communist rule. The Communists are accepted as rulers, because they provide a measure of internal order, but most of the Chinese are not themselves Communists. Almost assuredly Communist China will divorce itself from Soviet Russia within 15 or 25 years. Already the ties are weakened by the death of Stalin. The Soviet Union, while pretending to want the admission of Communist China to the United Nations, does not want this in reality because it wants to keep China dependent upon the Soviet Union as its spokesman. The material dependence of Communist China on Russia has increased during the last two years largely because of the Korean War. Probably China would want to

Secretary to see Najibullah, in telegram 4121 from New Delhi, May 14. Telegrams 698 and 699 from Damascus, May 15, advised the Department that Dulles would meet with Najibullah in New Delhi. No memorandum of the conversation has been found in Department of State files. Documentation is in the Conference files, lot 59 D 95, CF 156. For documentation on the question of Pushtunistan, see vol. XI, Part 2, pp. 1365 ff.

¹ This conversation took place at the Office of the Prime Minister.