

ACTION INR-00

INFO	LOG-00	EEB-00	AF-00	AID-00	AMAD-00	A-00	GHFS-00
	RPPR-00		INL-00	DNI-00	DOTE-00	PDI-00	DS-00
	EAP-00	DHSE-00	EUR-00	OIGO-00	FAAE-00	UTED-00	VCI-00
	DIAS-00	IPS-00	H-00	TEDE-00	IO-00	ARMY-00	MOFM-00
	MOF-00	M-00	VCIE-00	DCP-00	NSAE-00	ISN-00	OIC-00
	OIG-00	NIMA-00	EPAU-00	PM-00	GIWI-00	ISNE-00	DOHS-00
	IRM-00	NCTC-00	FMP-00	BEG-00	R-00	EPAE-00	ECA-00
	IIP-00	SCRS-00	PMB-00	DSCC-00	PRM-00	DRL-00	G-00
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E.O. 13526: N/A  
 TAGS: KMDR, KPAO, OIIP, OPRC, PGOV, PREL, PK  
 SUBJECT: PAKISTAN MEDIA REACTION: JULY 27, 2010

Summary: The posting of classified U.S. documents on WikiLeaks, along with commentary on Admiral Mullen, were dominant editorial themes on Tuesday. "The News," in its editorial titled "Logged Out," observed the posted classified documents "are a devastating indictment of the way in which the war in Afghanistan is being fought by the coalition forces." A prominent Pakistani columnist for "The News," Mosharraf Zaidi, in the article "A Quickie-Leak on Obama's war," wrote by "focusing on the adverse role of the ISI - real and imagined - in Afghanistan is a distraction. Ending Obama's Afghan war is the true purpose behind the WikiLeaks expose. For that it should be celebrated. Not mourned." In its editorial "Mullen's Demand," the Lahore-based liberal English daily "The Post"

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concluded: "Mullen seemed to be wrong in his ~~statement~~ about Osama's presence in Pakistan as he did not provide any evidence to support his claim. If he is sure, he should have told clearly about the whereabouts of Osama in Pakistan."

The government of Pakistan's reaction to claims of "collaborating with the Taliban in Afghanistan while accepting the U.S. aid" dominated front-page headlines on today. The Pakistani Foreign Office called the allegations in the documents "unsubstantiated information," "skewed," and "baseless." A senior ISI official denied allegations that link ISI to the Taliban, saying "they were from raw intelligence reports that has not been verified and were meant to impugn the reputation of the spy agency." Both the U.S. National Security Advisor General James Jones' statement, emphasizing the information could "put the lives of Americans and their partners at risk, and threaten U.S. national security," and the White House Press Secretary Robert Gibbs's remarks, calling the leak a "breach of law," received prominent coverage. Media reports also highlighted U.S. Senator John Kerry's remarks, stating the disclosure "required the Obama administration to re-evaluate its policies towards Pakistan and Afghanistan." Congressman Ike Skelton's statement concluding the leak painted an "outdated" picture of Pakistan's cooperation in Afghanistan also received some coverage in several newspapers. End Summary.

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Wikileaks  
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1. Editorial: Logged Out, an editorial in the populist, often sensational national English daily "The News" (cir. 55,000) (07/27)

"The documents are a devastating indictment of the way in which the war in Afghanistan is being fought by the coalition forces. This is the raw detail of warfare, not the sanitized PR version handed out at the end of a day's fighting. We see now the lies and hypocrisies that underpin much of what we are told, particularly about civilian casualties and how they were inflicted.... This is a contemporary account of warfare unlike any we have seen before. Some of the reports are so clearly ludicrous that the source - the informant - is clearly motivated by money rather than conveying an objective truth.... We read of the shadowy special forces units tasked to kill rather than capture, key Taliban figures. Aside from the report, there are other lessons to be learned. It relates to the power of the Internet to store and disseminate information, of the vulnerability of electronic systems to human moral imperatives and of how difficult it is in these cyber-times to keep a secret. Wikileaks is also rumored to have the content of diplomatic traffic of an embarrassing nature. Perhaps we see with this publication the

dawn of a new era of disclosure, much UNCLASSIFIED if it is."

2. Opinion: A Quickie-Leak On Obama's War, an op-ed by Mosharraf Zaidi in the populist, often sensational national English daily "The News" (cir. 55,000) (07/27)

"Wikileaks' purpose in releasing these files has nothing to do with Pakistan, or India, or Afghanistan. Its purpose is to expose the incompetence, myopia and failure of the U.S.-led war in Afghanistan. Wikileaks is an anti-war organisation. This means that the expose is not a part of any kind of campaign against Pakistan. If Pakistan looks bad in the crossfire of domestic American politics surrounding the Afghan war, that's Pakistan's bad. Contrary to the insatiable appetite for negativity about this country among some media outlets, Pakistan is in fact a bit player in the Wikileaks drama. The release of these documents is designed to influence U.S. public opinion about the war in Afghanistan. These facts are important. On Day One of its release, the Afghan War Diary 2004-2010 (as the documents have been branded by Wikileaks) discussing the conduct of the U.S.

government and military in their prosecution of the Afghan war seemed to be secondary. Instead, questions and conversations about Pakistan's ISI dominated the initial analysis of the Wikileaks documents.... "Focusing on the adverse role of the ISI - real and imagined - in Afghanistan is a distraction. Ending Obama's Afghan war is the true purpose behind the WikiLeaks expose. For that it should be celebrated. Not mourned."

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US-Pakistan Relations  
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3. Editorial: Mullen's Demand, an editorial in the Lahore-based liberal English daily "The Post" (cir. 5,000) (07/27)

"Mullen seemed to be wrong in his overture about Osama's presence in Pakistan as he did not provide any evidence to support his claim. If he is sure, he should have told clearly about the whereabouts of Usama in Pakistan. A few days ago, talking to journalists in New Delhi, Richard Holbrooke, the U.S. Special Envoy for Afghanistan and Pakistan had also said that the LeT was as dangerous as the Taliban and Al Qaeda, with whom it was working. Tall claims and mere blames will not work in this case. Pakistan cannot take any action against Usama without any proper information."

4. Editorial: Holbrooke's Admission, an editorial in the right-wing, sensational national English daily "The Nation" (cir. 20,000) (07/27)

"If anyone doubted the working of the Indo-U.S. nexus in Afghanistan

then Special Envoy Holbrooke's reception in leaving CNN should clear the air on this count once and for all.... Holbrooke also painted a clear picture of the place of Pakistan in the U.S. design, when he declared that it was a good thing President Karzai and General Kayani had met. But he also explained that General McChrystal, who was commanding U.S. forces in Kabul then, was also present at the meeting and Petraeus would do the same. Occupying powers will have their representatives present, but General Kayani was not representing an occupied state, was he?'

5. Editorial: Holbrooke's Mistrust And Another Demand To Do More, an editorial in the second-largest, nationalist Urdu daily "Nawa-i-Waqt" (cir. 150,000) (07/27)

"U.S. Special Envoy for Afghanistan and Pakistan Richard Holbrooke has said that there has been a dramatic increase in the war against Taliban, however, the U.S. is concerned over Pakistan's continuing support for the Haqqani network. Holbrooke further said that we need more cooperation from Pakistan because this war can continue for an unspecified time if Pakistan does not cooperate.... America has expressed its decision and intent to leave Afghanistan. It has now accused Pakistan of supporting the Haqqani network. This network is in Afghanistan, which is under U.S. occupation. If U.S. forces are inefficient, then instead of accusing Pakistan, the U.S. should withdraw from the area as soon as possible. The government of Pakistan should also make this suggestion to the U.S., but unfortunately [the leaders] are more loyal than the king."

6. Editorial: America's Afghan Policy, And South Asia's Long-Standing Issues, an editorial in the liberal Urdu daily "Express" (circ 25,000) (07/27)

"It is possible that the U.S. is arming India to contain China's increasing might, but doing so would be tantamount to endangering regional peace. It would be appropriate for the U.S. to focus on resolving longstanding disputes like Kashmir instead of promoting Indian interest as without [resolving the Kashmir issue] no reconciliation policy would succeed. Therefore, the U.S. should pay attention to the interests of other countries of the region as well if it does not want to continue the Afghan war for an unspecified time."

7. Editorial: Drone Attacks Are Tantamount To An Attack On Pakistan's National Security, an editorial in the Lahore-based independent Urdu daily "Din" (circ. 5000) (07/27)

"Pak-American strategic ties cannot be strengthened by terming inhuman attacks by drones as friendly bombing, or firing. In the presence of these strikes Hillary Clinton, Mullen or Holbrooke do not have the moral authority to ask why is there a trust deficit in

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Pak-U.S. relations despite the \$7 billion assistance? In American viewpoint, can the hundreds of drone strikes be helpful in building trust?"

8. Editorial: Death And Destruction Wrought By Drone Attacks in Waziristan, an editorial in the leading mass circulation populist, often sensational Urdu daily "Jang" (cir. 300,000) (07/27)

"With the coming of President Obama into power, not only the frequency of the drone attacks in our tribal areas has increased, but the U.S. is also pressurizing Pakistan to expand the ongoing military operation in Waziristan. Apart from causing huge damages to the state and private properties in the area, the drone predators are also killing innocent and unarmed citizens, with a result in sharp rise in the public anger against these attacks. The government should ask the U.S. administration for an immediate halt to the drone attacks, and in case this request remains unattended, our next step should be to review the policy of siding with Washington in the war against terrorism."

9. Opinion: Tidy Or Messy Endgame?, an op-ed by Dr. Maleeha Lodhi in the populist, often sensational national English daily "The News" (cir. 55,000) (07/27)

"The message from last week's Kabul conference was unmistakable. It was the desire signaled by virtually all the NATO nations to embark on a path of 'managed withdrawal' from Afghanistan. But the unanswered question is whether an orderly exit can be achieved on the basis of the present faltering strategy. Can the transition of power take place absent a negotiated political settlement?... Other than these political factors there may be another consideration for the US: how to avoid the impression of defeat when switching course from a military to a political strategy of accommodation with the Taliban. Persisting with a failed policy hardly addresses this dilemma. Nor does this in any way assure a tidy exit of Western forces from Afghanistan. Only a negotiated settlement can do this and the sooner efforts to forge this get underway the better the chances of an organized withdrawal."

10. Opinion: Kabul's Futile Moot, an op-ed by Rizwan Asghar in the populist, often sensational national English daily "The News" (cir. 55,000) (07/27)

"On July 20 luminaries and delegates from almost seventy countries gathered in Kabul to outline an initiative to bring peace to war-ravaged Afghanistan. Since the U.S.-led intervention in Afghanistan in 2001 this was the ninth international conference convened with the objective of finding ways of nation-building in Afghanistan. But the plans worked out at these conferences have

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never produced results.... The conference as a desperate attempt to allow the Karzai regime to survive a bit longer. The final communique doesn't state how fast the foreign troops are to be withdrawn which has always remained a key demand of Afghan people. The Kabul conference was just a desperate attempt by Karzai and the international community to create a new narrative and tell a more positive story, to tell the world that all is not bleak and there are still chances of success."

11. Opinion: More Tactical Than Strategic!, Opinion: an op-ed by Farooq Hameed Khan in the right-wing, sensational national English daily "The Nation" (cir. 20,000) (07/27)

"With all the recent hype and the drumbeat about the Pak-U.S. strategic dialogue, did Pakistan make any worthwhile strategic gains?... The \$500 million aid program appears more tactical than strategic.... if the American administration desires to win the hearts and minds of the people of Pakistan, they need to follow the Pak-China strategic partnership model. Based on mutual trust, sincerity and respect, this longstanding and mutually beneficial relationship is manifested real time in the form of mega projects - the fruits of which are enjoyed by the common Pakistani.... However, when the U.S. carrots come, the stick may not be far behind. In a TV interview, Hillary Clinton minced no words when she said: 'There is no doubt in anyone's mind that should an attack against the United States be traced to Pakistan it should have a very devastating impact on our relationship.' She obviously meant fresh sanctions, suspension of the aid program and obviously unilateral strikes in Waziristan. This is the typical arm-twisting and coercive U.S. diplomacy, traditionally unfortunately reserved for its oldest and staunchest ally."

12. Opinion: Uncle Sam's dilemma, an op-ed by Mohammad Jamil in the Islamabad-based rightist English daily "Pakistan Observer" (cir. 5,000) (07/27)

"Uncle Sam is facing a dilemma. If it 'stays the course' and goes into major offensive in Kandahar there is danger of increased casualties, which American public is not likely to tolerate. If America decides to 'call it a day', it will be construed by the world that American and NATO forces have failed in Afghanistan despite using daisy cutters and arguably uranium-tipped bombs in the initial stages of attack, and then using every lethal weapon during the last nine years. Anyhow, President Obama's surge strategy has utterly failed; much-touted Marjah operation has been a complete disaster, as the Taliban fighters who had gone back to their families and tribes returned and fought with greater ferocity. Now, U.S. administration and Pentagon are pinning hopes on upcoming Kandahar operation, which perhaps will not get started as they are not sure that it would be a success. It is in this backdrop that

they are pressurizing Pakistan to ~~launch~~ launch operation in North Waziristan." UNCLASSIFIED

13. Opinion: The Indo-Pak-U.S. Game, an op-ed by Ayaz Ahmad in the populist, often sensational national English daily "The News" (cir. 55,000) (07/27)

"Pakistan has come to occupy a central place in the region due to its frontline role in the war against terror. This situation has given rise to an interesting set of placements where each of the three parties, Pakistan, India and the United States, exerts its influence upon the other two to turn the playing field to its own advantage.... It is possible for Indian to shape the type of help that Pakistan obtains from international lenders. Nevertheless, as long as the U.S. is involved in and concerned about Afghanistan, Pakistan will continue to have some sway over the United States, especially on the security front. Therefore, it appears that Pakistan will find it difficult to rely on the United States in the long-run, though it is in a position to obtain some short-term gains along the way, primarily due to its military prowess and the possible security issues emanating from the United States' involvement in this region.... Pakistan has a limited scope for maneuver in making its decisions. Lack of a well-thought-out response or pursuing a hastily devised strategy could cost the nation dearly in today's geopolitical climate."

14. Opinion: Politics of Concerns & Reservations, Opinion: an op-ed by A.R. Jerral in the right-wing, sensational national English daily "The Nation" (cir. 20,000) (07/27)

"The U.S. is not a friend in the classic sense that we of an extrovert psyche understand. Our past experiences of our relationship should be enough to make that clear to us; however, we are slow learners. We pin hopes and expectations where none exist. We are friends today because circumstances prevailing so dictate. We were the frontline state in America's war against the Soviets in Afghanistan and we were dumped when that war ended. The then trusted ally was subjected to sanctions and embargos. Apparently, I do not see any different treatment when this war ends. The expressions - 'concerns' and 'reservations' - provide a way out for the dominant ally to jettison Pakistan when they feel the need to do so. These also provide a political and diplomatic leverage to coerce Pakistan to 'do more.'"

#### TOP STORIES

15. U.S. Endorses Some Allegations Against Pakistan: Website Blows The Whistle On Afghan Game - "Dawn," "The Nation," "The News," "Daily Times" (07/27)

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"The mysterious release of tens of thousands of classified U.S. documents related to the Afghan war on a whistleblowers' website Wikileaks has put the United States and many other western countries in a highly awkward situation, with authorities in Pakistan also struggling hard to defend the country's premier intelligence agency against allegations of its close links with hardened Taliban elements, particularly the Haqqani network."

16. U.S. Condemns Leak Alleging Pakistan Spy-Insurgent Links -  
"Dawn," "The Nation," "The News," "Daily Times," "The Post" (07/27)

"The White House denounced a massive leak of secret military files Sunday that allegedly describe how Pakistan's spy service aids the Afghan insurgency, but said the information was no surprise.... White House National Security Advisor James Jones issued a statement to reporters shortly before the documents were posted online, saying the leaks were 'irresponsible' but would not impact U.S. strategy in Afghanistan and Pakistan."

17. U.S. Says Progress Made With Pakistan Despite Leaks "The News"  
(07/27)

"The White House insisted on Monday it had made progress with Pakistan, despite leaked documents suggesting Islamabad's spy agency had cooperated with the Taliban

18. U.S. Alerted Pakistan, Afghanistan About Military Leaks -  
"Daily Times," "The News" (07/27)

"The United States on Monday said it had alerted the leaders of Afghanistan and Pakistan when it learned thousands of secret military files about the Afghan war were to be published by the media. 'Over the weekend, as we had been contacted by media representatives and anticipated this story coming out, at high levels we gave an alert to President Karzai, to President Zardari,' State Department spokesman Philip Crowley said."

19. Pakistan Calls Leaks Malicious, Skewed - "Dawn," "The Nation,"  
"The News," "Daily Times," "The Post" (07/27)

"Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) agency lashed out on Monday against a trove of leaked U.S. intelligence reports that alleged close connections between it and Taliban militants fighting NATO troops in Afghanistan, calling the accusations malicious and unsubstantiated, a senior ISI official denied the allegations."

20. Top U.S. Lawmaker Says Leaks Paint 'Outdated' Pakistan Picture



"A top White House ally in the U.S. Congress warned Monday against judging Pakistan's role in the Afghan war by "outdated reports" in a massive cache of leaked Pentagon documents on the conflict. 'Some of these documents implicate Pakistan in aiding the Taliban and fueling the insurgency in Afghanistan,' House Armed Services Committee Chairman Ike Skelton, a Democrat, said in a statement."

21. Leaked Documents Stir Political Storm In United States -  
"Dawn," "The News," "The Nation," "Jang," Mashriq," "Jinnah" (07/27)

"John Kerry, Chairman of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said on Monday that war documents leaked by a web site required the Obama administration to re-evaluate its policies towards Pakistan and Afghanistan."

22. Outrage Over Huge Leak Of Afghan War Files - "Daily Times"  
(07/27)

"The leak of some 90,000 secret US military files triggered outrage on Monday from nations fighting in Afghanistan, amid fears it could endanger the lives of international forces battling the Taliban."

23. U.S., President, PM Condemn Attack - "The Post," "The News,"  
"Pakistan Observer," "Jang," "Islam" (07/27)

"The U.S. Mission in Pakistan condemns the attack on the residence of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Minister of Information Mian Iftikhar Hussain on Monday in Newshehra, the second attack on this family in three days. Such brutal acts demonstrate the terrorists' agenda of fear and intimidation. We extend our condolences to the victims' families and friends, and to the people of Pakistan."

24. U.S. Embassy Set To Put Rs 600,000 Damper On Killing - "Daily Times," "The Post" (07/27)

"U.S. Embassy officials have offered Rs 600,000 to relatives of deceased Jawadur Rehman, who was crushed to death by a speeding vehicle, driven by a U.S. citizen and employee of the U.S. Embassy, on Sunday, learned 'Daily Times' from reliable sources."

(All circulation figures are based on estimation)  
Patterson

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