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	EUR-00	OIGO-00	FAAE-00	UTED-00	VCI-00	DIAS-00	OBO-00
	H-00	TEDE-00	IO-00	LAB-01	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	PM-00	GIWI-00	P-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
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SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A  
 TAGS: KMDR, KPAO, OIIP, OPRC, PGOV, PREL, PK  
 SUBJECT: PAKISTAN MEDIA REACTION: MAY 11, 2010

Summary: Coverage of Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's claim that some Pakistani officials know the whereabouts of Osama Bin Laden, Al Qaeda and the Afghan Taliban leadership dominated headlines on Tuesday morning. Media also reported that Pakistani senators took strong exception to Secretary Clinton's warning of "severe consequences" should an attack on the U.S. be traced back to Pakistan. "The News" quoted Special Representative Richard Holbrooke's statement that the Secretary's remarks "were misconstrued" and that she had also "welcomed Pakistan's growing cooperation against extremism." Newspapers carried Foreign Minister Qureshi's statement that "the New York plot has damaged Pak-U.S. relations to some extent," and that "Pakistan is fully supporting

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the United States in the Faisal Shahzad media also reported General McChrystal's statement made during a White House briefing denying reports that he asked the Chief of Army Staff General Kayani to launch a military operation in North Waziristan. Fallout from the foiled attack in Times Square continued to dominate editorial themes on Tuesday. In an editorial titled, "The bombers brew," "The News," noted that "the American tone has hardened considerably, notwithstanding balancing statements that Uncle Sam is satisfied that our government knew nothing of the plot and is pleased with the level of cooperation being offered by our government." Another daily, "Post," in its editorial titled, "Beyond Times Square," advised that "the U.S. needs to understand that Pakistan faces an existential threat from the terrorists, and it is committed to fighting them till their total elimination." The Urdu daily, "Nawa-i-Waqt," in its editorial observed that "American threats should be taken as declaration of war against Pakistan, and we should alert our armed forces for the defense of our frontier."

In other stories, reports of a fierce clash in Orakzai area that killed 37 militants and nine troops received wide coverage. Nearly all Urdu dailies and two English language papers published the U.S. Mission's rejection of assertions made in an article published on Monday, May 10, regarding the "construction of one billion dollar multipurpose command complex" at the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad. "The Nation," on its front page, criticized the "evil" role of spy agencies of America and Britain, and termed them as "law unto themselves." End Summary.

#### TOP STORIES

News Story: Pak Officials Know Osama's Whereabouts: Clinton - "The News," "Daily Times," "The Nation" (05/11)

"U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has said that some officials in Pakistan know more about the whereabouts of Osama bin Laden, al-Qaeda and the Taliban than they actually claim to have. 'I'm not saying that they're at the highest levels but I believe that somewhere in this government are people who know where Osama bin Laden and al-Qaeda is, where Mullah Omar and the leadership of the Afghan Taliban is and we expect more cooperation to help us bring to justice, capture or kill those who attacked us on 9/11,' Clinton said in an interview with CBS television on Sunday."

News Story: U.S. Multiplying Military, Civilian Aid To Pakistan: U.S. - "The News" (05/11)

"U.S. Special Representative to Pakistan and Afghanistan, Richard Holbrooke said U.S. is multiplying Pakistan's civilian and military aid, being deeply concerned over attempt of terror attack on U.S. This he said to a press conference in Washington on Monday. Some

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Pakistani media had wondered if the UNCLASSIFIED was threatening action after Secretary of State Hillary Clinton spoke Sunday of 'consequences' in the case of Pakistani-American bomb suspect Faisal Shahzad. Richard Holbrooke said that the remarks were misconstrued and noted that Clinton had also welcomed Pakistan's growing cooperation against extremism. 'We think our relations with Pakistan have improved greatly in the last year,' Holbrooke told reporters."

News Story: NY Plot Damaged Pak-U.S. Ties: FM - "Daily Times"  
(05/11)

"Pakistan will provide every possible support to the U.S. in investigations regarding Faisal Shehzad, the mastermind behind the Times Square bombing attempt, Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi said on Monday, adding that the incident had damaged Pak-U.S. relations to some extent."

News Story: Senate Criticizes Clinton's Warning - "Dawn," "The News," "Daily Times" (05/11)

"The Senate took serious exception on Monday to U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's tirade against Pakistan over the botched bomb attack on Times Square and sought a matching response from the government. 'It was failure of American security agencies which allowed a man to purchase and take huge quantity of explosives to Times Squire and for which U.S. officials are blaming Pakistan and hurling threats,' said a Senator speaking on a point of order. The Senators, both from treasury and opposition benches, asked the Defence Minister to give a matching response to the U.S. threats."

News Story: Kayani Was Not Asked To Launch New Operation: U.S. General - "Dawn" (05/11)

"The top U.S. commander in Afghanistan said on Monday that he never asked the Pakistani Army Chief to do more while the White House rejected an impression that the United States and Pakistan were on a collision course over how to deal with the Taliban. The two statements, given at a briefing on Afghan President Hamid Karzai's visit to Washington, negates claims that last week's botched attempt to bomb Times Square by a Pakistani-American may be the beginning of an end of the U.S.-Pakistan partnership."

News Story: 37 Militants, Nine Troops Die In Clashes - "Dawn"  
(05/11)

"Nine security personnel and 37 militants were killed in fierce clashes in the Dabori area of Orakzai tribal region on Monday. According to officials, two officers were among the security men

killed. The deceased were identified as Lt. Muhammad, Lt. Murad." UNCLASSIFIED

News Story: U.S. Denies Construction Near Embassy - "The Post," "Business Recorder," "Jang," "Nawa-i-Waqt," "Islam," "Aak-Kal," "Ausaf," "Mashriq" (05/11)

"The U.S. Embassy in Islamabad has rejected the assertions made Monday by a Pakistani newspaper in an article entitled the 'U.S. Embassy \$1b multipurpose command complex near completion.' The story is completely untrue and is replete with errors, the embassy said in a press statement. According to the U.S. Embassy Spokesman, there is no large-scale construction project going on at the U.S. Embassy, as alleged in the article and there is certainly no command complex under construction."

News Story: Super Powers' Spy Agencies Law Unto Themselves - "The Nation" (05/11)

"Any trail of the unnerving role of omnipotent intelligence agencies of super powers only leaves one flabbergasted with nerve wrecking recalls of colonial era when the execution of 'slaves' by their masters would not seek a reason. As threats have started to be administered at Pakistan, by the all powerful American camp, a further probe into the evil role of U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Central Intelligence agency (CIA) and British MI 6, now known as Secret Intelligence Service (SIS), quite aptly relates to determine the 'hidden hands' behind the creation of 'moderate terrorists' like Faisal Shehzad."

News Story: U.S. 'Very Satisfied' With Pakistani Cooperation In Probe - "The News," "The Nation," "Business Recorder" (05/11)

"The United States is 'very satisfied' with Pakistan's cooperation in an investigation into a Pakistani-American's alleged attempt to detonate a car bomb in Times Square, the State Department spokesman Philip Crowley said on Monday."

#### TERRORISM/MILITARY ISSUES

News Story: Pakistan Push In N Waziristan Needs Time: General - "Daily Times," "The Nation," "Business Recorder" (05/11)

"Pakistani forces, under U.S. pressure to enter North Waziristan, will do so but in their own time and when adequate resources are available, Lieutenant General Sardar Mahmood Ali Khan, deputy chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said on Monday. Mahmood added such a big task in the region was not 'firefighting' and had to be done in sequence with other battles. Pakistan has come under fresh U.S. pressure to send troops into North Waziristan after a failed

bombing in New York claimed by the ~~UNCLASSIFIED~~ ~~Terrorist~~ ~~Islamic~~ ~~State~~ ~~Group~~ Pakistan

(TTP) ."

News Story: FBI Team Seeks Permission to Visit Dawah HQ - "The News" (05/11)

"The FBI team has sought permission from the Pakistani government to visit the Jamaat-ud-Dawah headquarter in Muridke to acquire information in respect of Faisal Shahzad's connections with outlawed Lashkar-e-Taiba."

News Story: U.S. Drone Attacks Kill 8 In NWA: Officials - "The News" (05/11)

"U.S. drones fired a barrage of 18 missiles into a compound in country's restive northwestern tribal belt early Tuesday, killing at least eight militants and injuring another five, security officials said."

News Story: The Consensus About The Drones - "The News" (05/11)

"Children in Waziristan call them 'Ghangai' (emitter of constant humming). Like Scottish folk hero William Wallace - who purportedly shot bolts of thunder from his nether-regions - the legend of the drones grows. Faisal Shahzad's failed attack on Times Square is the latest stimulant for the drone debates. What this latest Pakistani terrorist has stimulated is a monster. The truth about the Ghangai has been contested - not only by the supposedly 'rabid Pakistani press,' and the 'fanatics' that make up this country of 180 million people. It has been contested by American think tanks. It has been contested by U.S. military advisers. It has been contested even by researchers in their own studies, less than six months apart. As always, the truth is the first casualty of war. The contested and amputated truth about the Ghangai is a victim of partisanship and ideology. This is not the first time. In Pakistan, a country whose military and political elite have perfected the art of the dilution of truth, the myth-making is on."

News Story: Fazlullah's Close Associate Arrested - "The News" (05/11)

"A close aide to the Swat Taliban Chief Maulana Fazlullah was arrested by law-enforcement agencies and the security forces in a joint action on the Peshawar-Islamabad Motorway on Monday, official sources said. The sources said the militant commander identified as Abdur Rahman alias Rahman."

News Story: Search Operation in Kala Dhaka on Tipoff: Bilour - "The News" " (05/11)

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"Khyber Pakhtunkhwa senior minister Bashir Ahmed Bilour said the Frontier Corps was conducting a search operation in Kala Dhaka because of the presence of suspected militants there."

### POLITICAL ISSUES

News Story: Hamesh Being Extradited From U.S. By 14th, SC Told -  
"The News" (05/11)

"The Supreme Court (SC) was informed on Monday that Hamesh Khan, former president of the Bank of Punjab and accused in the Rs 9 billion loan scam, would be repatriated from the United States by May 14."

News Story: PM Has Authority, He Is Not The Law: CJ - "The News"  
(05/11)

"The Chief Justice of Pakistan, Justice Iftikhar Muhammad Chaudhry, on Monday observed that the Constitution and laws would not be compromised at any cost. Heading a three-member bench of the apex court, hearing a suo moto case against the construction of McDonalds outlet in 2006 in Fatima Jinnah (F-9) Park, the chief justice said the court could have protected the NRO, but it wanted to ensure the supremacy of the Constitution and upholding the rule of law. He said courts, government and parliament are all bound to obey the Constitution. The CJ further observed that although the Prime Minister has authority, but he also has to go according to the law, adding that the Prime Minister is not a law."

News Story: Qureshi-Krishna Phone Talks Likely Today - "Dawn"  
(05/11)

"Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi and his Indian counterpart S. M. Krishna are likely to have a telephonic conversation on Tuesday for discussing outlines for a re-engagement between the two countries after 18 months. Mr. Qureshi looked upbeat ahead of the talks with his Indian counterpart. He told a group of former foreign ministers, foreign secretaries and ambassadors at a consultative session 'Pakistan wants that the momentum generated at Thimphu be sustained.'"

### ECONOMY/ENVIRONMENT

News Story: US, IFIs Likely To Allocate \$2.33 Billion - 19 Power  
Projects in Pakistan - "The Nation" (05/11)

"The United States and consortium of International Financial Institutions (IFIs) are likely to allocate \$2.33 billion for Pakistan to overcome energy crisis as against the demand of \$5.684

billion for 19 energy projects, documents available with 'The Nation' revealed." UNCLASSIFIED

News Story: Pre-Budget Talks With IMF In Doha Next Week - "The News" (05/11)

"Pakistan's economic managers will rush to Doha next week for holding crucial talks with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) ahead of the upcoming budget 2010-11 by extending assurances to keep fiscal deficit under envisaged limit and implementing Value Added Tax from July 1, 2010. A senior official of the IMF disclosed to 'The News' from Washington D.C on telephone on Monday night that Pakistan and the IMF would start talks from next Monday at Doha."

News Story: Protest Against Prolonged Load Shedding: Farmers Block Highways Across Balochistan - "Daily Times" (05/11)

"The Zamindar Action Committee called a wheel-jam strike across Balochistan on Monday to protest long hours of load shedding in the province. Traffic remained paralyzed for the entire day across the province as farmers from all over Balochistan - blocked all main highways and roads making the strike effective and crippling everyday life."

#### EDITORIALS/OPINIONS

Editorial: The Bombers Brew, an editorial in the populist, often sensational national English daily "The News" (cir. 55,000) (05/11)

"The American tone has hardened considerably, notwithstanding balancing statements that Uncle Sam is satisfied that our government knew nothing of the plot and is pleased with the level of cooperation being offered by our government. A bomb that did not explode has managed to ignite a number of fires. And what of Shahzad? There is emerging evidence that he (Shahzad) may just have been a disgruntled affectee of the 2008 economic crash that saw thousands of Americans lose jobs and houses. He was able to wrap his disaffection around angry action, and to turn that anger into the energy that powered what by any standards was an inept act of terror. He may have been angry at U.S. foreign policy and the drone strikes, but he was also angry at what he perceived as America having done to him personally. If he was trained by the TTP or Al Qaeda the training was as poor as the crude device he made, and here we might question if there is a tactical shift by extremists who want to attack America. There may be as much to be gained (for them) by a cheap unsophisticated - and failed - attempt as there is by a complex multi-target operation. There are many men, and probably women as well, who are sympathetic to extremist groups and goals and who may offer themselves as recruits or find themselves approached

by the scouting parties of the TTP and ~~ANAS~~ UNCLASSIFIED

Editorial: Beyond Times Square, an editorial in the Lahore-based liberal English daily "The Post" (cir. 5,000) (05/11)

"Some observers in Pakistan look upon the New York bomb plot as a ruse to pressure Pakistan into taking on the North Waziristan militants, especially the Jalaluddin Haqqani network, without further loss of time.... Given the critical security situation in the lawless tribal region, Pakistan has rightly decided to adopt a step-by-step approach to deal with the insurgents active there. Let Washington not force Pakistan's hand in grappling with a problem that is inextricably linked with the overall security situation in the region. Let Pakistan decide the timing of the North Waziristan

operation. The U.S. needs to understand that Pakistan faces an existential threat from the terrorists, and it is committed to fighting them till their total elimination."

Editorial: Time Square Plot: U.S. Officials' Allegations And The Prerequisites Of Our Security, an editorial in the second-largest, nationalist Urdu daily "Nawa-i-Waqt" (cir. 150,000) (05/11)

"American officials aggressive way of linking Faisal Shahzad with Pakistani Taliban strengthens the suspicion that the Times Square drama was staged to expand the military operation in Pakistan tribal areas to Khyber P.K. and Punjab.... Speaking with New York Times one American official said that in the event of the repeat of Times Square like incident America should take action inside Pakistan.... American threats should be taken as declaration of war against Pakistan and we should alert our armed forces for the defense of our frontier. As the first step we should stop the military operation in South Waziristan and deploy the military at Pakistan-India border."

Editorial: U.S. Attack Imminent?, an editorial in the center-right national English daily "The Nation" (cir. 20,000) (05/11)

"First it was Hillary Clinton issuing a threat to Pakistan; this has been followed by an even more ominous threat to Pakistan from the U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder.... If the message is still unclear to anyone in Pakistan, this latest threat should leave absolutely no room for any doubt that the U.S. now intends to target Pakistan far beyond the FATA region and certainly with more than just drones. That is why there is a big question mark over the whole Faisal Shahzad episode, including his real covert links and whether he was really a 'set up' to trap Pakistan.... Despite all this, the Pakistani leadership continues to maintain a strange silence rather than giving a strong response to these U.S. threats.... In fact at one point we were informed that the drone attacks were done with the

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blessings of Pakistan's civil and military leaders - and now the direct threats from U.S. officials have been met with a stony response. Is the military only capable of taking action against its own tribal people now? This is the real shame of the whole Shahzad puzzle for us Pakistanis."

Editorial: Times Square Hoax Unfolds U.S. Agenda, an editorial in the Islamabad-based rightist English daily "Pakistan Observer" (cir. 5,000) (05/11)

"The speed with which the authorities in the United States spotted the combustible and explosive material from Times Square, arrest of Faisal Shahzad and his so-called link with Pakistani Taliban is amazing and raises questions about the real motives of Pakistan-bashers.... Blaming Pakistani Taliban even before start of the investigations is a clear testimony that the entire drama was enacted by none other than the U.S. agencies to create justification for pressurizing Pakistan to do more. Pakistan has already done a remarkable job by breaking the back of terrorists who are now on the run but it is quite obvious that the United States wants to maintain the pressure."

Editorial: Change In U.S. Policy Towards Pakistan?, an editorial in the Lahore-based center-right populist Urdu daily "Khabrain" (cir. 50,000) (05/11)

"Things did not end here. The limit was that even the U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan Anne W. Patterson conveyed the U.S. stance to President Zardari in a harsh tone.... Actually, the U.S. is eyeing Pakistan's tribal areas for a long time and was looking for a pretext for its troops to enter these areas. Renowned U.S. analyst Eric Margolis had written in a column that since May last year, Pentagon was planning to occupy Pakistan's tribal areas, but this plan could not be implemented due to certain reasons. The attitude that U.S. has now adopted and the new policy it is outlining shows that it aims to implement that plan.... Our government should warn the U.S. not to think about interfering in the Pakistani tribal areas or it will be responsible for the consequences."

Editorial: Revelation Of Taliban Involvement In The Time Square Plot, an editorial in the liberal Urdu daily "Express" (circ. 25,000) (05/11)

"Although American officials are making revelations of Pakistani Taliban's involvement in the Time Square incident but this cannot be trusted fully until the U.S. administration explains the evidence on

which this claim is based. Even if the Pakistani Taliban are involved in the incident, threatening Pakistan with serious consequences is inappropriate because neither the Pakistan

government, nor any government officials involved in this planning.... The only solution to this issue is to launch a full fledged operation against militants to make it clear to the U.S. that this threatening tone against Pakistan must be stopped as the government is not a part of the activities of such outfits. Moreover, if the U.S. wants the operation against militants to intensify, it should fulfill Pakistan's requirements as groups like the Taliban can only be controlled then."

Editorial: Better To Get Rid Of U.S. Now," an editorial in the popular rightist Urdu-language daily "Ausaf" (cir. 10,000) (05/11)

"After the preliminary investigation, Washington had termed the Times Square incident as Faisal Shehzad's individual act, but now linking this issue with the Pakistani Taliban, the U.S. Attorney General has demanded Pakistan to launch military operation in North Waziristan. It seems that the days are not far away when the U.S. will also demand a similar offensive in South Punjab. But, can our armed forces afford to continue these operations? We think that Pakistan has been left with no other option but to say 'No' to such exorbitant demands of the Americans."

Editorial: Government in Eye of the Storm," an editorial in the Karachi-based, pro-Taliban Jihadi Urdu daily "Islam" (cir. 15,000) (05/11)

"It would have been imperative for our rulers to respond to U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's threat, which she had hurled over Pakistan in the backdrop of an abortive terror plot at the Times Square in New York, in an honorable and befitting manner but, instead, they adopted a timid and apologetic demeanor. Though the Pakistani masses have fully comprehended the real U.S. designs, the same cannot be said about rulers. Anyway, we appeal the government to pay heed to serious issues facing the country rather than yielding to the U.S. whims."

Editorial: U.S. Pressure For Military Operation In North Waziristan, an editorial in the Peshawar-based Urdu-language daily "Mashriq" (cir. 55,000) (05/11)

"U.S. Secretary of State Clinton's claim that Pakistani Taliban are involved in the failed terror incident in New York is not only surprising, but also meaningful. The U.S. media is also diverting this issue to a new dimension. It seems that the prime objective of this hoopla is to coerce Pakistan to launch military offensive in North Waziristan. We think that the Obama administration should change its policies, which have become a potential source of generating anti-American sentiments even among the educated youth, rather than pointing fingers to Pakistan."

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Editorial: U.S. Campaign Against Pakistan, an editorial in the center-right Urdu daily "Pakistan" (cir. 10,000) (05/11)

"Apparently the major purpose of this onslaught on Pakistan is to force it to expand its military operation to Punjab and North Waziristan.... Efforts are on to prove a young man as a Taliban trained activist who became a U.S. citizen 10 years ago.... This fact should be kept in mind that the being talked to in a humiliation way is the same that suffered injuries more than anyone in the war against terrorism."

Editorial: No Doubt Left, an editorial in the Lahore-based liberal English language daily "Daily Times" (cir. 10,000) (05/11)

"Citing new evidence proving that the TTP facilitated and financed the foiled attack and also trained Shahzad in North Waziristan, the U.S. has made its case. The question is: have we made ours? Now that the U.S. has made clear its opinion that the TTP has begun functioning under a new plan of recruitment of operatives to attack the west, it is leaning on Pakistan to step up its military efforts. We must remain aware that if the TTP really has escalated to global warfare, there may be many more Faisal Shahzads hunkering in the U.S. and elsewhere, waiting to carry on where Shahzad left off. This translates into disaster for Pakistan if it does not wholeheartedly pursue a full military offensive in North Waziristan, where the establishment's long-protected Siraj Haqqani network is based.... It would be foolish to continue to turn a blind eye to the hotbed that Pakistan has become, from the southern recesses of Punjab to the

tribal belt. No stone should be left unturned in North Waziristan from where support and facilitation are being provided to new groups that are sprouting up frequently - the Asian Tigers being a recent case in point. In Punjab a full-scale crackdown needs to be undertaken against organizations like Lashkar-e-Tayyaba and Jaish-e-Muhammad, before they too acquire enough gall to start fixing their murderous gaze towards the west."

Editorial: Screening Of Diplomatic Bags, an editorial in the center-right Urdu daily "Pakistan" (cir. 10,000) (05/11)

"According to a news report, diplomatic circles have strongly reacted to the Government decision to carryout screening of diplomatic bags.... Exempting diplomatic bags from screening does not mean that the bags are made a conduit to bring banned items inside Pakistan. The security agencies complaint should be kept in mind that some embassies are taking unlawful advantage of this concession."

Opinion: "U.S. Secretary of State speaking the language of India?" an op-ed by Tanweer Qaiser Shahid in the liberal Urdu daily

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"We have condemned the dirty act that the 30-year-old American citizen Faisal Shehzad tried to commit in the heart of New York, and we will continue to condemn it. We will condemn every act by a person, group or organization whose individual or collective action brings harm to Pakistan... Blaming the entire Pakistan for Faisal Shehzad's personal crime is just as if the entire Nixon family were held responsible for the Watergate scandal.... Can Hillary Clinton, who has filed a report against the whole of Pakistan for an individual's act, answer this: what crime was committed by the 1210 civilian and unarmed human beings who have been killed in drone strikes in Pakistan's tribal areas during the last 7 years? This list of innocent persons wasn't compiled by us, it was prepared by a U.S. NGO New America Foundation.... Can the U.S. Secretary of State - who is threatening Pakistan - compensate for the loss of these 1210 innocent persons, or provide a justification for their death?"

Opinion: Does TTP Have The Reach?, an op-ed by Rahimullah Yusufzai in the populist, often sensational national English daily "The News" (cir. 55,000) (05/11)

"The Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) had originally claimed credit on May 2 for Shahzad's bombing attempt, before retracting it on May 6.... It isn't a revelation that the TTP, Al-Qaeda and other militant groups want to harm the U.S. and its allies. They have declared 'Jihad' against the U.S., Israel and their allies in the same way in which the latter are committed to destroy Al-Qaeda and likeminded militants in Afghanistan, Iraq and elsewhere. It is a fight to the death between powerful states and Muslim non-state elements. No doubt, it is an unequal battle, but Al-Qaeda, the Taliban and the rest have found ingenious ways involving acts of terrorism to unnerve their enemy and damage its economy. The TTP hasn't demonstrated its capacity until now to strike in the U.S. or any other country beyond Pakistan and Afghanistan. If Al-Qaeda, despite being an older more resourceful global and organisation, has been unable to attack the U.S. after 9/11, one cannot expect the TTP to successfully undertake such a mission in a far more secure America."

Opinion: Managing External Flows, an op-ed by Shahid Javed Burki in the Karachi-based center-left independent national English daily "Dawn" (cir. 55,000) (05/11)

"The United States does not wish Islamabad to distinguish among various terrorist groups by using the criterion of the damage they are inflicting on Pakistan (Tehrik-i-Taliban) or concentrating their activities outside the country (the Haqqani network operating in Afghanistan out of sanctuaries in North Waziristan). Pakistan has

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been prepared to battle the former but not the latter. That it makes sense for Washington not to draw distinctions between terrorist groups is illustrated by the recent case of Faisal Shahzad, an American citizen of Pakistani origin who is alleged to have attempted to set off a bomb in New York's Times Square. Faisal is reported to have spent some time in Pakistan in 2009. He may have been motivated to attempt to bomb Times Square by one of the terrorist groups in Pakistan. Washington, therefore, cannot be expected to distinguish among different terrorist groups. No matter which way this case develops it will have profound implications for

Pakistan-U.S. relations. Islamabad needs to carefully manage this unhealthy development. Left unattended it will hurt the American interest in the economic development of Pakistan."

Opinion: So Who's Surprised?, an op-ed by Kamran Shafi in the Karachi-based center-left independent national English daily "Dawn" (cir. 55,000) (05/11)

"This Faisal Shahzad, the son of a retired air vice marshal who is a good man according to those who have known him all his life, has himself said that whilst he was acting alone in planning and executing his botched plan to murder and maim innocents on NYC's streets.... Now then, whilst the Taliban have been known to take credit - if blowing up innocent people can ever be called commendable - for acts it had nothing to do with; I would not be surprised at all if they were behind this tempting bombing.... I have asked this question a hundred times: who was their sponsor when they applied for visas to visit this luckless country? It is important to expose these people, because nothing in the world recommends them for a visa to visit any country, even laid-low Pakistan. We will never get an answer to the question, however, not in a million years, for at the end of this particularly ugly trail we are bound to find some ugly home truths; home truths that impel the world to refer to our poor Pakistan as the hub of world terror."

Opinion: National Unity Is Imperative!, an op-ed by Mohammad Jamil in the Islamabad-based rightist English daily "Pakistan Observer" (cir. 5,000) (05/11)

"Our politicians, journalists, electronic and print media gurus should realize that the need for national unity has never in the past been more than today. For the last six months, Pakistan has had some sense of relief with the change in Obama administration and U.S. army Generals' attitude whereby they promised to address Pakistan's concerns vis-`-vis Indian role in Afghanistan. But Indian and Israeli lobbies in America seem to have prevailed upon the administration through their gimmicks like Faisal Shehzad's drama. Even without comprehensive investigation, U.S. Attorney General Eric

Holder said on ABC television on Sunday: "We've now developed evidence that shows that the Pakistani Taliban was behind the attack." The pressure is indeed mounting. And there is a perception that the U.S. administration would push its joint strategy plan, and under this garb it would try to enter North Waziristan.... The United States has repeatedly called on Pakistan to do more to fight not just homegrown militancy but also Al Qaeda-backed Afghan Taliban based in North Waziristan.... As it continues the fight against terrorist worldwide, the United States is watching cautiously as a vital ally teeters on the edge of anarchy. In the war on terror there is no country more strategically critical than Pakistan. In fact, Indian and Jewish lobbies wish to see anarchy in Pakistan so that U.S. could give a call to the international community that it should come forward to 'secure' Pakistan nukes."

(All circulation figures are based on estimation)

Patterson

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