

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 4, 1998

Contact: Flannery Davis or Greg Mello, 505-982-7747

Pakistani, Indian Physicists to Discuss Nuclear Proliferation and Disarmament at Los Alamos

Do U.S. Policies Make Disarmament Impossible?

Is there hope for controlling nuclear proliferation in Asia? What policies might the United States pursue to help prevent nuclear war there--or here, for that matter? Is the U.S. stockpile stewardship program compatible with our treaty obligations, and our hopes for peace? Why have India and other countries consistently pointed to the work going on at Los Alamos and the other U.S. nuclear labs as evidence that the United States does not intend to abide by its existing treaty obligations? Why is the United States fighting the nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation measures recently introduced in the United Nations by thirty countries?

On Thursday and Friday, the Los Alamos Study Group is bringing two well-known South Asian physicists to New Mexico to discuss these and other concerns with managers and staff at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), while providing them with up-to-date information on the nuclear situation in South Asia.

Thursday's forum is open to the public and is entitled "Nonproliferation--Impacts of the Indian and Pakistani Nuclear Tests." It will be held at 2:00 pm in the Oppenheimer Study Center, above the lab's main library. Friday's panel discussion, which will address the linkages between nonproliferation and disarmament, will be held at Fuller Lodge at 7:00 pm. The public is welcome to both, and there will be ample time for questions.

Participants in both panels will include Zia Mian, M. V. Ramana, Maurice Bryson, and David Thomson.

Dr. Mian is currently a research associate with the Center for Energy and Environmental Studies (CEES) at Princeton University. Dr. Mian, a prize-winning physicist trained in England who is equally adept in political science, was an antinuclear activist and author in Pakistan before moving to the U.S. While at Princeton, Dr. Mian has continued to write on South Asian nuclear and political issues for both popular and academic publications. Dr. Mian's most recent book, co-edited with Iftikhar Ahmad, is entitled *Making Enemies, Creating Conflict--Pakistan's Crises of State and Society*.

Dr. M. V. Ramana, originally from India, is a U.S.-trained theoretical particle physicist and a founding member of the Alliance for a Secular and Democratic South Asia. He is also currently with CEES at Princeton. His current research centers on nuclear weapons and nuclear power programs in South Asia, and he is now writing a book on the history of India's nuclear complex.

Maurice Bryson is a Technical Staff Member of the Nonproliferation and Arms Control Program Office at LANL. He is project Leader for International Policy and Analysis programs.

Dave Thomson, a former LANL staff member, is a consultant to LANL on arms control. He is an active member of the Los Alamos Citizens for Arms and International Security.

*****ENDS*****