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	OIGO-00	FAAE-00	FBIE-00	UTED-00	VCI-00	H-00	TEDE-00
	IO-00	LAB-01	MOFM-00	MOF-00	M-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	USSS-00	VO-00	NCTC-00
	FMP-00	BBG-00	R-00	ECA-00	IIP-00	SCRS-00	PMB-00
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 THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
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 HQ USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL//CCPA// IMMEDIATE
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 JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
 DIA WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
 AMEMBASSY LONDON
 AMEMBASSY PARIS
 AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
 HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI

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E.O. 12958: N/A
 TAGS: KMDR, KPAO, OIIP, OPRC, PGOV, PREL, PK
 SUBJECT: PAKISTAN MEDIA REACTION: January 13, 2009

 News Stories

"U.S.Comes Down On Defunct AQ Khan Network" "The News" (01/13)

 "The U.S. State Department on Monday unveiled sanctions against 13 people and three firms implicated in the nuclear proliferation network allegedly set up by nuclear scientist Dr AQ Khan. The Department of State announced that sanctions will be imposed on 13 individuals and three private companies for their 'involvement' in the A Q Khan nuclear proliferation network," it said in a statement."

"Gilani Denies Drone Attacks Permitted By Government" "The News"

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M BOLSTER
 DATE/CASE ID: 24 JUN 2011 201000373

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"Prime Minister Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani has reiterated his government stand that there is no agreement to allow U.S. drone attacks in Fata and Pakistan is seeking support of other countries to get the attacks stopped."

"NA Unanimously Condemns Israeli Aggression" "The News" (01/13)

"During the first session of the New Year, the National Assembly on Monday passed a unanimous resolution, strongly condemning the Israeli aggression in the Gaza Strip and urging the international community to play its role for early cessation of atrocities on the Palestinians."

"Biden, Made Musharraf Doff Uniform: Gilani" "The News" (01/13)

"Prime Minister Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani, has revealed newly elected U.S. Vice President Joe Biden, had played a key role in doffing the uniform of General (R) Pervez Musharraf. As far as Biden is concerned, he has been a pro-Pakistani and has played a key role in restoration of Democracy in Pakistan and doffing the uniform of General Pervez Musharraf."

"U.S. Senator Kerry to focus on Pakistan" "The News" (01/13)

"The incoming chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Sen. John Kerry, said on Monday he will push for tripling non-military U.S. aid to Pakistan, putting that country and Afghanistan at the top of his panel's agenda in the new Congress."

"Zardari To Attend Obama's Oath-Taking" "The News" (01/13)

"President Asif Ali Zardari would visit the U.S. next week to participate in the oath-taking ceremony of U.S. President-elect Barack Obama to be held on January 20 in Washington DC."

"Indian PM Sends 'Dove' To Zardari" "Daily Times" (01/13)

"Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh has sent a New Year greeting card along with a message of 'good wishes' to President Asif Ali Zardari. The Indian prime minister wrote, "With all good wishes for the New Year." Singh and his wife have signed the card that has a dove printed on it. Meanwhile, a private TV channel has reported that Prime Minister Yousaf Raza Gilani will meet his Indian counterpart on the eve of an International Economic Forum session in Switzerland."

"Gilani Rejects Any Rift With Zardari" "The News" (01/13)

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"Prime Minister Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani has declared that there were no differences between two top echelons of power as being reported by some section of media especially after sacking of the national security Advisor last week."

"NA Not A 'Rubber Stamp': Gilani" "The Nation" (01/13)

"Dispelling the impression of National Assembly as rubber stamp Prime Minister Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani said that they believed in the supremacy of the Parliament and all the decisions would be taken in the House with consensus"

"Durrani Claims All Were On Board" "Dawn" (01/13)

"Former National Security Adviser Major-General (retd) Mehmood Durrani has defended his decision to disclose Ajmal Kasab's identity as a Pakistani national, claiming he had been authorised by the prime minister in writing to speak on matters of national security

and Pakistan-India relations, and it was his understanding that the Ajmal Kasab issue was within this domain. Talking to Dawn News, he said that all stakeholders had been taken into confidence before the statement on Ajmal Kasab was made public. He asserted that he did not breach the confidence or the trust of the leadership." . . .

"When asked about reports that top American officials had lobbied for his restoration, he said the reports were nonsensical because he did not approach any top government functionary or the Americans."

"India Ready To Snap Ties With Pakistan" "The News" (01/13)

"India plans to break off business, transport and tourist links with Pakistan and isolate it from the rest of the world if it fails to help investigate the Mumbai terrorist attacks, Indian Home Minister Palaniappan Chidambaram told The Times on Monday."

"Ban On Indian TV Channels Sought" "The News" (01/13)

"The Senate Standing Committee on Information and Broadcasting has asked the government to immediately ban broadcasting of the Indian TV channels in Pakistan."

"Israel Testing 'Extremely Nasty' Weapon: Norwegian Doctors" "Dawn" (01/13)

"Israel is testing a new "extremely nasty" type of weapon in Gaza, two medics charged as they returned home to Norway on Monday after spending 10 days working at a hospital in the war-torn Palestinian territory."

"Ceasefire Takes Effect After Militants Given Safe Exit" "Dawn"

"A ceasefire was enforced in Hangu on Monday after militants were assured by a jirga that they would be given a safe exit. A ceasefire agreement between rival groups and the administration was signed on Sunday. Initially, the warring groups refused to accept the agreement and continued attacks in several areas of the town, using heavy weapons. They accepted the agreement after the Taliban decided to stop fighting and go back to their old positions. The jirga, meanwhile, held talks with the district administration to work out modalities for a permanent ceasefire."

"Army Takes Over Hangu After Peace Deal" "The Statesman" (01/13)

"Army Monday took control of the Hangu city as the rival groups signed a peace accord after days of clashes in which at least 40 people were killed. The groups signed a written agreement to cease fire and vacate bunkers on hilltops," district official Mujibur Rehman told a foreign news agency."

"Taliban announce weeklong ceasefire" "Daily Times" (01/13)

"Militants in Swat Valley have announced a week-long ceasefire on Monday after members of a peace committee met Maulana Fazlullah, powerful chief of the banned militant group, Tehrik-i-Taliban, at an undisclosed location and discussed peace proposals with him. Militants announced the ceasefire on a condition that security forces would not take any action against them."

 Editorials/Op-eds

"Rampaging Militants," an editorial in the Karachi-based center-left independent national English daily "Dawn" (cir. 55,000) (01/13)

"One look at the weekend's headlines from Fata and northern Pakistan is enough to dissolve any lingering new year cheer. In Mohmand Agency, several check posts and a fort were attacked; in Hangu, sectarian warfare in the wake of Ashura claimed the lives of dozens; in South Waziristan, an additional political agent was kidnapped; in Bajaur Agency, militants severed the ears of five members of the Khar peace committee; and in Swat, an ANP leader's home was attacked, yet another girls' school was torched and a Sharia court ordered the lashing of two alleged drug addicts. While the signs of the state's disappearing sovereignty are ubiquitous, those of a concerted state fight-back are harder to discern. In fact, at every level of the state's response there is cause for concern". . .
 "While the militants have access to an array of weapons and communication systems, their resources cannot match the Pakistan state's. Were the militants to be engaged across the region

simultaneously, they could quickly find themselves stretched thin

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and unable to mount a serious response. The militancy problem is undoubtedly complex, but without fresh political and military thinking it will only grow worse."

"Afghan militants' issue must be raised on international level," an editorial in the leading mass circulation centrist Urdu daily "Jang" (cir. 300,000) (01/13)

"This is for the first time in Pakistan's history that the militants infiltrated into Pakistan in such large number, and attacked Pakistani security forces. It is a matter of serious concern for the Government of Pakistan as it neither lodged protest over this wrong act, violation of international border, and breach of our national sovereignty, nor raised this issue with Afghan administration through diplomatic channels. This silence is contrary to our national prestige and national interests."

"Spread of militancy and demands of time" an editorial in the Lahore-based Urdu daily "Waqt" (circ. 5000) (01/13)

"There is no denying the fact that America is losing its grip on the war on terror in Afghanistan and the situation is rapidly spinning out of control. Even NATO commanders have admitted this. The latest attack by Afghan militants on the security forces in Mohmand proves that while Pakistan has an upper hand in the war on terror, time is slipping out of the hands of American allies. Our rulers need to review the previous government's faulty, pro-U.S. policies and devise new policies which can rid Pakistan of the prolonged war on terror."

"Attack on Pakistan from Afghanistan" an editorial in the center-right Urdu daily "Pakistan" (cir. 10,000) (01/13)

A large number of militants gathered inside Afghanistan and entered Pakistan territory, but Afghanistan intelligence and NATO troops could not get to 'know' about it. Pakistan forces not only repelled the attack, but also killed 48 assailants and apprehended many. After this incident the government of Pakistan should revisit the entire strategy in the tribal areas, consult with the country's political and defense institutions and see whether the military operation in the tribal areas could be given a new direction."

"Militants In Mohmand," an editorial in the centrist national English daily "The News" (cir. 55,000) (01/13)

"The fierce clash between militants and security forces in the Mohmand Agency, in which 40 militants and at least six troops were killed, offers evidence that the Taliban and other elements continue

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to pose an immense threat to the nation and security of state. . . A full assessment of the situation needs to be urgently made. Our leaders, military and civilian, need to sit down together and contemplate the true position. There have lately been a number of insinuations emanating from regions of fighting that allege an all-out effort is still not being made. These may be nothing more than fiction, but there should be a review of what is happening, how the operation is going and how far it is succeeding in defeating militants. Quite evidently, the militant elements that remain entrenched in the tribal areas are still able to organize themselves into large bands and take on security forces at fortified positions. It is also clear that a large number of non-Pakistani nationals remain a part of the Taliban armies. It is quite obvious that for the sake of the security of our country, the militants need to be vanquished. What needs to be determined is how best this can be achieved."

"Sectarian Strife," an editorial in the centrist national English daily "The News" (cir. 55,000) (01/13)

"We have seen too many episodes of repeated sectarian violence. The government needs to step in and act. It is senseless to simply ignore what is happening or hope that it will just go away. Even if another period of peace is enforced, the risk is that at some point in the future the underlying tensions will erupt once more. What we need is a policy to address the root causes of sectarian hatred. Through curriculums, through the immensely powerful media and by enforcing the laws that exist to safeguard against the dissemination of hate, a concerted effort to turn back the clock must be initiated. It is true that sectarian strife was a reality in Hangu even decades ago, but the degree of violence has increased markedly since then. It must be stopped before it tears apart the fabric of a society that has forgotten the need to tolerate each other and to live together in peace, regardless of belief, race or other similar factors..."

"Mohmand Agency incident: a moment of reflection," an editorial note in the Karachi-based, pro Taliban Jihadi Urdu daily "Islam" (cir. 15,000) (01/13)

"About 600 militants attacked a FC check-post in Mohmand Agency and killed 10 security personnel the other day... This incident is highly regrettable, but one must think that why such episodes are happening time and again. In fact, people and the government of Pakistan are divided on this issue. Contrary to the government, Pakistani people aren't ready to accept the global war on terror as their own war. And the government is spilling blood of Pakistani people and Army personnel without any valid reason. This war has upset our entire social system; our economic structure is on verge

of collapse, industrial institutions are ~~UNCLASSIFIED~~ country is hampered with excruciating loans, and no financier or businessman is ready to invest in Pakistan owing to the uncertainties and the volatile security situation. The sooner we abandon this proxy war, the better it will be for Pakistan and its future."

"Big battle in Mohmand Agency" an editorial note in the second-largest, center-right nationalist Urdu daily "Nawa-i-Waqt" (cir. 125,000) (01/13)

"Pakistan incurred huge loses by participating in this war [on terror] and cannot afford to sustain more of that. Militants would continue to push Pakistan into lawlessness if America and allied troops would continue to operate in Afghanistan and the tribal areas. Our rulers should care for national interests and extricate Pakistan from this war."

"And Now The 'Reverse' Jihad," an editorial in the Lahore-based liberal English language daily "Daily Times" (cir. 10,000) (01/13)

. . . "The Americans complain that the Taliban cross over into Afghanistan from the Pakistani side to attack the NATO-ISAF forces. The CIA uses drones and missiles to target and kill them in our Tribal Areas. This movement of the militants is supposed to be a hangover from the jihad that went into Afghanistan to support the government of the Taliban against the multinational "invasion" of Afghanistan in 2001. When the rout occurred, many of the Taliban escaped into Pakistan's tribal belt and Balochistan. Now the movement of militants is from Afghanistan to Pakistan, a kind of "reverse" jihad." . . .

"Extremists ever-increasing terrorism and demand of situation" an editorial in liberal Urdu daily "Express" (cir. 25,000) (01/13)

"Terrorism has become a national issue, and needs to be stopped with as much force as is necessary to save the nation. So far, the government has not been able to rein in extremists as was expected. Our policy makers need to look into the shortcomings of the on-going operation that must be removed. It would not be difficult to curb extremism once the shortcomings of the operation are pinpointed."

"Need for ending militarism from Pakistani society" an editorial in the Lahore-based independent Urdu daily "Din" (circ. 5000) (01/13)

"Pakistan is presently a battlefield divided into various parts. In one area there is armed conflict due to sectarianism, in another area it is due to ethnic or linguistic differences, while in another area anti-Americanism is fuelling this conflict. The most worrisome aspect of this situation is that the government, its institutions and organizations working for social cohesion are gradually becoming

ineffective. It is ironic that today UNCLASSIFIED one country cannot travel to another region within the same state... The need is to deal wisely with those spreading unrest and to activate individuals who have the capability to strengthen societal bonds."

"How To Improve Relations With India" an Op-ed by Sardar Qasim Farooq Ali in the centrist national English daily "The News" (cir. 55,000) (01/13)

. . . "India must realize, and the stress on India here is purely based on her actions, that Pakistan is facing, perhaps, more difficulties than India, but Pakistan neither launches a media and diplomatic war against nor defames and pressurizes India. The fact that India is an emerging regional market does not in the least grant her the right to threaten us with preemptive strikes. America could get away with this for obvious reasons, but history and reality teach us that India would surely falter for the worst, if

such thoughts are translated into action. Furthermore, as is being seen, Pakistan is already taking effective steps to deter the threat of any future attacks on India. The government of Pakistan has, prima facie, ignoring a Court ruling, and abiding by its commitments under UNSC Resolution 1267, banned Jamaat-ud- Daawa and Lashkar-e-Taiba. Perhaps it's time we learnt from and follow in the footsteps of Europe, where despite centuries old rivalries, nations like the French, English and Germans have pooled together their resources for the common good and are cooperating on a plethora of issues including terrorism."

"Pak-India Cooperation Need Of The Hour," an editorial in the Lahore-based liberal English language daily "Daily Times" (cir. 10,000) (01/13)

. . . "This is the need of the hour. Civil society on both sides, instead of being shanghaied into war hysteria, should become active in starting their own discourse of peace. The aim is not to condone the Mumbai attack but to get to the root of the matter through cooperation. The good news is that SAFMA and HRCP will arrange the visit of a 25-member delegation to New Delhi on the 21st of this month, comprising Pakistani parliamentarians, journalists and people from different walks of life. The aim is to reassure the Indians that all people and all political across the board in Pakistan favor normalization of relations with India and support the "composite dialogue" currently threatened by bilateral tensions."

"Durrani's Expulsion" an Op-ed by S.M. Masud in the center-right national English daily "The Nation" (cir. 20,000) (01/13)

. . ." the step taken by the PM in showing the door to Durani has serious repercussions: Firstly, it reflects a rift between the two

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elected offices of President and Prime Minister. Secondly, it is giving a powerful hand to India which has already been able to isolate Pakistan. It is going to use the present situation with full leverage to pressurize Pakistan to abandon Kashmir issue. India has come out with strong statements threatening to use all options available against Pakistan. However, PM Gilani has protested against PM Manmohan Singh statement remarking them as "most unfortunate" therefore, nothing less than unity is needed and we have to play our cards very carefully." . . .

"Mr. Obama! World is waiting for your actions," an editorial in the Peshawar-based Urdu-language daily "Mashriq" (cir. 55,000) (01/13)

"President-elect Barack Obama didn't rule out the possibility of setting up of an inquiry commission to probe war crimes of the Bush Administration. He also hinted to initiate efforts to end confrontation between Palestine and Israel, and to change policy regarding Iran. It will be better for Mr. Obama to materialize these thoughts as such acts will not only lessen hate against the United States, but also will help resolve some of the U.S. internal problems."

"Accountability of President Bush," an editorial note in the popular rightist Urdu-language daily "Ausaf" (cir. 10,000) (01/13)

"It is not possible for the new U.S. administration to bring President Bush to justice, and if an inconsequential probe commission is formed to serve this purpose, it will certainly acquit Mr. Bush. He is such a president who is responsible for killing of hundreds of thousands innocent Muslims. He also brought shame on the American nation during his eight years period. He put the United States into a serious economic crisis."

"Commission to probe crimes of Bush administration" an editorial note in liberal Urdu daily "Express" (cir. 25,000) (01/13)

"Afghanistan's Taliban government had given refuge to Usama Bin Laden and his accomplices, but its penalty should not have been the occupation of the entire country and bloodshed there. No one would have objected if the U.S. had taken action only against Al Qaeda, but there was no justification of destroying Afghanistan... Bush administration policies also created grave problems for Iran, Syria, Sudan, Somalia and Pakistan. President-elect Obama's first act should be to seek an apology for crimes by the Bush administration; he should then institute an inquiry commission against President Bush and his partners. America's honor would be restored and the smaller nations' unrest would also be alleviated if Mr. Obama succeeds in penalizing the criminals responsible for destroying humanity."

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