

evening I mentioned to the General the GG statements to me to the effect that they would be willing to sign an agreement to go to India's aid in the event that any power should attack India. He said that he had forgotten to mention that and hoped that I would do so for him, to which I replied that I had already spoken to the Secretary about it.)

The General next expressed what is not only his concern but that of other leaders over the future of India when Nehru is either replaced or passes away. He feels very strongly that such occurrence would result in the dangerous splitting up of India into separate states, many of which would be susceptible and even amenable to Communist influence. He considers this a great danger to the future of Pakistan, feeling that there is no one in India with sufficient strength to take over after Nehru.

The Secretary spoke for several minutes expressing his conception of the recent change in Soviet tactics which could conceivably result in increased efforts in the direction of Southeast Asia. The General appeared interested and seemed aware of the global aspect of the present day conflict between the Communist and non-Communist worlds. His feeling is that the United States, which admittedly is the leader of the free world today, should not be afraid to openly aid those countries which have expressed a willingness, and even desire, to cooperate with the United States. He reiterated the potential, both in manpower and bases that is available in Pakistan and that his country under the present Government is extremely anxious to cooperate with the United States. He feels very strongly that if Pakistan were strengthened by United States economic and military aid, it would result in India dropping its present intransigent attitude, both toward Kashmir and other problems and even going so far as to having Nehru come to Washington in search of a settlement. He summarized this thought by saying that a strong Pakistan would frighten India out of her passiveness and intransigence.

No. 47

Conference files, lot 59 D 95, CP 156

*Memorandum of Conversation, by the Counselor in Pakistan
(MacArthur)*¹

SECRET
ST D-9/5

[KARACHI,] May 24, 1953—11:30 a. m.

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