

the ultimate source of funds to be utilized in such a program might appropriately be left open for the time being.

I suggest that the problem of assistance to Pakistan should be discussed in the meeting of State, Defense and Foreign Operations Administration representatives which I proposed in my letter of October 2 should be held early in the week beginning October 5.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Stassen.

Sincerely yours,

FREDERICK E. NOLTING, JR.

No. 155

790D.5 MSP/10-1553

*Memorandum by the Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern, South Asian, and African Affairs (Byroade) to the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Nash)*<sup>1</sup>

TOP SECRET

[WASHINGTON,] October 15, 1953.

Subject: Military Assistance to Pakistan

I refer to my conversation with you on October 12th on this subject.<sup>2</sup> I have since that time discussed the matter again with the Secretary and General Smith. As a result of these conversations General Smith made the following points to General Ayub in his meeting with Smith and myself this morning:

1. It had been impossible for the US Government to fully work out a position on this subject prior to Ayub's return to Washington. While this was the case, Ayub should nevertheless know that high officials in Washington were at the moment attempting to work out a line of procedure that would be mutually satisfactory to the US and Pakistan.

2. The US does consider Pakistan as a true friend and we are approaching the problem with a desire to work out a program of military assistance to Pakistan which can start during this fiscal year.

3. We here are considering as a part of the package the equipping of Pakistan troops which might be sent to Korea although we have not made a governmental decision to approach the Government of Pakistan on this subject. We see certain possible advantages to such an initial step as it would (a) provide hardware and training quickly for some Pakistan troops, (b) assist us in our political difficulties involving assistance to Pakistan, and (c) be a popu-

<sup>1</sup> A handwritten note on the memorandum indicates that the original was hand-carried to the Pentagon.

<sup>2</sup> Presumably this is the meeting referred to in the last paragraph of the Oct. 2 letter from Nolting to Nash, *supra*. No memorandum of the conversation has been found in Department of State files.