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RELEASED IN PART
B3, NSA50

A85

ACTION SCT-00

INFO	LOG-00	EEB-00	AID-00	A-00	CA-00	CCO-00	CG-00
	COME-00	CTME-00	INL-00	DOEE-00	DOTE-00	PDI-00	DS-00
	EAP-00	DHSE-00	EUR-00	FAAE-00	FBIE-00	UTED-00	VCI-00
	DIAS-00	H-00	TEDE-00	INR-00	INSE-00	IO-00	L-00
	ARMY-00	MOFM-00	MOF-00	M-00	VCIE-00	DCP-00	NRC-00
	NSAE-00	ISN-00	NSCE-00	OCS-00	NIMA-00	PA-00	PM-00
	GIWI-00	PRS-00	P-00	ISNE-00	DOHS-00	SP-00	IRM-00
	SSO-00	SS-00	USSS-00	NCTC-00	ASDS-00	FMP-00	CBP-00
	SCRS-00	PMB-00	DSCC-00	PRM-00	DRL-00	G-00	SCA-00
	NEAT-00	SAS-00	FA-00	SWCI-00	/000W		

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O 131600Z JAN 09
 FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1019
 INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY
 AMCONSUL KARACHI PRIORITY
 AMCONSUL LAHORE PRIORITY
 AMCONSUL PESHAWAR PRIORITY
 CDR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY
 USCINCCENT MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY
 USCENTCOM INTEL CEN MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY
 SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY



B3

UNCLAS ISLAMABAD 000080

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A
 TAGS: PREL, PTER, PGOV, PK
 SUBJECT: MUSHARRAF BEGINS U.S. SPEAKING TOUR

1. (SBU) Summary: On January 10, former Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf departed Islamabad for the United States to visit his brother and to participate in a two-week lecture tour with scheduled stops at the University of Pittsburgh, Stanford University, and the World Affairs Council of Western Michigan. Press reports suggest his remarks will focus on terrorism and extremism, the strategic importance of Pakistan, insights into the Islamic world, leading through economic turmoil, and crisis management. Before departing from Islamabad, Musharraf made several comments to the media on Pakistan's efforts in the War on Terror and on Pakistan's current standoff with India following the November 26 Mumbai attacks. Although he declined to comment on the performance

or policies of the present Pakistan People's Party-led government, even members of his own Pakistan Muslim League party would prefer that he refrain from public remarks. A summary of his comments follows. End Summary.

Pakistan and the War on Terror

2. (SBU) Prior to his departure for the United States, on January 10, former Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf made several comments to the media on Pakistan's efforts in the War on Terror and on Pakistan's current standoff with India following the November 26 Mumbai attacks. In speaking on the use of alleged U.S. predator strikes, Musharraf rejected reports that he had struck a deal with the United States, saying he had never authorized drone strikes inside Pakistani territory. Musharraf told the media, "It was agreed that the U.S. and NATO forces could strike on the Afghan side of the border and would not enter Pakistani territory." He went on to say, "There was a clear policy that only the Pakistani army will operate there (in the tribal regions)."

3. (SBU) Musharraf said it was "beyond understanding" how the West could demand that Pakistan "do more" against terrorism. Musharraf also said that Pakistan had done more than any other nation in the global war against terrorism, noting that "Pakistan has lost a large number of security personnel and civilians in the fight against terrorism."

Pakistan-India, Post-Mumbai

4. (SBU) Musharraf condemned the November 26 Mumbai attack but accused India of creating war hysteria. He urged India to stop making threats against Pakistan, and said "India should not talk rubbish like surgical strikes." Musharraf added that Pakistan has "built a force level and we can use the sensitive and strategic assets when we have to."

5. (SBU) With regard to Pakistan's offer of a joint probe to investigate the Mumbai attacks, Musharraf said "the only way to resolve the mystery of the November 26 attacks is to conduct joint investigations." Musharraf added that his government tried its best to develop friendly relations with India, but lamented that "all the developments on both sides for dialogue, peace, and coordination built in the past over many years were washed out by one terror incident."

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