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	INL-00	DOTE-00	PDI-00	DS-00	EAP-00	DHSE-00	EUR-00
	OIGO-00	FAAE-00	UTED-00	VCI-00	DIAS-00	H-00	TEDE-00
	IO-00	LAB-01	ARMY-00	MOFM-00	MOF-00	M-00	CDC-00
	VCIE-00	DCP-00	NSAE-00	ISN-00	OIC-00	OIG-00	OMB-00
	NIMA-00	PM-00	GIWI-00	ISNE-00	DOHS-00	IRM-00	NCTC-00
	FMP-00	BBG-00	R-00	ECA-00	IIP-00	SCRS-00	OCA-00
	PMB-00	DSCC-00	PRM-00	DRL-00	G-00	SCA-00	CARC-00
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 FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
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 SECDEF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
 USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
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 THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
 NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE
 HQ USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL//CCPA// IMMEDIATE
 JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
 DIA WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
 AMEMBASSY LONDON
 AMEMBASSY PARIS
 AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
 HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI

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SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A
 TAGS: KMDR, KPAO, OIIP, OPRC, PGOV, PREL, PK
 SUBJECT: PAKISTAN MEDIA REACTION: JANUARY 13, 2010

Summary: Coverage of ISI Director General Pasha's remarks to the Parliamentary Committee on National Security emphasizing the need to stop Afghan border infiltration, dominated several newspapers on Wednesday morning. Foreign Minister Qureshi's statement that the "Afghan war must not spill over into Pakistan" also received front-page coverage. Several major dailies and nearly all TV networks reported U.S. Special Representative Holbrooke's arrival in Islamabad for a three-day visit. Headlines continued to reflect animosity toward new U.S. airport screening regulations, reporting that the NWFP Assembly unanimously passed a resolution demanding the GoP call on the U.S. to immediately stop screening Pakistanis at U.S. airports. The issue of Blackwater in Pakistan re-emerged in

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the media as Interior Minister Malik Ruffat's presence in the country. Media also reported his statement to the National Assembly that 411 Americans, including 289 diplomats, are currently in Islamabad. "Daily Times" carried Defense Intelligence Agency Chief Burgess remarks terming the Pak Army's undertakings as "fairly successful." Several editorials were published regarding delays in Coalition Support Funds reimbursements. Headlines include: "Waiting for the USA" (The Nation), and "Crushing Cost of War on Terror" (The Pakistan Observer). An editorial in "The News" asked "Where is U.S. Public Diplomacy?" arguing that the U.S. should move beyond the issue of terrorism to focus on people-centered projects. End Summary.

TOP STORIES

News Story: Afghan Soil Being Used For Terrorism: ISI chief -
"Dawn" (01/13)

"Director General of Inter Services Intelligence (ISI) Gen. Ahmad Shuja Pasha said on Tuesday that Afghan soil was being used for terrorist activities in Pakistan, adding that there could be no peace in Pakistan unless infiltration from Afghan border was stopped. Gen. Pasha's statement came against the backdrop of increased U.S. pressure to launch a parallel operation in North Waziristan. According to 'DawnNews,' the ISI chief, who was briefing the Parliamentary committee on national security, said the drug mafia in Afghanistan was supporting terrorists who were creating unrest in Pakistan."

News Story: Afghan War Must Not Spill Over Into Pakistan: Qureshi -
"Dawn" (01/13)

"The war against Taliban militants in Afghanistan must be fought inside the country itself and not spill over into Pakistan, Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi said on Tuesday. 'The Afghan war has to be fought within Afghanistan. The challenges within Afghanistan cannot be resolved in Pakistan,' he told reporters on the sidelines of a Meeting of Special Representatives for Afghanistan and Pakistan, held in Abu Dhabi.... U.S. Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan Richard Holbrooke told AFP that conference attendees agreed they are ready to support efforts by Afghan President Hamid Karzai to reintegrate former Taliban fighters, but are waiting for him to make a specific announcement."

News Story: Holbrooke Arrives On 3-Day Visit - "Daily Times" (01/13)

"The United States Special Representative for Pakistan and Afghanistan, Richard Holbrooke arrived in Pakistan on Tuesday on a three-day visit to strengthen Pak-U.S. relations, improve

cooperation in the war on terror and remove its longstanding on contentious issues."

News Story: NWFP PA Passes Resolution Against New U.S. Security Measures - "Daily Times" (01/13)

"In a unanimously passed joint resolution, the NWFP Assembly on Tuesday demanded the Federal Government to call on the U.S. to immediately stop screening Pakistani citizens at U.S. airports."

News Story: Either Revoke Security Policy Or Stay In U.S., Pak Leaders Tell U.S. Lawmakers - "The News" (01/13)

"America is set to lose the battle for the hearts and minds of the Muslim world under the new democratic President Obama because of the draconian and ill advised measures such as the new U.S. airport security measures which include highly invasive body scans and strip searches of all passengers coming in from thirteen Islamic states and Cuba, was the consensus new of three prominent Parliamentarians belonging to the three largest political parties of the country.... Gerald M. Feierstein Deputy Chief of Mission, U.S. Embassy in Islamabad while defending the new deplorable invasive U.S. airport security regime insisted that the measures were neither anti-Muslim nor a racial profiling of any sorts. When it was pointed out that barring Cuba, all other thirteen countries were Muslim Majority countries he asserted that the decision to include these countries were based on well calculated risk assessments and not for any other cause." (Story not available online)

TERRORISM/MILITARY ISSUES

News Story: Pak Army Should Keep Up Pressure On Taliban: Burgess - "Daily Times" (01/13)

"The top U.S. Defence Intelligence Officer said on Tuesday that it was unclear how successful Pakistan's military operations against the Taliban had been to reduce the threat to U.S. and NATO troops, but said the army should keep up the pressure on the militants. Talking to Voice of America, U.S. Defence Intelligence Agency chief Lieutenant General Ronald Burgess said he thought 'we have been very successful in our operations in Afghanistan, and I think that our Pakistani partners have been fairly successful in some of their undertakings.'"

News Story: Pakistan Seen Becoming More Islamist, Anti-U.S. - "Daily Times" (01/13)

"Pakistani society is likely to become more Islamist and increasingly anti-American in the coming years, complicating U.S."

efforts to win its support against ~~UNCLASSIFIED~~ said Jonathan Paris, who produced the report for the Legatum Institute, a London-based think tank released on Tuesday."

News Story: Illegal Immigrants A Grave Security Threat - "The Nation" (01/13)

"The problem of illegal immigrants might confront the Government as one of the most serious challenges under the prevailing security situation. Apart from Afghans, hundreds of thousands of immigrants from other origins are unlawfully sheltering in Pakistan as well."

News Story: U.S. Drone Attacks Kill 16 Taliban - "The Nation" (01/13)

"At least 16 Taliban were killed in U.S.-led airstrikes carried out by pilotless aircraft in southern Afghanistan, the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) said Tuesday."

News Story: Aafia's Trial To Begin On 19th Jan - "Dawn" (01/13)

"New York Federal Court Judge Richard Berman on Monday decided that the jury selection for the trial of Aafia Siddiqui, the Pakistani neuroscientist, will begin on Wednesday, January 13, and the trial will begin on Tuesday January 19. Dr. Siddiqui is charged with attempted murder of American troops while in custody in Kabul in July of 2008."

POLITICAL ISSUES

News Story: Malik Attributes Unrest In Karachi To Gangsters; Refutes Presence of Blackwater in Pakistan - "The News" (01/13)

"Interior Minister Rehman Malik again refuted reports about existence of Blackwater or any other foreign security agency involved in criminal activities in the country. He was speaking in the National Assembly on a private members' bill on banning foreign security agencies in the country... The interior minister, however, said former president Pervez Musharraf signed an agreement with the United States to allow a U.S. company Dyncorp to provide logistics to the U.S. army engaged in Afghanistan. He said this company only provided technical assistance to the Frontier Corps for construction of its training centers. Rehman Malik said there are 411 Americans staying in Islamabad out of which 289 are diplomats and the U.S. citizen living in Pakistan have hired some 118 houses in the capital according to the international norms. "Neither anyone applied for visa as Blackwater personnel nor anyone staying here in Pakistan," he said."

News Story: Rabbani Assails PPP Attitude On Governance - "Dawn"

(01/13)

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"Mian Raza Rabbani urged his Pakistan People's Party on Tuesday to take immediate steps for implementing the Charter of Democracy. He also called for implementing the PPP promise of "roti, kapra aur makan" to bridge the widening gap between the rich and the poor. Mr. Rabbani, taking part in a debate on the Karachi law and order situation in the Senate, said: 'We must take steps to save institutions from total collapse if we want to take the country out of a position where it could be declared a rogue state.' Without naming the infamous Blackwater, Mr. Rabbani, who heads three parliamentary committees on constitutional reforms, national security and on Balochistan, criticized the presence of 'non-diplomatic foreign elements' in Pakistan and said they had grown out of proportion. "None of us knows who is living in our neighborhood."

News Story: U.S. Voices Concern Over Delay In Issuing Visas - "The Nation" (01/13)

"The United States has expressed concern at the continued delay by Pakistani authorities in issuing and extending visas for hundreds of its officials and contractors. 'I think it remains an issue of concern that we are continuing to talk to the Government of Pakistan about,' Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs PJ Crowley told reporters Monday at his daily news conference in Washington."

News Story: Stalled Peace Process: Risk Of Militancy Returning To Kashmir, Warns Malik - "Dawn" (01/13)

"Indian occupied Kashmir risked a return to militancy and violent protests if New Delhi failed to push a stalled peace process in the disputed region, one of Kashmir's most influential leaders said on Tuesday. Yasin Malik's comments came amid a spurt in militant attacks in Kashmir in the last week, combined with diplomatic limbo between India and Pakistan that further complicates U.S. efforts to battle militancy in the region."

News Story: Bill Asks Zardari To Certify Pakistan's Sovereignty, Every Year - "The News" (01/13)

"To counterbalance the Kerry-Lugar Act, a bill moved in the Senate the other day makes it mandatory for the president of Pakistan to certify to Parliament every January that Pakistan's sovereignty and honor have not been compromised in any manner whatsoever."

News Story: PM Seeks Coalition Partners' Support For Zardari - "Dawn" (01/13)

"Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani sought on Tuesday the support of

coalition partners for President Asif Ali Zardari and said the government would complete its tenure."

News Story- Jang, Times Of India Peace Initiative Hailed - "The News" (01/13)

"Former chairman Competition Commission of India (CCI), Vinod Dhall, on Tuesday praised the initiative taken by the Jang Group and the Times of India for promoting peace and harmony under the title of 'Aman Ki Asha', saying there was a need to establish close links in various areas of life for achieving sustainable peace. During the second day of National Conference on Competition Regime in Pakistan organized by the Competition Commission of Pakistan in Karachi, the former Chairman CCI said that the Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry had requested the Pakistani authorities to enhance cooperation in promoting the bilateral trade between the two countries. 'On behalf of the Indian business and trade, I am conveying this message that we are ready to promote trade between the two countries.'"

ECONOMY/ENVIRONMENT

News Story: Economy Expected To Grow Despite Militancy: SBP - "Daily Times" (01/13)

"Pakistan's battered economy is showing some signs of improvement with the GDP growth expected to rise, a State Bank report said on Tuesday, but it warned that the battle against terrorists remained costly.

News Story: State Bank Projects GDP Growth At Around 3.3pc - "Dawn" (01/13)

"The real gross domestic product growth in the current fiscal year (FY10) is likely to be around annual target of 3.3 per cent; higher than 2 per cent growth seen in FY09. According to State Bank of Pakistan's First Quarterly Report on the State of the Economy for FY10 released in Karachi on Tuesday, the major impetus for this growth is expected to come from the services sector."

MISCELLANEOUS

News Story: Iranian Nuclear Scientist Killed In Bomb Blast - "Dawn" (01/13)

"The university lecturer killed in a bomb blast in the Iranian capital on Tuesday was a nuclear scientist, Tehran's prosecutor told ISNA news agency."

EDITORIALS/OPINIONS

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Editorial: Waiting For The USA, an editorial in the center-right national English daily "The Nation" (cir. 20,000) (01/13)

"Federal Finance Minister Shaukat Tarin has said that Pakistan is awaiting payment into the Coalition Support Fund from the U.S. to balance its budget for the current fiscal year. He conceded that the budget deficit could increase if the U.S. did not release the \$1.3 billion it has promised Pakistan before June.... The government should convey this concern to the never-ending stream of visitors from Washington, the latest example being a congressional delegation headed by U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman Senator Charles Levine. It should be very forthright that it would not be able to help unless the U.S. was ready to put up the money it promised."

Editorial: Pak-U.S. Tensions, an editorial in the country's premier business newspaper, "Business Recorder" (cir. 25,000) (01/13)

"Talking to a group of senior U.S. legislators led by Republican Senator John McCain, Prime Minister Gilani said U.S. policies could hurt the bilateral ties. He complained about the continuing drone attacks, which have become too frequent after President Obama's assumption of office, delay in the imbursement of \$2 billion under Coalition Support Funds (CSF), and the new policy of a full body pat down for citizens of Pakistan despite its being a strategic partner of the U.S.... There are other sources of tension between the two countries also, including the repeated calls by the U.S. to 'do more.' Pakistan is clearly unhappy with the new U.S. strategy in the region.... activities by the U.S. security contractors too have roused concern in Pakistan, leading to the arrest of a few Pakistanis who were assisting them. The media in Pakistan has expressed unease over the inordinate expansion of the U.S. Consular staff, avowedly required for the imbursement of aid to the country.... The success of the campaign against terrorism depends on greater co-operation between Washington and Islamabad."

Editorial: Crushing Cost Of War On Terror, an editorial in the Islamabad-based rightist English daily "Pakistan Observer" (cir. 5,000) (01/13)

"Finance Minister Shaukat Tarin has spoken of the financial stress Pakistan is facing due to expenses in the war on terror, security related issues and rehabilitation and reconstruction of the IDPs and damaged infrastructure.... There is no doubt that Pakistan is paying a heavy price on the war against terrorism in terms of loss of precious lives, expenditure in military operations against militants and negative impact on economy due to law and order problem.... We think even now the Government should make it clear in categorical terms to the United States and other countries that if the dues of

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CSF were not cleared immediately, ~~pledges At Tokyo Conference~~ were not honored and reasonable compensation is not paid for the losses our economy has suffered, Pakistan would not be in a position to continue the partnership in fight against militancy."

Editorial: Leave America Aside, Talk About Self Reliance, an editorial note in the second-largest, nationalist Urdu daily "Nawa-i-Waqt" (cir. 150,000) (01/13)

"Addressing a press conference while issuing the National Saving Bonds, Finance Minister Shaukat Tareen said that the U.S. has promised to provide \$1.3 billion to Pakistan before June, and Pakistan will get around \$1.3 or \$1.4 billion from the Coalition

Support Fund also by June.... It cannot be said with certainty whether the U.S. will provide these funds or not. The President, PM and Finance Minister have repeatedly said to American officials that Pakistan has faced a loss of up to 35-40 billion dollars in the war on terror, and several U.S. experts have also acknowledged Pakistan's losses but the U.S. President and others in the administration are not coming towards this issue.... It is decided that American authorities, from Bush to Obama, want to destroy Pakistan [by embroiling it] in the so called terrorism issue.... The impression of [Pakistan] being U.S. slave should be removed; only then will Pakistan's situation improve. Hence, we should focus on self-reliance and stop banking on U.S. loans and assistance."

Editorial: War On Terror: Why Is Our Sincerity Under Doubt? an editorial in the liberal Urdu daily "Express" (cir. 25,000) (01/13)

"Prime Minister Gillani's concern is hundred percent correct that despite playing the role of a frontline ally in the war on terror, using all resources for the purpose and accruing a loss of more than \$35 billion in the process, and attaining spectacular success in its operation against militancy, why is Pakistan's sincerity constantly being doubted? He has also asked: why are only we asked to 'do more', why are our citizens being treated in a humiliating manner?... The PM has also stressed on the U.S. to exempt Pakistanis from enhanced screening at U.S. airports, and urged that aid under the Coalition Support Fund be released soon. The international community needs to pay immediate attention to issues raised by the PM.... Every year, the U.S. spends huge sums on Afghanistan; some portion of that money should be used to build a fence along the Pak-Afghan border which would stop the infiltration of terrorists into Pakistan."

Opinion: Questions For Holbrooke, an op-ed by Anjum Niaz in the populist, often sensational national English daily "The News" (cir. 55,000) (01/13)

"Richard Holbrooke appears to be running a campaign on what to offer the rulers of Pakistan. But creative as he is, he arrives in Pakistan this week, with his latest lure. While he's no Santa coming with a bagful of dollars, he comes waving a white flag.... A Pakistan-watcher in Washington DC says that the media back in Islamabad must ask Holbrooke tough questions on the estimated \$7.5 billion projected as aid to Pakistan. Here are some questions Holbrooke must be asked, he says: who will determine where the money should go? How much of it will actually be allocated to health and education? How much will go towards development? Who are the U.S. contractors coming to Pakistan to set up the various projects? Who will be the local NGOs that will get chosen to be given the funds and for what? USAID in Islamabad too needs to answer questions from the Pakistani media. Amy Meyers, who literally controlled the agency in Islamabad for four years, and was known to have become 'arrogant', has suddenly been eased out. Why? Perhaps Holbrooke has the answer."

Opinion: Where Is U.S. Public Diplomacy?, an op-ed by Shamshad Ahmad in the populist, often sensational national English daily "The News" (cir. 55,000) (01/13)

"The change of leadership in Washington did provide a watershed opportunity for "remaking" of the U.S.-Pakistan relationship. We hoped Vice President Joe Biden's vision of a new people-centered approach in transforming this 'transactional' relationship into a normal one will soon become reality. But there is no sign of this equation moving beyond the question of terrorism anytime soon. Also, on disbursement of U.S. aid under the KLB, we thought Washington's new focus will be on the Pakistani people rather than the corrupt ruling political and bureaucratic elite who have always abused this relationship for their own self-serving purposes. We have yet to see any people-centered projects on the cards. This is also an issue on which the U.S. missions in Pakistan must engage in, in a well-calibrated public diplomacy."

Opinion: Karachi Violence: Beyond The Taliban, an op-ed by Shireen M. Mazari in the center-right national English daily "The Nation" (cir. 20,000) (01/13)

"Clearly, there is an ominous pattern here. Karachi had escaped the new wave of post-9/11 terror and as the financial hub of the country this was critical for Pakistan's stability. So, the fire has been ignited in Karachi just when the U.S. 'surge' is taking place and drone attacks are increasing, killing yet more Pakistani civilians amidst the odd terrorist. Interestingly, despite non-credible denials by the interior minister, most inhabitants of Karachi know that there is a growing presence of U.S. covert operatives in their city also - be they from Dynacorp or Xe Worldwide (formerly

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Blackwater). This is also the time the U.S. began using its Pakistani employees, who by and large do not have diplomatic status, to undertake strange and questionable activities in sensitive areas of Pakistan like Gwadar. . . . Rehman Malik has in fact chosen to further fuel the violence by declaring that all illegal immigrants will be thrown out of the country if they do not voluntarily leave within 30 days. . . . The issue is a political one and needs political resolve and a non-discriminatory enforcement of de-weaponization for all. It is time to remove the Taliban blinkers and look at the larger picture of all the forces destroying this country."

Opinion: Afghanistan Problem, an op-ed by S. Ishfaq in the populist, often sensational national English daily "The News" (cir. 55,000) (01/13)

"The international community's failure against the insurgency in Afghanistan is breeding violence and instability in the region. The U.S. involvement in Afghanistan is pushing radical elements across the border into Pakistan, and is destabilizing this nuclear-armed country. The U.S. should change its policy on the global war against terrorism and try to bring peace by adopting a policy that must stress on economic, educational, food, healthcare and security assistance. Only the deployment of troops throughout Afghanistan will not defeat Al-Qaeda or the Taliban. . . . Afghanistan needs development, not troops. The past eight years have shown that foreign forces equipped with modern weaponry could not establish their control beyond Kabul."

Editorial: Turkey's Protest At Palestinians' Killing, an editorial in the center-right Urdu daily "Pakistan" (cir. 10,000) (01/13)

"According to AFP, Israel has strongly reacted to Turkish PM Erdogan's criticism and said that it might effect bilateral ties. Turkey is considered Israel's ally in the region but the killing of 1400 Palestinians in the Gaza Strip during the last one year has strained relations between the two countries. . . . Unfortunately, most other rulers of Islamic states remain silent in such matters. . . . Tayyip Erdogan should be praised for his bold effort to highlight the Palestinian situation. The government of Pakistan should assure him of wholeheartedly backing Turkey in its support of the Palestinians."

(All circulation figures are based on estimation)

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