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INFO	LOG-00	EEB-00	AF-00	AID-00	AMAD-00	A-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	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	ISNE-00	DOHS-00	IRM-00
	NCTC-00	FMP-00	BBG-00	R-00	EPAE-00	ECA-00	IIP-00
	SCRS-00	PMB-00	DSCC-00	PRM-00	DRL-00	G-00	SCA-00
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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: APRIL 15, 2010

Summary: Coverage of Secretary Clinton's meeting with Prime Minister Gilani in Washington, and his remarks that "Pakistan's participation in the summit had boosted international confidence in its capability to protect its nuclear arsenals and brought legitimacy to its nuclear program" received prominent display on Thursday morning. "Dawn," reported on its front-page that the Pakistani decision to offer nuclear fuel services to the world was made at a recent meeting of the National Command Authority. The same paper highlighted a report that President Obama defended Pakistan more eloquently than perhaps even Pakistani leaders could have, making it clear that he trusts Pakistan's capability to protect its nuclear arsenals. Several newspapers also covered Indian PM Singh's remarks...

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that "India has no objection to Pakistan entering into a civilian nuclear deal with the United States." Commenting on the Nuclear Security Summit, "The News," observed that "the outcomes from the summit, in terms of Pakistan's gains, are still unclear. But at least the chances of acceptance into the nuclear club - and recognition as a responsible nation - have brightened." On the contrary, "The Nation," noted that "unfortunately, the Summit failed to consider proliferation by states like the U.S. and Israel. It also failed to consider the dangerous first-use nuclear doctrine that the Obama administration has recently propounded and which Secretary Clinton reasserted very vividly by declaring that the U.S. would use nuclear weapons against a threat of any WMD!" USAID Administrator Dr. Rajiv Shah's visit continued to garner media coverage, and his remarks at a press conference that the "U.S. will channel more aid to Pakistan directly through the GOP" were widely reported. Newspapers reported that NSC Senior Director David Lipton met with President Zardari and other senior Pakistani officials. Media reported a U.S. drone attack that killed four people in North Waziristan. "The Nation," highlighted a report quoting some "well-placed sources" that the U.S. is all set to establish a parallel ministry of border and tribes in Afghanistan in a bid to interfere in Pakistan's territorial limits on the pretext of safeguarding American "interests" in the region. End Summary.

TOP STORIES

News Story: Legitimacy Of Pak Nuclear Programme Recognised: Gilani - "Daily Times" (04/15)

"Pakistan's participation in the Nuclear Security Summit and the confidence of the international community in the safety of Pakistani custodial controls has boosted the legitimacy of the country's nuclear programme, Prime Minister Yousaf Raza Gilani said on Wednesday. . . . About Pakistan's efforts to eliminate extremism, he said, 'Our friends realise that Pakistan is working in the interest of [global] peace and security . . . and want to see improvement in Indo-Pak relations.' Separately, US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and Senator John Kerry called on Gilani before he left for Pakistan. Hillary assured Gilani the US would stand by Pakistan in efforts to overcome economic difficulties, especially the energy crisis. She said she would try to visit Pakistan in July rather than October."

News Story: All On Board Over N-Fuel Offer: Official - "Dawn" (04/15)

"The decision to offer nuclear fuel services to the world was made at a recent meeting of the National Command Authority, said a senior aide who was assisting Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani at a news conference on Tuesday evening. The aide, who was responding to a

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question put to the prime minister, UNCLASSIFIED said the country's highest decision-making body on strategic issues had made a consensus decision to create a fuel bank. . . . Before leaving Washington, the prime minister told a news conference that Pakistan's participation in the summit had boosted international confidence in its capability to protect its nuclear arsenals and brought (a higher degree of) 'legitimacy to our nuclear program'."

News Story: Obama Defends Pakistan, And Does It Eloquenty - "Dawn" (04/15)

"U.S. President Barack Obama has said that during the nuclear summit the Pakistani prime minister made a range of commitments to prevent nuclear proliferation and trafficking. The US leader said that Pakistan and Argentina had also announced new steps to strengthen port security and prevent nuclear smuggling. At a news conference, where he announced various measures and pledges made during the two-day summit, President Obama defended Pakistan more eloquently than perhaps even Pakistani leaders could have, making it clear

beyond doubts that he trusts the country's capability to protect its nuclear arsenals."

News Story: No Objection To Pak-US Civil N-Pact: Manmohan - "The News" (04/15)

"Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Tuesday ruled out serious discussions with Pakistan until it took 'credible steps' to bring the perpetrators of the 2008 Mumbai attacks to justice. He indicated that New Delhi would have no objection to the US and Pakistan going ahead with the civilian nuclear technology cooperation. 'Who am I to interfere with what goes on between the United States and Pakistan. That's a matter for these two countries to consider,' Singh said, answering a question at a press conference on the conclusion of his four-day visit to Washington."

News Story: World Recognizes Pak N-Status, Gilani Terms US Visit Very Useful - "The News" (04/15)

"Expressing his complete satisfaction over the outcome of the Nuclear Security Summit from the Pakistan's point of view, Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani said the presence of Pakistan in the summit was recognition of its nuclear status legitimacy. 'U.S. President Barack Obama's statement pertaining to the security of Pakistan's nuclear programme is a testimony to Islamabad's position in this regard,' he said while talking to Pakistani media persons after the conclusion of the summit."

News Story: U.S. To Channel More Aid Via Pakistan Govt - "Daily Times" (04/15)

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"The United States will channel more aid to Pakistan directly through the government, the new head of the US overseas aid agency said on Wednesday. On his first visit to Pakistan after being appointed US Agency for International Development (USAID) administrator in December, Rajiv Shah, said the US was 'incredibly' serious about changing the way the USAID used to work in Pakistan, Reuters reported."

TERRORISM/MILITARY ISSUES

News Story: Drone Attack Kills Four In N. Waziristan - "Dawn" (04/15)

"A U.S. drone fired two missiles at a vehicle in North Waziristan on Wednesday, killing four people and injuring one. According to official sources, the vehicle came under attack in Angoor Shaga, about 25km west of Miramshah."

News Story: Official Says US Still Hopes To Nab Osama Alive- "Daily Times" (04/15)

"The U.S. would like to capture and interrogate Osama bin Laden, but it is expected that the al Qaeda leader will not be taken alive, Attorney General Eric Holder said. The attorney general said this while testifying before the Senate Judiciary Committee. He told other lawmakers 'bin Laden likely will never face trial because he would be killed first'. Following those comments, the top U.S. commander in Afghanistan said it remains the goal of US troops to capture Osama bin Laden alive and 'bring him to justice'."

News Story: Giant Bomb Detectors Pressed Into Service In Islamabad - "Dawn" (04/15)

"Police have deployed two giant bomb detectors on roads into Islamabad in their latest efforts to stop suicide truck bombers striking the capital. This is the first time Pakistani authorities have used the Chinese-built devices to protect a city since Taliban and Al Qaeda-linked groups went on a bombing campaign, killing more than 3,200 people in nearly three years."

News Story: Forces Apprehend Three Suspected Terrorists - "Daily Times" (04/15)

"Security forces apprehended three suspected terrorists and seized a huge cache of arms and ammunition from the Charbagh area during a search operation on Wednesday, official sources said. The search operation was conducted in Qambar and the adjacent areas of Mingora town from where the three suspects were arrested."

News Story: U.S. Interference In Pakistan (UNCLASSIFIED) Parallel

Ministry Of Border & Tribes In Afghanistan Planned - "The Nation"
(04/15)

"In a bid to interfere in Pakistan's territorial limits on the pretext of safeguarding American interests in the region, the United States is all set to establish a parallel ministry of border and tribes in Afghanistan, which would undertake dubious operation on both sides of the border.

Well placed sources in Kabul while quoting a top Afghan official revealed"

News Story: Singh Links Talks To Crackdown - "Dawn" (04/15)

"Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh threw a bucketful of ice on the hopes for an early resumption of India-Pakistan dialogue, when he declared at a news conference here on Tuesday evening that there could be no talks with Pakistan until it cracked down on the perpetrators of the Mumbai attacks. 'We have said more than once that Pakistan if it takes more credible steps to bring the perpetrators of the horrible crime of 26/11 to book, that's the minimum that we expect from Pakistan,' said Mr Singh."

POLITICAL ISSUES

News Story: Nawaz Wants Hazara Issue Decided By All Parties -
"Dawn" (04/15)

"PML-N chief Nawaz Sharif has said his party has no objection to creation of Hazara province but the issue should be decided by negotiations among all political parties and not by violence. Addressing a press conference at the residence of PML-N's provincial president Pir Sabir Shah in Sirikot after presiding over a high-level party meeting on Wednesday, he said he and his party had great respect for the people of Hazara because of the contributions made by them to Pakistan and Muslim League."

News Story: Abbottabad Unrest Toll Rises To Nine - "Dawn" (04/15)

"The death toll in anti-Khyber Pakhtunkhwa riots in Abbottabad rose to nine as another man injured in the recent violence died in a local hospital on Wednesday. All banks, government and private offices, petrol pumps, CNG stations, shops and restaurants remained closed on the second day of a three-day mourning declared by the Anti-Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa Action Committee."

News Story: Senate Ends Debate, Votes On Bill Today - "Dawn"
(04/15)

"The Senate concluded a largely supportive debate on the Constitution (Eighteenth Amendment) Bill on Wednesday, with the government calling for a unanimous vote for the landmark reforms on Thursday as in the National Assembly a week ago. The bill, drafted by an allparty parliamentary committee, seems certain to be passed by more than the required two-thirds majority of the 100-seat upper house so it could go to President Asif Ali Zardari for his signature possibly later this week to mark the restoration of a genuine parliamentary democracy in the country."

ECONOMY/ENVIRONMENT

News Story: 'US Should Help Pakistan Overcome Energy Crisis' - "Daily Times" (04/15)

"The US should assist Pakistan in energy technologies to help the country overcome its energy crisis, which is adversely affecting the Pakistani economy, President Asif Ali Zardari said on Thursday. The president made these remarks while meeting David Lipton, senior director for international economics at US National Security Council at the Presidency."

News Story: IMF Assures Pakistan Of Next Tranche In May - "The News" (04/15)

"The International Monetary Fund will approve the next tranche of a 11.35-billion-dollar loan to Pakistan in May, the Prime Minister's Office said on Wednesday. In a meeting with Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani late on Tuesday in Washington, IMF officials said the 'IMF Board in its forthcoming meeting on May 3 will approve the release of next tranche for Pakistan', the premier's office said."

News Story: Pakistan Seeks Two Waivers From IMF - "Dawn" (04/15)

"Pledging to completely eliminate subsidies on electricity by August this year, Pakistan has sought at least two waivers from the International Monetary Fund for slippages in important macroeconomic targets in the first nine months of the current fiscal year and requested modifications in future programme milestones. We request waivers of non-observance for the end-March quantitative performance criteria on the overall budget deficit (excluding grants) and net government borrowing from the State Bank," says a letter of intent (LoI) signed by Adviser to the Prime Minister on Finance Dr Abdul Hafeez Shaikh and SBP Governor Syed Ali Raza."

EDITORIALS/OPINIONS

Editorial: Mr Obama's Agenda, an editorial in the Karachi-based center-left independent national English daily "Dawn" (cir. 55,000) (04/15)

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". . . . Mr Obama has taken, at least publicly, a fairly sympathetic line on the Pakistan and all things nuclear combination. Bad because whenever non-proliferation is in the news, someone somewhere uses it as a stick to beat Pakistan with. Almost certainly with apprehensions about the latter in mind, Pakistan stunned the world by offering to provide nuclear fuel cycle services under IAEA safeguards to any country that may want it. Perhaps no country will take Pakistan's bait but it does serve at least one important political goal: it switches the attention from 'bad boy' Pakistan to responsible-nuclear-power Pakistan. At the moment, perhaps that is the most Pakistan can hope for."

Editorial: Nuclear Security: Double Standards Will Have To Be Given Up, an editorial in the leading mass circulation populist, often sensational Urdu daily "Jang" (cir. 300,000) (04/15)

"President Barack Obama's demand that Pakistan should sign the Non Proliferation Treaty (NPT) is not only one-sided, but is also tantamount to disturb the balance of power in the region. In fact, that, due to the multi-layered security arrangements devised for Pakistan's nuclear weapons, it is impossible for Al Qaeda or any other terrorist organization of its ilk to lay its hands on these strategic assets. On the other hand, dozens of powerful separatist movements, active in India, enjoy much influence in the ruling elite in New Delhi and, therefore, have the potential to take over country's nuclear weapons. We think that a world free of nuclear weapons will remain a distant dream unless the monopoly of a few nations on nuclear technology is eliminated."

Editorial: Adopt A Realistic Stance On Nuclear Weapons, an editorial note in the Lahore-based populist center-right Urdu daily "Khabrain" (cir. 50,000) (04/06)

"President Obama has demanded that Pakistan sign the NPT. Making this demand only to Pakistan is unfair. Several other countries including India and Israel have not signed the NPT but the U.S. makes no such demands from them. Instead of taking such emotional and discriminatory steps, the U.S. should adopt a realistic stance, which would help promote world peace."

Editorial: Nuclear Responsibility, an editorial in the populist, often sensational national English daily "The News" (cir. 55,000) (04/15)

". . . . The invitation to attend the summit, in itself, demonstrates a readiness from Washington to hear its case. The Obama administration has also made it clear that it has respect for Pakistan's ability to keep its arsenal safe. The line taken by the US has changed. The past accusations hurled at Pakistan have calmed

down. The outcomes from the summit, UNCLASSIFIED Pakistan's gains, are still unclear. But at least the chances of acceptance into the nuclear club - and recognition as a responsible nation - have brightened. This is something Pakistan's leadership can build on for the future."

Editorial: NSS: Pak Still A Target , an editorial in the center-right national English daily "The Nation" (cir. 20,000) (04/15)

"Unfortunately, the Summit failed to consider proliferation by states like the US to Israel. It also failed to consider the dangerous first-use nuclear doctrine that the Obama Administration has recently propounded and which Secretary Clinton reasserted very

vividly by declaring that the US would use nuclear weapons against a threat of any WMD. . . The problem for Pakistan in terms of its nuclear assets does not end here. The Summit had barely ended when the White House counter terrorism Chief John Brennan fired yet another official salvo against Pakistan by linking up Al-Qaeda, its alleged search for nuclear weapons in Pakistan. He gave out the Al-Qaeda may attempt to gain access to nuclear material and hinted rather obviously that Pakistan was seen as the weak link in the chain which they could exploit. such assumption is irresponsible as well as being false since so far there has been no fissile material reported missing from Pakistan as opposed to numerous reports of such material going missing from US, India and even countries like Japan. Basically the US continues to use punitive approach dealing with a problem that that is more acute within its own country than anywhere else. . . ."

Editorial: America's Contradictory Statements On Nuclear Proliferation, an editorial in the second-largest, nationalist Urdu daily "Nawa-i-Waqt" (cir. 150,000) (04/15)

"U.S. double standards on nuclear proliferation can be judged from the fact that one day Obama announced his new nuclear policy and a reduction in nuclear weapons, and the next day, Hillary Clinton threatened that the U.S. would use nuclear weapons in case of a chemical attack. Moreover, all American officials including President Obama even today point towards Pakistan and engage in propaganda saying that if nuclear weapons land in Al Qaeda or other extremists' hands, they would be used against the U.S... The U.S. needs to curb its hysteria as well as rein in Israel and India if it does not want our hand on the nuclear button."

Editorial: Pakistan Reserves The Right To Acquire Civil Nuclear Technology, an editorial in the Peshawar-based Urdu-language daily "Mashriq" (cir. 55,000) (04/15)

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"Washington's relentless lectures to UNCLASSIFIED sign the Non Proliferation Treaty, have made it clear that the U.S. is using lame excuses to deny Pakistan the civil nuclear technology. We think that the time has come for us to turn to our friendly countries, China and Iran, and seek their help to resolve our acute energy crisis."

Editorial: Nuclear Technology And Pakistan's Principled Stand, an editorial in the center-right Urdu daily "Pakistan" (cir. 10,000) (04/15)

"It has been noted with great interest in diplomatic circles that Pakistani leadership kept in view international reservations about its nuclear program and tried to allay them. In this manner the leadership succeeded in stopping further international pressure from building. Now [the international community] is thinking of how to solve problems by joining Pakistan, not by isolating it. Pakistani Ambassador Hussain Haqqani's role is being appreciated in bringing about this change. Diplomatic circles are rightly saying that Ambassador Haqqani has expertly employed his friendship with Vice President Biden to create harmony between the two countries."

Editorial: Eliminating The 'War Industry' Inevitable For Global Peace, an editorial in the liberal Urdu daily "Express" (circ. 25, 000) (04/14)

"A Harvard report on nuclear non-proliferation states that Pakistan's nuclear assets are the safest in the world, stealing or attacking them is very difficult....On the one hand President Obama insists that Pakistan sign the NPT, and at the same time gives the assurance that there is no likelihood of proliferation from Pakistan, but getting Israel to sign NPT is not in American's power. On this issue, President Obama says that the U.S. will take all possible measures for Israel's security. This U.S. contradiction and double standards is also visible in America's refusal to sign a civil nuclear deal. According to President Obama, it is every country's right to use nuclear technology for peaceful purposes. Even then, Pakistan and Iran are singled out.... We feel that the secret to global peace is in dismantling the war industry and eliminating nuclear weapons completely."

Opinion: Nine Wasted Years, an op-ed by I. M. Mohsin in the center-right national English daily "The Nation" (cir. 20,000) (04/15)

"As the Americans wake up to the serious reverses in Afghanistan, while even Iraq is becoming a trouble spot, despite the mounting US forces deployed therein, the situation is becoming still more intriguing. In Eurasia, it is believed that 9/11 was staged by the

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last administration to conquer Afghanistan. . . . UNCLASSIFIED able to control the vast energy resources of the Central Asian Republics and the Caspian Sea. . . . As a final word, in nine years the Americans have not understood the colossal enmities that get provoked by the killing of innocent civilians. Kandhar saw a crowd chant "death to America, death to Karzai, death to this government," on Monday after the NATO troops killed many civilians. The Afghans believe in revenge and they can wait for their chance. After Kyrgyzstan, the US better wake up."

(All circulation figures are based on estimation)

Patterson

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