

ACTION INR-00

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	AID-00	AMAD-00	CIAE-00	INL-00	SRPP-00
	DS-00	EAP-00	EUR-00	FBIE-00	UTED-00	VC-00	FRB-00
	H-00	TEDE-00	IO-00	LAB-01	VCE-00	AC-00	NEA-00
	DCP-00	NSAE-00	OIC-00	NIMA-00	EPAU-00	PA-00	TFBI-00
	ACE-00	SCT-00	TEST-00	USIE-00	SA-00	R-00	EPAE-00
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 AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
 AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
 AMEMBASSY TASHKENT
 AMEMBASSY ASHGABAT
 AMEMBASSY LONDON
 AMEMBASSY PARIS
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 USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL//CCPA IMMEDIATE
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STATE FOR INR/R/MR, IIP/T, IIP/G/NEA-SA, SA
 SA/PAB, SA/INS, SA/RA, SA/PPD, DRL
 LONDON FOR POL/GOODRICH; PARIS FOR POL/HANSON
 CENTCOM PUBLIC AFFAIRS-MAJ.BALDWIN/SGT. BAKER
 USCINCPAC FOR POLAD AMBASSADOR HOLZMAN
 SECDEF FOR PA

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, PGOV, PREL, KMDR, PK

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: US-PAK RELATIONS; TERRORISM;
 PAKISTAN POLITICAL SITUATION; INDIA-PAKISTAN RELATIONS;
 IRAQ: ANTI-US UPRISING; THE MIDDLE EAST: ROADMAP FOR
 PEACE; NON-PROLIFERATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 REVIEW AUTHORITY: JOHN L MILLS
 DATE/CASE ID: 25 APR 2011 200908726

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MR Highlights: There has been considerable press play over the past five days regarding potential and actual US military action along the Pakistan-Afghanistan border. A crescendo was reached today, Thursday May 6, with front-page accounts of the Government of Pakistan's negative reaction reported in virtually all Pakistani papers regarding the "incursion" by U.S. forces into Pakistani territory (news accounts paras 1-10, editorial reaction paras 18-23).

A terrorist attack that killed three Chinese engineers and injured a dozen more in the Pakistani port of Gwadar elicited considerable editorial reaction, with the Urdu press editorials running rampant with speculation that a nefarious foreign hand seeking to derail the tight Pakistan-China relationship must be involved (editorials on Gwadar bombing paras 24-32).

The reported murder of Pakistani immigrants in Macedonia allegedly to demonstrate the latter's commitment to the GWOT was also widely reported and decried (paras 33-35), with one columnist describing it as Macedonia's way to "satisfy the U.S. in what clearly is becoming a lust for Muslim blood" (para 35).

Editorials in English and Urdu papers unanimously condemned the U.S. in the strongest possible terms for its soldiers' mistreatment of Iraqi prisoners (paras 41-45). Edits used harsh words like "American Savagery with Iraqi Prisoners" and "Shameful Treatment of Iraqi Prisoners." The mood in the papers was so hostile that even President Bush's condemnation of the U.S. soldiers could not assuage the feelings. "The U.S. President's disclaimer, 'that's not the way we do things in America,' might be true, but only for non-Muslim citizens" says an editorial in the English daily "The Nation" (para 42). End Highlights.

-- News Stories/US-Pak Relations

1. "US Urges Pakistan To Use Force In Tribal Region"
"Daily Times (05/05)

Quote: The US military urged Pakistan on Monday to kill or capture foreign militants holed up near the Afghan border and expressed concern over Pakistan's recent amnesty for several tribal militants. The top US commander in Afghanistan, Lieutenant-General David

Barno, said foreign fighters including some from Al-Qaeda were still launching attacks from Pakistan's semi-autonomous tribal belt near the Afghan border. "We clearly still see significant elements of foreign fighters there. There are Arabs, Chechens, Uzbeks and others who are not Pakistanis, who are not part of the tribes, that are still using that area to advance their terrorist aims," Barno said.... End quote.

2. "US General's Conflicting Stances Over Wana Operations" "The News" (05/05)

Quote: ... The US forces, as we all know, have alienated vast sections of the Pashtun population in

Afghanistan due to their strong-arm methods and disrespect for local culture and traditions. End quote.

3. "Protest Lodged With US, Says Kasuri: Violation Of Border" "Dawn" (05/06)

Quote: Foreign Minister Khurshid Kasuri said on Wednesday that Pakistan had strongly protested to the United States over border violation by US troops in North Waziristan and demanded a probe into Monday's incident. In a speech in the Senate, he also said that Pakistan would not tolerate infringement of its national sovereignty and reiterated the government's assurances that it would go ahead with nuclear and missile programs rather than rolling them back under alleged American pressure.... Initiating the discussion, Prof Khurshid Ahmed described the border violation as implementation of earlier reported threats by US Ambassador to Afghanistan, Zalmay Khalilzad, that coalition forces could pursue militants into Pakistan if Islamabad failed to tackle them. "This is a serious matter which can have far-reaching consequences," he said as he linked the incident with what he called "a grand design" to frustrate attempts for political settlements of problems whether it was Iraq or recent clashes between Pakistani troops and tribesmen near Wana.... End quote.

4. "Pakistan Protests US Troops Intrusion" "The Nation" (05/06)

Quote: ... The US troops deployed in Afghanistan reportedly intruded into Pakistani tribal territory in North Waziristan. They searched shops and harassed the local residents there. Addressing the weekly press briefing here, the Foreign Office Spokesman Masood Khan

said, "Washington has regretted the incident of its troops intrusion into Pakistani territory." However, the US authorities have termed it an inadvertent crossing, he added. Nonetheless, he said the issue would be discussed with the US authorities in the next meeting of Tripartite Commission.... Pakistan Army Spokesman Major General Shaukat Sultan, in his reaction also condemned the incident and said the intrusion involved few allied troops.... He said the US troops searched few shops and a petrol station but turned back as soon as they were informed that they were in Pakistani territory.... End quote.

5. "Pakistan Protests US Troops Intrusion; Washington Terms Incursion Inadvertent" "The News" (05/06)

Quote: ... Islamabad rejected taking lessons from Washington on how to control the situation within its borders. "We are making our own decisions. Ours is a well thought out strategy and we are making a headway while tackling the issue on a political track together with an operational track as these two have to be combined. There is profound wisdom in what we are doing. You do not kill for sport and you do not fire on your own people;" the spokesman said.... "Our strategy is good and our contribution is second to none. The message (from Pakistan) is that if it is not broken than don't fix it", advised the spokesman. Islamabad has played down the latest intrusion by US troops who

entered Pakistan from Afghanistan on the pretext that they were unaware that they had crossed the border.... End quote.

6. "Protest Lodged with America on Infiltration in Tribal Area; We Cannot Fire on Our People: Pakistan," "Nawa-e-Waqt" (05/06)

Quote: Pakistan has strongly protested over American troops infiltration into Pakistan and demanded of America to probe the matter and share the result of the investigation with Pakistan. Foreign office spokesperson said on Tuesday that American interference in Pakistan tribal areas is proved and we have protested through our military as well as diplomatic channels. Responding to Lt. Gen. David Barno's statement, the spokesperson said that we can't open fire on our citizens, they cannot be shot for game (khail), our real purpose is eradication of terrorism and we are succeeding in this effort. End quote.

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7. "Pakistan Makes Own Terrorism Decisions: FO" "Daily Times" (05/06)

Quote: Foreign Office spokesman Masood Khan on Wednesday rejected contentions by US Commander in Afghanistan Lt. Gen. David Barno to kill or capture foreign militants holed up near the Afghan border, saying Pakistan makes its own decisions.... End quote.

8. "Crossing Of Pakistani Border By U.S. Troops Dangerous For Security: Jamat-e-Islami," "Jasarat" (05/06)

Quote: Jamat-e-Islami leader Senator Professor Khurshid Ahmad has said that the crossing of Pak-Afghan border by the American troops was dangerous for the security of the country. Speaking in the Senate, he said that the American administration had already threatened to launch operation in Pakistani area and this threat was implemented on May 2. End quote.

9. "Pakistan Rejects U.S. Protest; Terms It Interference In Internal Affairs," "Ummat" (05/06)

Quote: Prime Minister Zafrullah Khan Jamali has said that whatever Pakistan has done in the tribal area of Wana, was its internal matter and as such no comments about it were acceptable from any quarter. End quote.

10. "Coalition Troops Search Shops On Pakistan Soil" "Dawn" (05/06)

Quote: US-led coalition forces intruded into Pakistani territory and searched a number of shops before moving back into Afghanistan on Monday evening, official sources told "Dawn." These sources said 60 coalition soldiers in four Humvee trucks intruded about two kilometres inside the Pakistani territory in Lwara Mandai Bazaar in Dattakhel tehsil, about 90 kilometres west of regional headquarters of North Waziristan tribal region at around 7.00 pm.... Members of Pakistani troops, regular as well as paramilitary forces deployed at the checkpoint barely 100 meters from the scene, did

nothing to stop the intrusion or challenge the intruding forces, witnesses and officials confirmed.... This is the first deep intrusion by coalition forces following a threat, (later retracted) by US Ambassador to Afghanistan Zalmay Khalilzad that the coalition forces

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could take action if Pakistan did not take action against Taliban and foreign militants hiding in tribal areas.... End quote.

-- Terrorism

11. "Plot To Hijack Plane From Islamabad Uncovered"
"Dawn" (05/06)

Quote: Pakistan on Wednesday claimed to have uncovered a plot to hijack a plane from Islamabad to the United Arab Emirates. According to reports on private TV channels, the claim was made by Prime Minister Zafarullah Khan Jamali during an interview with a foreign news agency.... The Ministry official also said that the hijack attempt justified the 'red alert' declared at all international airports on Tuesday and belied allegations leveled by certain quarters that the alert was aimed at stopping Pakistan Muslim League(N) president Mian Shahbaz Sharif from landing in Pakistan. Press Secretary to the Prime Minister Ashfaq Gondal told Dawn on late Wednesday night that the Prime Minister had told a foreign news agency that a "small terror cell" was planning to hijack a plane to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and "possibly blow it up".... End quote.

12. "President, PM Reaffirm Resolve To Fight Terror"
"The Nation" (05/05)

Quote: The President and Prime Minister after attending a briefing given by Foreign Secretary Riaz Khokhar on Islamabad's Foreign Policy, expressed their outrage and condemnation over the terrorist attack in Gwadar, in which three Chinese nationals were killed and two Pakistanis injured. They also sent instant communications to the President and Prime Minister of China. Riaz Khokhar handed over the letters addressed to the Chinese leaders, to the Chinese Ambassador in Islamabad, Zhang Chunxiang. The President General Musharraf also held one to one meeting with Prime Minister Mir Zafarullah Khan Jamali before the briefing and discussed in detail the current political situation in the country as well as the security issues.... End quote.

13. "Airports Put On Red Alert Over Hijack Fears," "The Nation" (05/05)

Quote: The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) on Tuesday declared a red-alert at all the airports of the country

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and beefed up security measures amid fears of a hijacking or possible landing of a hijacked plane at the domestic airports. "A red-alert is in force at all the airports of the country following reports from Federal Interior Ministry that a group of terrorists may hijack plane from Pakistani airspace or airports," a CAA official informed "The Nation".... End quote. UNCLASSIFIED

14. "Clerics Begin Talks To Induce Foreigners To

Register" "Daily Times" (05/06)

Quote: A joint delegation of clerics from the Mehsud and Wazir tribes on Wednesday began closed-door talks with foreign elements, linked to Al-Qaeda and Taliban, over their registration with the political administration in return for amnesty.... Meanwhile, a tribal jirga at Lowara in North Waziristan Agency near the Pak-Afghan border on Wednesday asked the Pakistan Army and paramilitaries to withdraw from the area as the tribesmen would defend the country's western frontiers against the US-led coalition forces. Elders of the Alikhun Khel, Bashi Khel, Nazar Khel, Hizar Khel and Tanarai tribes attended the jirga in which more than 100 armed youth expressed dismay over the US troops breaching Pakistan's territorial limits despite the presence of army and paramilitary forces.... Local elder Malik Gulalai told journalists that the US troops destroyed a gas station and took away a Kalashnikov and cash from station. They offered Rs 16,000 each to tribesmen and promised developmental projects in the area if they announced that their area would join Afghanistan, he said. The jirga said if US forces violated the border again, they would be attacked. Peshawar Corps Commander Lt Gen Safdar Hussain is likely to visit the area today (Thursday). End quote.

15. "Three Chinese Engineers Killed In Gwadar Bomb Blast; Gwadar Port To Be Completed Before Time: China," "Jang" (05/05)

Quote: Three Chinese engineers were killed and eleven other people were injured in a car bomb blast in Pakistan's port city of Gwadar. China, however, said that despite this tragedy work on the construction of port would continue and would be completed before time. End quote.

16. "Terrorists Cannot Hamper Pak-China Relations: Senate," "Jang" (05/05)

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Quote: The Senate of Pakistan unanimously adopted a resolution condemning the killing of three Chinese in Gwadar and vowed that such terrorist incidents could not cause a dent to the existing Pakistan-China friendship. End quote.

-- Anti-US Uprisings

17. "Film shows Iraqis being shot dead by US copter"
"Daily Times" (05/05)

Quote: A French TV channel was due to show footage of a US military helicopter shooting three fleeing Iraqis dead, though they did not appear to be posing any threat. According to Matt Drudge, who runs an online news site, the show (Merci pour l'info) (Thanks for the news) obtained the footage, seen by an AFP correspondent, from a 'European working as a subcontractor for the US army' who left Iraq two weeks ago. The man claims to have hidden the tape, dated 1st December 2003 and filmed at an unidentified location in Iraq, at the US base where he lived and worked. The three-and-a-half minutes of footage were taken from the

helicopter firing at the three individuals, who were considered by the US military to be suspicious.... According to the report, Conversations between the helicopter pilot, the sharpshooter and their commanding officer - who had a video link and is giving orders in real time - can be heard on the tape. End quote.

Editorials/Opinions: Watch list Items

-- US-Pak Relations

18. "Gen. Barno's Remarks," an editorial in the center-right national English daily, "The Nation" (05/06)

Quote: First it was Ambassador Khalilzad and now it is Lt Gen. Barno. One American official after another considers it his birth right to remind Islamabad of its duties and obligations. And that too in a manner which can only be described as peremptory.... It was also announced that foreigners who had settled in the tribal region would also be given amnesty provided they laid down arms by a certain date and local tribes were ready to furnish guarantees of good behavior on their part.

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The American commander is unhappy about the treatment meted out to both categories. According to him there is no scope for a peaceful resolution of the type. In his view the foreign fighters would have to be either killed or captured.... In a second incident of the type in a week, US troops entered North Waziristan on Sunday. The earlier incursion was presumably aimed at distributing pamphlets announcing head money for certain high profile militant leaders.... This time a fairly large body of American troops conducted a thorough search of the local market in a border town, breaking open any shops that happened to be closed. The operation continued till 9 p.m. This constituted a grave provocation to the local tribesmen.... Allowing outsiders to do the job is a negation of the country's sovereignty.... What Mr Karzai and his American advisers need to do is to improve the law and order situation in Afghanistan rather than find scapegoats. Islamabad has to realize in the meanwhile that any violation of the accord contracted with the Waziri tribes would create serious problems for Pakistan that could continue to bedevil it long after the Americans have left the region.... End quote.

19. "American Statements against Pakistan Sovereignty," an editorial in the second largest Urdu daily "Nawa-e-Waqt" (05/06)

Quote: Afghanistan based U.S. military commander Lt. Gen. David Barno has said at a press conference in Kabul that he had grave concern over the pardon given to the foreigners present near Afghan border. He said that these foreign combatants are operatives of al-Qaeda and Taliban and should be killed or captured.... The Pakistan army is present in the area and America wants it to take action against its own tribes. The real purpose of the Pak. Army is to take action against the infiltrators who violate our territory even if they happen to be Americans.. Our rulers have this delusion

that America is happy with its role in the fight against terrorism, but the statements of Zalmay Khalilzad and Barno tell a different story.. This statement could be a precursor to direct action inside Pakistan, which should be taken into account by our security institutions. End quote

20. "American General's 'Threat' from Afghanistan," an editorial note in the center-right Urdu daily "Pakistan" (05/06)

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Quote: The U.S. General said that we have grave concern over the present of foreign militants in the Afghan border area, which could take a wrong turn. The way the General has commented upon the pardon given to the foreigners can only be described as an American threat, which can have consequences inside Pakistan.... What did Pakistan get as a result of providing more than necessary help to America for its war against terrorism? Neither our loans were waived nor Pakistan was given appropriate economic assistance.... What do Americans want us to do? Americans would not get anything by increasing the difficulties of Pakistan. President Musharraf should tell this to the U.S. administration in categorical terms. End quote.

21. "American Aid for Backward Districts of NWFP," an editorial note in the center-right Urdu daily "Pakistan" (05/02)

Quote: American Ambassador Nancy Powell visited backward areas of Manshera and said that she would provide assistance for the development and progress of six underdeveloped districts of NWFP. Chief Minister Akram Durrani, who accompanied her in the visit, thanked her.... It is expected that the American aid would provide modern age facilities to these underdeveloped areas of the province. End quote.

22. "Combating Terrorism," an editorial in the Karachi-based center-left independent national English daily, "Dawn" (05/01)

Quote: The admission yet again by the US State Department that Pakistan remains "one of America's most important partners" in the global war on terrorism should put to rest the misgivings to the contrary expressed by certain elements in America. The latest acknowledgement of Pakistan's positive role came on Thursday, absolving this country of all terror-related charges leveled against it by the likes of Mr Zalmay Khalilzad, the American envoy to Kabul.... One hopes that at least a part of the financial and technical assistance being provided by the US to help our law enforcement agencies combat terrorism will be spent on devising an effective strategy to curb acts of terror within the country as well.... End quote.

23. "Surrendering Sovereignty," an editorial in the center-right national English daily, "The Nation"

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Quote: The American troops' intrusion into Pakistani territory to distribute leaflets offering a reward for

information about suspected Taliban, including former Afghan Minister Jalaluddin Haqqani is not easily explained. This has come on the heels of the Americans preparing an airstrip close to the Durand Line in Paktika with the likelihood of US planes overflying our territory while chasing Taliban and Al-Qaeda elements. Both developments are disturbing.... It is the first instance of US troops operating in our territory, and the first of any American officials operating independently. Before now, whenever American agents participated in any operations on Pakistani soil, they were technically observers with our law enforcers. If our government approved this operation, it is tantamount to accepting a further erosion of sovereignty.... Perhaps what Ambassador Khalilzad had said, in an interview with a group of Pakistan journalists in Kabul last week, not expressing regrets for repeatedly telling Pakistan to do more, was an official message from Washington. For while his statement was not endorsed by other American officials, it has not been contradicted either. That he has not been recalled by the State Department explains that it does not run counter to the US foreign policy. Our government should be worried, for it exposes the flaw in our present policy of deliberate subordination. End quote.

-- Terrorism

24. "Implications of the Gwadar Incident," an editorial in the Lahore-based liberal English daily, "Daily Times" (05/06)

Quote: Someone blew up three Chinese engineers in Gwadar Monday morning. It was a remote-controlled car bomb that hit a passing van headed for the port facility.... The conclusions are obvious enough. The federal government must bring the Baloch fully into the loop so that they can see the need of the project and be assured that they will directly stand to benefit from it. Second, General Musharraf should understand that his anti-terrorism project is still far from successful and that half-measures will not work. One small act of terrorism still has the capacity to derail his strategic vision for Pakistan. End quote.

25. "Gwadar Bomb Blast," an editorial in the Karachi-based center-left independent national English daily, "Dawn" (05/05)

Quote: It is with shock and horror that one notes Monday's bomb blast in Gwadar, which led to the death of three Chinese engineers as well as injuries to six others. This is the first occasion where Chinese working or living in Pakistan have been targeted. Given China's long-standing friendly relations with Pakistan, the terrorist act is all the more deplorable.... The government would also be well advised to make an effort to address local grievances in Gwadar. More needs to be done to develop indigenous human skills and resources so that there is a feeling of involvement amongst the local population. End quote.

26. "More Innocent Deaths," an editorial in the center-right national English daily, "The Nation" (05/05)

Quote: Behind the hype of the global campaign against terrorism by the US-led international coalition, and despite allegations against Pakistan of slipshod responses, Pakistan is locked in a bitter war against terrorism at a pace and scale no less daunting than for the Western world. With the origins of terrorism going back to the 1980s Afghan War, when Pakistan was used as a launching pad for a jihad waged at US behest, the chickens have come home to roost for the US as its former protgs take up arms. Pakistan is once again caught in the middle. The latest killing of three Chinese workers in Gwadar is a sad reminder of that.... The Chinese government made it a point to immediately reassure its Pakistani partners that the collaboration at the Gwadar project would not be stopped.... Pakistan must also remain committed to its special relationship with China above all other considerations or sympathies. End quote.

27. "Gwadar Bomb Blast," an editorial in the Karachi-based center-left independent national English daily, "Dawn" (05/05)

Quote: The bomb attack could have been aimed at scaring away foreigners and investors from both Gwadar and elsewhere in Pakistan. The choice of Gwadar, which is seen as one of the key areas of growth and investment in the coming years, may be an indication of the motives of

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the terrorists. In this regard, the Chinese assurance that they will continue with the project needs to be appreciated. Gwadar's development has not been without its political controversy. The nationalist parties have criticized the manner in which jobs are allegedly being outsourced to non-locals. There have been murmurs of discontent over land deals too. Balochistan is also believed to be home to both remnants of the Taliban regime and other extremist groups. All these various strands ought to be taken into account in the context of Monday's bombing. End quote.

28. "Enemies Of Pak-China Friendship Be Found Out," an editorial in the sensationalist Urdu daily, "Ummat" (05/06)

Quote: There is no denying the fact that the biggest opponents of Pak-China friendship are India and the United States. Therefore it is need of the hour that the government gets the Gwadar incident thoroughly investigated and this investigation should be extended to elements which are out to create differences between the two countries since long. End quote.

29. "Pak-China Friendship Targeted," an editorial note in the second largest urdu daily "Nawa-e-Waqt" (05/05)

Quote: The enemies of Pak-China friendship are in fact the enemies of Pakistan and they cannot tolerate to see continuation of this relationship. This is accepted fact that efforts are afoot to create a gulf between the two countries.... Beside the Pak-China friendship and anti-Balochistan aspects the investigations should also focus on shenanigans of the nationalists. Nawab Akbar

Bugti has openly threatened to cut off the gas pipeline. End quote

30. "Terrorism in Gawadar," an editorial in the center-right Urdu daily "Pakistan" (05/05)

Quote: Why Gawadar was targeted? One does not have to do much brain storming to have the answer. The extremist elements in Balochistan are against the construction of deep-sea harbor in Gawadar and have been hurling threats.... The attackers have given the message that they are against this important development plan. Someone should tell them that without the harbor the province would not have development process. End quote.

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31. "Gwadar Incident: What's The Background?," an editorial in the Karachi-based, right-wing, pro-Islamic unity Urdu daily, "Jasarat" (05/05)

Quote: In the light of the recent killing of three Chinese engineers in Gwadar, one should not ignore that highly friendly Pakistan-China relations are not liked by many. Which are these forces, everybody knows about it. There is no denying the fact that this friendship is an eyesore for both India and United States. Pakistan would have to take special steps for the security of foreign experts here. We had earlier witnessed a fatal attack on the French engineers in Karachi after which our law enforcement agencies should have been more vigilant. But they consider the security of American foremost than any other. All roads leading towards the U.S. Consulate in Karachi have become a no-go area for ordinary people. One objective of these sporadic terrorist incidents is to give the impression that the U.S. is justified in its global war against terrorism and that Pakistan should keep on siding with the U.S. on it otherwise it could remain a subject of terrorism. End quote.

32. "Terrorism In Gwadar: Attempt To Hamper Pakistan-Sino Friendship," an editorial in the Karachi-based, pro Taliban/Jihad Urdu daily, "Islam" (05/05)

Quote: Obviously the United States and other global imperialistic forces are not happy with the Pakistan-China cooperation when China evinced interest in the construction of a port in Gwadar. The U.S. initially wanted to take the control of the construction of Gwadar port into its own hands so as to secure the transfer of Central Asian resources. In this backdrop, it is important to analyze the current incident of terrorism in Gwadar in which three Chinese engineers lost their lives. End quote.

33. "Murder in Macedonia," an editorial in the Karachi-based center-left independent national English daily, "Dawn" (05/06)

Quote: The excess of zeal with which some countries have been siding with or applauding America's war on terror can sometimes lead to gross injustice, as seems to have been the case with Macedonia.... The work of the Macedonian police as nothing but a pre-planned

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hatchet job done to please western powers and to score some points with the Americans.... Pakistan must follow and monitor the investigation launched by the Macedonian government to ensure that the families of those killed get justice. It should also ask that country to consider paying compensation to the bereaved families and to tender an apology for the crime. End quote.

34. "Revisiting a Crime," an editorial in the center-right national English daily, "The Nation" (05/05)

Quote: The Macedonian government has acknowledged that their killing of six Pakistani illegal immigrants two years ago on the pretext that they were terrorists, was stage-managed to boost the country's image as an ally in the US-led war against terror. This raises suspicions that a large number of terrorists killed or packed into prisons under this banner, may well be innocent Muslims, fallen prey to various governments' anxiety to produce results for a US gripped by post-9/11 paranoia. The new facts on the two-year old Macedonian tragedy also necessitate a closer scrutiny of the unusually high number of tragedies of a similar nature involving illegal Pakistani immigrants that closely following 9/11. Several boats, loaded with Pakistani immigrants, capsized near the Turkish-Greek border with no visible rescue effort by border and sea patrols. Illegal immigrants, again Pakistanis, were killed crossing borders that turned out to be heavily mined. There are claims of innocent Pakistani prisoners languishing, among others, in the infamous Gauntanamo Bay detention center. There is enough evidence that human rights are being violated and the most barbaric crimes being committed in the name of fighting the war on terror. Islamabad needs to ferret out the truth about the cases that involve its own citizens.... End quote.

35. "Post-9/11: A lust for Muslim blood", an op-ed by Shireen Mazari in the centrist national English daily, "The News" (05/05)

Quote: What a travesty - the killing of innocent Pakistanis by the European state of Macedonia just to appease the American longing for Muslim blood post-9/11. Following in the European tradition of Nazism - for which the Palestinians continue to pay with their blood - representatives of the European state of Macedonia murdered seven innocent Muslims from Pakistan and served them as an offering in the so-called war on terrorism to satisfy the US in what clearly is becoming a lust for

Muslim blood. And now that the truth is out, the silence from the so-called defenders of human rights here and in Europe is truly despicable.... End quote.

-- Pakistan Political Situation

36. "Panic Over Shahbaz's Return," an editorial in the center-right national English daily, "The Nation" (05/06)

Quote: The Civil Aviation Authority's decision to put the country's airports on red-alert on Tuesday might have more to do with PML-N President Mian Shahbaz Sharif's return from exile than a possible hijacking

threat, especially as all international and domestic flights are landing and taking off according to schedule.... End quote.

37. "Disgrace to Uniform," a column by Sajjad Mir in the second largest Urdu daily "Nawa-e-Waqt" (05/03)

Quote: Oh, this is the most disciplined and civilized military of the world. Now what difference remains between you and them, between uniformed soldiers and ordinary combatants? What you have to be proud of? Has America become a fascist state? End quote.

-- India-Pakistan Relations

38. "Awful Plan to Divide Kashmir in Offing," an editorial in Islamabad-based Urdu daily "Jinnah" (05/06)

Quote: An former U.S. Ambassador to India, Frank Wisner and the two U.S. think tanks, the Council for Relations and the Asia Society have prepared a road map to resolve the outstanding issue of Kashmir. The plan has also proposed a new map of Kashmir. According to this roadmap, Azad Kashmir would become a part of Pakistan, Indian-held Kashmir would be integrated with India and "Aksai China" is to be declared as a disputed territory. The line of control would become the permanent international boundary between India and Pakistan. The joint patrolling of Pakistani and Indian troops on line of control, the dialog between the leadership of both parts of Kashmir state, the participation of militant Kashmiris in 2005 election and the start of Srinagar-Muzaffarabad Bus Service, are the salient features of this roadmap.... We must not accept such kind of roadmaps and insist on the implementation on the

resolutions of the Security Council of the United Nation. We ought not to compromise on this proposed U.S. roadmap. If this plan would be accepted, there might be no guarantee that the Indian troops would also consent the decision and stop military operations against freedom fighters. Perhaps the freedom movement would continue and both Pakistan and India would not be able to control that resistance. They might have to face the Iraq-like situation.... End quote.

-- Iraq: Anti-US Uprising

39. "Letter Of Former U.S. Diplomats," an editorial in the Karachi-based, right-wing, pro-Islamic unity Urdu daily, "Jasarat" (05/06)

Quote: The U.S.-UK alliance against Islam and the Muslims has reached to an extent that even the former diplomats of these two countries had to voice their concerns. It is obvious that these diplomats are neither anti-U.S., UK or Israel nor they have any especial love for Muslims and Islam. But what motivated them was the fact that the U.S. and Britain have even done away with the formality, which was in vogue for the last fifty years, which had a semblance of balance in their approaches towards resolving the Middle East issue. This letter written by the British diplomats has not caused any ripple in the country and the same is expected of the letter written by the American

diplomats. The reason is clear: Whatever Bush and Blair are doing is not a coincidence or their personal policy; rather it is the new strategy of the West. End quote.

40. "UN and Iraq," an editorial in the Karachi-based center-left independent national English daily, "Dawn" (05/03)

Quote: It is paradoxical that the Bush administration, which launched its military adventure in Iraq after sidelining the United Nations, now wants the world body to pull its chestnuts out of the fire.... If the US agrees to genuinely pull its troops out of Iraq, the UN might agree to play a role there. But for that it is essential that the UN distances itself from the US to establish its credibility. It is also important that for the transitional period decisions on Iraq should be taken by the UN and not the US. End quote.

41. "Atrocities on Iraqi Prisoners," an editorial in

Quote: By printing the torture photographs Daily Mirror has uncovered the savage face of yet another civilized country of the world. In one photograph the face of a semi naked Iraqi prisoner is covered with a hood and one British soldier is urinating on his face.... American President Bush has expressed disgust over the publication of the pictures. These are crocodile's tears.... America should think about its claims of being civilized and a champion of fundamental human rights. End quote.

42. "Appalling Abuses," an editorial in the center-right national English daily, "The Nation" (05/02)

Quote: ... The US President's disclaimer, "that's not the way we do things in America", might be true, but only for non-Muslim citizens. The way Muslims in the US are routinely harassed is a different story.... CBS News' admission that it delayed the transmission by two weeks on Pentagon's request lends a peep into the manner the US media toes the official line.... In actual fact, the credit should go to the Al-Jazeera and Al-Arabiya channels because, but for their initiative, the US media might still be keeping the lid on. It is not enough for President Bush to feel "disgusted" and vow to take to task those responsible for the ghastly treatment of prisoners. In line with democratic traditions, he, his team in the administration and coalition leadership should withdraw from Iraq and then await their deserved November nemesis. He has lost badly on the moral ground he believes his forte. It would be difficult for Mr. Blair and Mr. Berlusconi to hold their ground should Mr. Bush's popularity slide further in the days to come. End quote.

43. "Torturing Iraqi Perisoners," an editorial in the Karachi-based center-left independent national English daily, "Dawn" (05/02)

Quote: ... America's main argument was and has been that such action was necessitated by the need to remove a ruthless dictator and restore human rights and

democratic freedom there. Now, that argument, in the eyes of the people around the world and presumably among many in America itself, stands torn to shreds.... What is happening in Iraq is an extension of the inhuman treatment being meted out to detainees at the Camp X-Ray

prison in Guantanamo Bay.... Such is the heady effect of unilateralism and its being today's sole superpower that the US has divested itself of all compunctions about the widening gap between what it preaches and what it practices when it comes to imposing its will on the rest of the world. End quote.

44. "American Savagery with Iraqi Prisoners," an editorial in the second largest Urdu daily "Nawa-e-Waqt" (05/02)

Quote: Wherever American military went, it promoted vice, womanizing and gambling thus changing normal societies into brothels. But this new face of American military the world has witnessed for the first time that they undress their prisoners and force them to sodomize each other, they laugh on their helplessness, have no qualms in burning their bodies with cigarettes and administering electric shock to these prisoners. In Afghanistan these soldiers suffocated to death prisoners by locking them up in containers and wrote history with their savagery in Qila Janji in Afghanistan.... These incidents have proved that crusading U.S. administration and military are rightly described by Usama bin Laden as those who are active to crush Islam and Muslims. End quote.

45. "Shameful Treatment with Iraqi Prisoners," an editorial note in the populist Urdu daily "Khabrain" (05/02)

Quote: The figures of Iraqi prisoners in American custody should be presented before the UN and the human rights organizations should be allowed to meet them. All those responsible for the atrocities on Iraqi prisoners should be tried in open court for war crimes in keeping with the Geneva Convention. End quote.

-- The Middle East: Roadmap for Peace

46. "Bloodshed in Middle East to Continue," an editorial in the Lahore based popular Urdu daily "Din" (05/05)

Quote: Under the new plan only 10 percent of the Palestinian land would be given to the Palestinians and that too in the shape of "islands" disconnected from each other. Such State cant be acceptable to Palestinians. The international community needs to press America rather than Israel to convince it on a

limit to support injustice. If it (America) continues with the 'new policy' then it wont have a truce with the Islamic world, the confrontation (in the ME) would continue and so would continue the bloodshed. End quote.

-- Non-Proliferation

47. "Pakistan's Vote At The UNSC," an editorial in the Lahore-based liberal English daily, "Daily Times" (05/01)

Quote: The UN Security Council voted 15-0 on Wednesday for a US-drafted resolution that seeks to block the traffic of weapons of mass destruction.... Pakistan was the last holdout but went along at the eleventh hour after it was assured that the resolution would not be retroactive. However, some points need to be considered.... Pakistan has to approach the issue from two dimensions. One, that it is a nuclear power, intends to stay that way and it is in its interest to prevent horizontal proliferation; two, that it must review the emerging framework carefully and take advantage of it. We hope that this is exactly what the policymakers intend to do. End quote. Powell

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