

UNCLASSIFIED

RELEASED IN PART

A33

ACTION INR-00

B3, NSA50

B3

INFO	LOG-00	MFA-00	EEB-00	AF-00	AID-00	AMAD-00	A-00
	[REDACTED]	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
	H-00	TEDE-00	IO-00	LAB-01	L-00	ARMY-00	MOFM-00
	MOF-00	M-00	VCIE-00	DCP-00	NSAE-00	ISN-00	OIC-00
	OIG-00	OMB-00	NIMA-00	EPAU-00	GIWI-00	ISNE-00	DOHS-00
	IRM-00	NCTC-00	FMP-00	BBG-00	R-00	EPAE-00	ECA-00
	IIP-00	SCRS-00	DSCC-00	PRM-00	DRL-00	G-00	SCA-00
	CARC-00	NFAT-00	SAS-00	FA-00	SRAP-00	SWCI-00	PESU-00
	SRMC-00	SRND-00	SANA-00	/001W			

-----2F2A1B 031016Z /38

O 030959Z MAR 10  
 FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7650  
 SECDEF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
 USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE  
 USMISSION USNATO IMMEDIATE  
 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

UNCLAS ISLAMABAD 000491

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A  
 TAGS: KMDR, KPAO, OIIP, OPRC, PGOV, PREL, PK  
 SUBJECT: PAKISTAN MEDIA REACTION: MARCH 03, 2010

Summary: Coverage of the security forces' declaration of "final victory" in Bajaur Agency after seizing the terrorists' command and control center in Damadola, and vowing to launch an offensive in Orakzai and Khyber Agencies dominated headlines on Wednesday morning. Nearly all newspapers and TV networks highlighted reports that the U.S. will deliver 1,000 laser-guided bomb kits to Pakistan this month. "Dawn," highlighted remarks of U.S. Embassy spokesman in Islamabad, and quoted him as saying that the "Quick Reaction Force (QRF) will not be used outside the premises of the embassy or the consulate." The same paper also reported that Pakistan lost \$400 million under Coalition Support Fund (CSF) for 2008 because of new guidelines requiring "enhanced oversight and accountability."

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
 REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M BOLSTER  
 DATE/CASE ID: 23 JUN 2011 201000373

UNCLASSIFIED  
 DRONE/DOS/000305

UNCLASSIFIED  
The issue of missing persons has received Supreme Court gave a two-week "final deadline" to furnish a detailed report regarding the whereabouts of these people. The National Assembly Standing Committee on Economic Affairs' "concerns" over the utilization of foreign aid through NGOs without having oversight of government mechanism received wide coverage. Reports and photographs of Secretary Clinton's visit to quake-hit Chile also received prominent display in several major dailies. Commenting on the recent progress in fighting militancy inside Pakistan, "Dawn," noted that "enhanced cooperation with the Americans has led to many successes against top commanders in FATA via drone strikes..." Editorializing on Washington's refusal to provide civilian nuclear technology to Pakistan, "The Nation," observed that "It should be clear to our policymakers by now that the U.S. has taken a strategic decision to go all-out for currying favor with India, even if that entails giving it a free hand to strike a deadly blow to Pakistan's vital interests. End Summary.

#### TOP STORIES

News Story: Taliban's Bajaur Base Falls, Army Eyes Tirah, Orakzai - "Dawn" (03/03)

"Security forces have taken control of Bajaur's Damadola, known as the nerve-centre of Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan, and are now bracing themselves for an offensive in Orakzai Agency and Tirah valley of Khyber Agency, Frontier Corps Inspector General Maj-Gen Tariq Khan told a media team from Islamabad in Damadola on Tuesday. The ISPR's Director General, Maj-Gen Athar Abbas, was also present."

News Story: Forces Regain Control Of Bajaur - "The News" (03/03)

"The paramilitary Frontier Corps said on Tuesday that it had wrapped up its military operations in Bajaur Agency. Inspector General Frontier Corps (IGFC) Major General Tariq Khan said the latest offensive launched in late January meant that militants in Bajaur were no longer able to cross over into Afghanistan to join the fight against the U.S. and NATO forces and would find it more difficult to stage attacks inside Pakistan."

News Story: U.S. To Deliver Laser-Guided Bomb Kits To Pakistan - "Daily Times" (03/03)

"The U.S. will deliver 1,000 laser-guided bomb kits to Islamabad this month and is considering additional arms sales to help the Pakistan Air Force crack down on insurgents in the Afghan border region. U.S. Air Force Secretary Michael Donley told reporters on Tuesday the arms sales came in response to a request made by the Pakistan Air Chief in December.... Pakistan is also expected to receive new F-16 fighters made by Lockheed Martin Corp this spring

or summer, Donley said, noting that UNCLASSIFIED would give the Pakistan Air Force greatly expanded capabilities in its fight against "radical elements" in the border region."

News Story: Security Squad Not To Be Used Outside Missions: U.S. -  
"Dawn" (03/03)

"The U.S. Embassy distanced itself on Tuesday from a Washington plan to use the intended special protection squad for 'security and rescue missions' outside its diplomatic compounds in Karachi and Islamabad.... U.S. Embassy spokesman Rick Snelsire said on Tuesday there was no legal authority for use of such a force outside the premises of the Embassy or the Consulate. 'Contrary to what the original CBJ document says there are no plans to use these additional personnel anywhere, except on the compounds for internal security. In other words, they will not respond to security incidents off the compound,' he added."

News Story: Pakistan Loses \$400m To 'Enhanced Oversight' - "Dawn"  
(03/03)

"Over \$400 million in reimbursement claims by Pakistan under Coalition Support Fund (CSF) for 2008 have been rejected by the United States because of new guidelines requiring 'enhanced oversight and accountability.' Total claims for 2008 were \$1.4 billion, but Pakistan got \$997 million in reimbursement, whereas the remaining claims were disallowed on grounds of 'inadequate substantiation, over-billing' and other objections, sources told 'Dawn.'"

News Story: SC Gives Govt. Final Deadline To Trace Missing Persons  
- "Daily Times" (03/03)

"The Supreme Court (SC) on Tuesday gave the government two weeks to furnish a detailed report regarding the whereabouts of the missing persons, and hinted it would issue orders on all the cases in the presence of senior officials of the Interior, Defence and Foreign Ministries. The court directed the government to submit a detailed report by March 18 on individual and collective petitions filed in the Supreme Court regarding the missing persons."

News Story: Foreign Aid Might End Up In Taliban Hands: NA Body -  
"Daily Times" (03/03)

"The National Assembly Standing Committee on Economic Affairs has expressed concern over the proper disbursement of foreign aid in Swat and Malakand. The NA committee, which met on Tuesday with Member National Assembly Malik Azmat Khan in the chair, expressed apprehensions that the aid from foreign non-governmental

organizations (NGOs) might end up in Taliban hands and be used against Pakistan." UNCLASSIFIED

Clinton Offers Aid To Quake-Hit Chile - "The News" (03/03)

"U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton arrived in earthquake-ravaged Chile on Tuesday to offer the devastated country moral and material support as it recovers from the deadly disaster."

U.S. Plans Audit Office In Pakistan - "Dawn" (03/03)

"United States plans to setup a separate office for auditors in Pakistan to monitor financial assistance programs under Kerry-Lugar-Burman bill and Coalition Support Fund. The audit team will also investigate matters of unfair use of funds, corruption and money wastage. According to the U.S. State Department, Congressional Budget Justification 2011, U.S. Office of Inspector General will setup this additional satellite office in Islamabad."

News Story: Gilani, Singh Likely To Attend Nuclear Summit - "Dawn" (03/03)

"Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani is likely to attend an international nuclear summit U.S. President Barack Obama is hosting in Washington next month, diplomatic sources told 'Dawn.' Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh is also expected to attend the April 12-13 conference.... 'The purpose of the summit is to discuss steps we can collectively take to secure vulnerable nuclear materials and prevent acts of nuclear terrorism,' says White House spokesman Robert Gibbs."

#### TERRORISM/MILITARY ISSUES

News Story: Bullet-Proof Jacket Row: PIA Seeks Rs10m As Warehouse Charges - "Dawn" (03/03)

"The national flag carrier on Tuesday said that millions of rupees had now accumulated on account of warehouse charges to clear thousands of bullet-proof jackets donated to the NWFP Police by the United States. A spokesman for the Pakistan International Airline called 'Dawn' to clarify its position on the delay caused in the release of 3,320 bullet-proof jackets that are stuck in the warehouse due to non-payment of warehouse charges. The spokesman said that warehouse charges on account of bullet-proof jackets had shot to Rs10 million and would continue to hike further if not cleared immediately."

News Story: Police Present Charges Against U.S. Suspects - "Dawn" (03/03)

"Police on Tuesday presented a list of charges against five American

men suspected of plotting attacks and trying to contact Al

UNCLASSIFIED

Qaeda-linked militants, their lawyer said. They have repeatedly made claims of torture and mistreatment while in custody. 'Where is justice?' they shouted while being driven away from the court in a secure prison van after Tuesday's hearing. Asked what the charges were, defence lawyer Hassan Katchela said he would study the hefty document presented by the police before commenting."

News Story: Rally For Release Of Dr. Aafia Today - "Dawn" (03/03)

"The Pakistan Professional Forum (PPF) will stage a rally at Aabpara Chowk, Islamabad today (Wednesday) to press the government for securing release of detained Pakistani neuroscientist Dr. Aafia Siddiqui from the U.S."

News Story: Army, Militants Trade Barbs In North Waziristan - "The News" (03/03)

"Amid rumors of an impending military operation in the volatile North Waziristan region, the military and Taliban militants for the first time released strong-worded Urdu language leaflets, accusing each other of following the foreign agenda.... The tribesmen feared the government might start military action in the region as they said they had never observed the two sides using such harsh language against each other. They said a leaflet by the military titled 'Correct decision and first step towards right direction' was a clear indication of parting ways with the militants. The militants were also accused of accumulating resources from opium and hashish."

News Story: Pakistani Taliban Confirm Death Of Qari Zafar - "Dawn" (03/03)

"The Pakistani Taliban confirmed Tuesday that a senior commander wanted in the deadly 2006 bombing of the U.S. Consulate in Karachi was killed in a suspected American missile strike in northwestern Pakistan. Mohammed Qari Zafar's death, which was reported earlier by Pakistani intelligence officials, marks the latest success from Washington's covert CIA-run drone program in Pakistan."

News Story: Blast Claims Lives Of Two Students In Khuzdar - "Dawn" (03/03)

"Two students of Khuzdar Engineering University, Quetta were killed and nine others injured when a bomb exploded on the university premises on Tuesday night."

News Story: Bomb-Proof Police Station Set Up In Peshawar - "Dawn" (03/03)

UNCLASSIFIED  
DRONE/DOS/000309

## UNCLASSIFIED

"The first ever bomb-proof building of a police station in the Frontier Province was inaugurated by NWFP Chief Minister Ameer Haider Khan Hoti on the Khyber Road in Peshawar on Tuesday."

News Story: LeT Behind Attack, Says Afghan Govt. - "Dawn" (03/03)

"An Afghan intelligence official has blamed the Lashkar-e-Taiba for last week's car bomb and suicide attacks that killed 16 people in the heart of the capital, Kabul. The Afghan Taliban have already claimed responsibility for the attacks. Saeed Ansari, a spokesman for Afghanistan's National Directorate of Security, alleged on Tuesday that his agency had evidence that Pakistanis were involved in the attacks on Kabul guest houses frequented by Indians and other foreigners."

### POLITICAL ISSUES

News Story: Neocons Still Calling The Shots In U.S. Affairs - "The Nation" (03/03)

"The controversial lot of mighty figures who call the shots in the intelligence, security, and legal set up of the United States comprises of those figures who either carry orthodox ideological motivations and religious bias or are proponents of power politics. After discussions with the diplomats of a 'non-NATO' state in Islamabad, one is left with solid grounds to draw from current scenario that recent U.S. moves implying its inclination to show flexibility towards Taliban through engaging them in dialogue and Obama's initiative to give a substantial cut to U.S. nuclear arsenal would not bode well with the powerful circles, which, sooner or later, would play their role that would eventually lead to drastic outcomes. 'U.S. set-up is individual-driven where people have more authority and say rather than system. The system is formed, deformed, and manipulated on the behest of a few people, some diplomats believe."

News Story: Appointment Of Judges: PPP, PML-N Say Goodbye To CoD - "Dawn" (03/03)

"The Pakistan People's Party and Pakistan Muslim League-N have changed their stance on judges' appointment agreed under the Charter of Democracy (CoD) signed about four years ago. Leaders of both the major parties said on Tuesday they had 'made a compromise on the CoD for the sake of consensus among all the political parties and to honor the present Chief Justice for his struggle for the rule of law and independence of the judiciary.'"

### ECONOMY/ENVIRONMENT

## UNCLASSIFIED

News Story: Pakistan To Use Aid From Kerry-Lugar Act For Better Governance - "Daily Times" (03/03)

"Pakistan has agreed with the US to spend the \$7.5 billion aid package of the Kerry-Lugar Act to ensure good governance, eliminate corruption, strengthen security and legal institutions and making investments in high impact and high visibility programs during the period from 2010 to 2014, Economic Affairs Division Secretary Sibtain Fazal Ali informed the National Assembly Standing Committee on Economic Affairs on Tuesday."

### MISCELLANEOUS

News Story: Iran Accuses UN Nuclear Chief Of Being Biased - "Daily Times" (03/03)

"Iran's atomic chief on Tuesday accused the new UN nuclear watchdog head, Yukiya Amano, of taking sides against Tehran's atomic program but said he hoped the Japanese official would modify his stand. Ali Akbar Salehi's criticism came as Moscow and Beijing - two veto-wielding powers at the UN Security Council - were divided over imposing new sanctions on Tehran. U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton also appeared to extend her timeline on fresh UN sanctions."

### EDITORIALS/OPINIONS

Editorial: Fighting Militancy, an editorial in the Karachi-based center-left independent national English daily "Dawn" (cir. 55,000) (03/03)

"Considering the evidence since late 2008, it appears that the country may be finally turning the corner in the war against militancy. Military operations have by and large been successful in clearing and, at least initially, holding the areas in which they have been attempted. Enhanced cooperation with the Americans has led to many successes against top commanders in FATA via drone strikes (though there is still too little known about how many civilians have died in such strikes, while Pakistan's official denial of such cooperation continues to cloud the program).... The existing cooperation on the Pak-Afghan border needs to be ramped up between the Pakistan and Afghan/U.S. sides: militants on both sides have a habit of taking sanctuary in the other's territory when under pressure."

Editorial: Out Of Nuclear Favour!, an editorial in the center-right national English daily "The Nation" (cir. 20,000) (03/03)

"The U.S. official, who stated the other day in Washington that

UNCLASSIFIED

Pakistan would neither get civilian nuclear technology like the one India was being favored with, nor a nuclear power plant, was not simply trying to please the Indian journalists to whom he was talking. This has been, there should be no doubt in Islamabad, the Americans' considered bipartisan policy in the light of their strategic objectives in the region, unabashedly pursued by the Republican Bush and faithfully adopted by the Democrat Obama.... Besides, this is not the first time the U.S. has plainly told Pakistan that it should not expect to be treated at par with India.... It should be clear to our policymakers by now that the U.S. has taken a strategic decision to go all-out for currying favor with India, even if that entails giving it a free hand to strike a deadly blow to Pakistan's vital interests."

Editorial: U.S. Strategy Of Not Signing A Nuclear Deal With

Pakistan, an editorial in the second-largest, nationalist Urdu daily "Nawa-i-Waqt" (cir. 150,000) (03/03)

"The U.S. has informed Pakistan that it can neither sign a civil nuclear deal with it nor would Islamabad be able to get a nuclear power plant from Washington.... This is not the first time that the U.S. has refused to provide nuclear technology to us.... Indian designs against our sovereignty are not hidden from anyone and it is also a fact that U.S. is supporting Indian designs by signing a civil nuclear deal with it and by stockpiling latest nuclear weapons in its backyard. What then compels our rulers to continue as a frontline ally of this friend-like enemy.... If the nuclear bomb becomes a source of human devastation in the region, it is India and the U.S. that are creating a situation where our finger will automatically press the nuclear button. Hence, the entire responsibility for maintaining regional and global peace lies with India and the U.S., which claims to be its natural ally."

Opinion: NSS & Pakistan, an op-ed by Shireen M. Mazari in the center-right national English daily "The Nation" (cir. 20,000) (03/03)

"President Obama has called a Nuclear Security Summit in Washington in April (12-13) this year and more than 40 heads of state are expected to attend. This is follow-on from Obama's Prague speech of April 5 in which he outlined his arms control and nuclear nonproliferation objectives with nuclear terrorism topping the list. Now there is a growing lobby within Washington that sees Obama's nuclear arms reduction and disarmament pledges as threatening to U.S. long-term interests; and so far Obama has not managed to move substantively on his commitments in this field - as has been the story with him since he began functioning as the U.S. President. In fact, so far his foreign policy in actual actions has not strayed too far from that of his predecessor.... Well, if Obama is really



UNCLASSIFIED

committed to this objective, the file UNCLASSIFIEDs to do is to move out of the nuclear deal with India.... So far the U.S. has set regressive standards for nuclear material safety through this deal with India and through its continuing proliferation to Israel - so let the U.S. move towards setting new standards that truly ensure nonproliferation. Many states will be prepared to enter into nondiscriminatory partnerships with the U.S. on this count.... Pakistan also needs to demand a review of the U.S. position on the FMCT, especially on international verifications and most importantly on reduction in existing stockpiles.... Let us hope we rid ourselves of this dangerous naivet before the Washington Summit!"

Editorial: Rebuilding of Our NATO Damaged Infrastructure, an editorial in the Islamabad-based rightist English daily "Pakistan Observer" (cir. 5,000) (03/03)

"Prime Minister Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani has said that the United States was ready to rebuild the roads damaged due to transit of goods for NATO forces in Afghanistan. Talking to media the Prime Minister said that he had raised the issue with U.S. CENTCOM Commander General David Petraeus during his recent visit and the latter expressed willingness to provide necessary support for the purpose.... With the deployment of more U.S. and NATO troops in Afghanistan, pressure on roads for additional supplies would increase. It is therefore time that the Government must pursue the issue of reconstruction of damaged roads and bridges with the United States at all forums so as to take up the task on a priority basis and restore the damaged roads. In case there is no firm commitment, Pakistan must tell U.S. in categorical terms to find alternative routes for supplies to Afghanistan."

Editorial: Bullet-Proof Jackets, an editorial in the Karachi-based center-left independent national English daily "Dawn" (cir. 55,000) (03/03)

"It is unfortunate that matters have come to such a pass that the lackadaisical attitude displayed by Pakistani officialdom does not take anyone by surprise. But when this approach puts lives at risk then those guilty of inaction must be taken to task.... The jackets - worth more than \$2m and gifted by the U.S. government - have been sitting in a warehouse in Islamabad airport for the last two months.... The relevant federal and provincial government departments must speed up their efforts to have the jackets released and delivered. NWFP policemen are targeted on a regular basis, and it is lamentable that the authorities should not be delivering safety gear to them."

Editorial: Presence of Blackwater: Tell The Truth To The Nation, an editorial in the Peshawar-based Urdu-language daily "Mashriq" (cir. 55,000) (03/03)

UNCLASSIFIED  
DRONE/DOS/000313

## UNCLASSIFIED

"Despite the repeated denials from the government that Blackwater is not operating in Pakistan, credible media reports have revealed that one of the three American soldiers killed in Timegarah terrorist attack was a member of this infamous security agency and was involved in training the Frontier Corps personnel. But the question arises that if the U.S. army or private agencies are imparting training to our security forces why did the rulers shy away from telling the truth to the masses? Such secret deals serve no purpose other than creating mistrust between people and the government. We hope that the elected government will avoid further complicating this issue and tell the exact number of the Blackwater agents in Pakistan and the real objectives of their arrival in the country."

Editorial: Dr. Aafia's Birthday, an editorial in the second-largest, nationalist Urdu daily "Nawa-i-Waqt" (cir. 150,000) (03/03)

"Yesterday, the 38th birthday of innocent Dr. Aafia Siddiqi imprisoned in the U.S. was celebrated across the country. The purpose of the celebrations was to express solidarity with her. There have been demonstrations for Dr. Aafia's release across the world including Europe and the U.S. but have had no effect on the U.S. administration. Perhaps it is also not possible that the U.S. would release Aafia due to these demonstrations; but her release is not only possible, it is also certain if only the Pakistan government tries.... If the government tried in earnest, the U.S. - which relies on Pakistan for the war on terror - cannot turn down the demand for Dr. Aafia's release."

Editorial: Miles To Go, an editorial in the populist, often sensational national English daily "The News" (cir. 55,000) (03/03)

"The Indian visit to Saudi Arabia is another marker along the road of an emerging regional superpower which needs to get the best from its relationships with other states in the region. The Saudis for their part see a harmonious relationship with India as both desirable and profitable, and for the time being are willing to live with the paradox of India restocking its arsenals by buying Israeli weaponry. Saudi Arabia is already established as the key broker with a range of Muslim states; but the Indians were keen to play down the idea that Saudi Arabia would be acting as a mediator in the various areas of conflict that lie between us. However it is nuanced or phrased, a different path is now being trod."

Opinion: India-Pakistan Conundrum, an op-ed by Dr. Manzur Ejaz in the populist, often sensational national English daily "The News" (cir. 55,000) (03/03)

"Following the Reagan strategy against Russia to raise defence

UNCLASSIFIED

expenditures to the level that your enemy cannot follow if it tries to compete, India, by military expansion, is forcing Pakistan to follow suit and economically get destroyed. Pakistan, with a regressing economy, cannot keep up with Indian defence outlays even on proportional basis. Therefore, Pakistan has no choice but to detract and pull India back through other means. Pakistan's strategy has not worked very well because, despite the Kashmir issue, India has grown steadily. Probably, Pakistan's military leadership is aware of its unsuccessful strategy and, therefore, trying to strengthen the state institutions to match Indian economic growth. However, it cannot let go of instruments developed to keep India distracted."

Opinion: Pakistan's New Left, an op-ed by Muhammad Ali Siddiqi in the Karachi-based center-left independent national English daily "Dawn" (cir. 55,000) (03/03)

"The formation last week of a new alliance of progressive parties in Islamabad must arouse interest in us all.... The issue now is: how does the new party - the Workers Party Pakistan (WPP) - create space for itself in the situation now obtaining in Pakistan? Is it going to revive the time-worn and hackneyed phrases which have outlived their utility or is it going to come out with something new and original that has a meaning for the people of Pakistan? Just as his 'New Left' in the post-Thatcher era secured Tony Blair three unprecedented terms as Labor Prime Minister, so too does the WPP have a chance now to craft a new 'ideology' suited to the changed national and international situation. Some pitfalls must be avoided, the first of them being the temptation to jump on the anti-American

bandwagon. Anti-Americanism is not going to get Pakistan's New Left anywhere. Denouncing America in a most impressive manner is being done quite adequately by the Islamist forces, which have the support of such men as Oxford graduate Imran Khan and a strategist like Islami Jamhoori Ittehad founder Hameed Gul."

(All circulation figures are based on estimation)  
Feierstein

NNNN

UNCLASSIFIED  
DRONE/DOS/000315