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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Friday, December 15, 1967

FOR MRS. ROBERTS

Per our conversation today.  
Hope this meets the need.

  
Ed Hamilton

Suggested Item for the President's Diary

SUBJECT: Meeting with His Excellency B. K. Nehru, Ambassador of India; Dr. P.K. Banerjee, Minister, Embassy of India (Edward Hamilton was also present.) 1:20 p.m., Dec. 14, 1967

Ambassador Nehru told the President he had come to say goodbye. After thirteen years in Washington, six as Ambassador, he was returning to India to become Governor of one of the important Indian states (Assam) on the border of China. He thanked the President for the pleasant and constructive attitude he and his predecessors had shown toward India and wished him well in the future.

The President replied that Ambassador Nehru had always conducted his assignments with great intelligence and dignity, and that all Americans were sorry to see him leave. The President asked the Ambassador to extend his greetings to Mrs. Gandhi and expressed his hope that Indo-U.S. relations would continue to improve. He particularly emphasized that India, despite her pressing social and economic problems, could be a strong force for good in the world by serving as an objective observer and reporter of international behavior. Often a simple, accurate, credible statement of the facts in international disputes can be a great factor in their settlement. Ambassador Nehru agreed that this was a proper role for India.