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	FBIE-00	UTED-00	VCI-00	H-00	TEDE-00	IO-00	L-00
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	IRM-00	NCTC-00	FMP-00	BBG-00	R-00	EPAE-00	ECA-00
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 HQ USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL//CCPA// IMMEDIATE
 HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CCPA// IMMEDIATE
 JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
 DIA WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
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 AMEMBASSY LONDON
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 AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
 HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI

UNCLAS ISLAMABAD 003653

E.O. 12958: N/A
 TAGS: KMDR, KPAO, OIIP, OPRC, PGOV, PREL, PK
 SUBJECT: PAKISTAN MEDIA REACTION: NOVEMBER 20, 2008

SUMMARY: Reports of the "first drone attack in the settled area of the NWFP" killing a senior Al-Qaeda operative dominated headlines in all newspapers on Thursday. Newspapers also gave prominent coverage of Army Chief General Kayani's statement urging the NATO military officers to "halt drone incursions" into the Pakistani territory. Some major dailies also highlighted U.S. General McKiernan's remarks that he was "cautiously optimistic" about tripartite coordination among coalition forces, Afghan Army and Pakistani military. Reports on the assassination of an ex-chief of the Pakistan Army's elite commando force also received extensive coverage in all newspapers.

Several major dailies ran editorials criticizing the alleged U.S. predator attacks and missile strikes on Pakistani border areas. The independent English daily, "Dawn" noted that "there still exists a

trust deficit between the U.S. military intelligence operatives in Afghanistan and their Pakistani counterparts across the border." The Urdu daily, "Din" wrote: "There is no harm in Operation Lion Heart if it succeeds in curtailing terrorists' movement, restores peace in Pakistan, and brings an improvement in Pakistan-U.S. relations." However, another English language daily, "The Nation" urged the Government of Pakistan to persuade Washington that recourse to helicopter gunships, tanks and heavy artillery leads to the killing of more innocent people than terrorists who operate from the shadows." End Summary.

News Stories

1. "U.S. Adds Settled Area To Hit List: Al Qaeda's Arab operative killed in Bannu attack" "Dawn" (11/20)

"A suspected U.S. drone fired two missiles on a residential compound in Janikhel area of Bannu district on Tuesday night, killing four people and injuring four others, officials said. This was the first time that a drone intruded 70kms deep inside Pakistani territory and hit a target in the settled area of the NWFP."

2. "12 More Militants Killed In Bajaur." "The News" (11/20)

"Twelve more militants were killed and several others injured when security forces targeted their suspected hideouts in different areas of the troubled Bajaur Agency on Wednesday."

3. "Albright Advises Obama On Pak-Afghan Cooperation" "The News" (11/20)

"Former secretary of State Madeleine Albright has advised U.S. President-elect Barack Obama to help expand Pakistan-Afghanistan cooperation as part of efforts to curb militancy in the region. She also urged Obama to work towards cancelling out the depiction that the United States was hostile to Muslims."

4. "No Military Solution in Afghanistan, NATO agrees with Kayani" "Dawn" (11/20)

"NATO and Pakistan agree on the need for a 'comprehensive approach' to tackle the insurgency in Afghanistan and in Pakistan's tribal areas, NATO officials said following a first-ever meeting between Army Chief General Ashfaq Kayani and the alliance's influential defense committee. NATO defense chiefs agreed with General Kayani that there was 'no military solution in Afghanistan,' said Admiral Giampaolo Di Paola. The head of the NATO defense committee said the 26-nation alliance also backed General Kayani's assertion that

'Pakistan is part of the solution' to dealing with the problems facing Afghanistan." UNCLASSIFIED

5. "Kayani Urges Halt To Drone Incursions" "The News" (11/20)

"Chief of the Army Staff General Ashfaq Parvez Kayani on Wednesday urged top NATO military officers to halt unmanned combat aerial vehicle (UCAV) incursions into Pakistani territory, stressing the need for coordinated operations within respective national boundaries."

6. "U.S. Seeks Alternative Supply Routes to Afghanistan" "Dawn" (11/20)

"The United States is seeking alternative supply routes for NATO troops in Afghanistan, including a tortuous overland journey from Europe, The Washington Post reported on Wednesday. The United States currently uses the Karachi-Khyber Pass route for supplying 67,000 foreign troops stationed in Afghanistan, including 32,000 Americans. Nearly half of U.S. forces operate under NATO command."

7. "U.S. General Optimistic About Tripartite Coordination: Operation On Both Sides Of Border" "Dawn" (11/20)

"The United States and Pakistan are working on a strategy to squeeze Taliban and Al Qaeda militants from both sides of the Afghan border and eliminate them, says a senior U.S. general. Gen David D. McKiernan, who commands U.S. and NATO forces in Afghanistan, said he was "cautiously optimistic" about this growing tripartite coordination among coalition forces, the Afghan national army, and the Pakistani military."

8. "Pakistan Seeks \$25bn Investments from 'Friends'" "Dawn" (11/20)

"Pakistan has sought from friendly countries \$25 billion in investments for projects ranging from big and small dams to the development of FATA and madressah reforms. The Planning Commission has submitted a report containing details of the projects at a recent technical-level meeting held in Abu Dhabi with the Friends of Pakistan group."

9. "PAF to Acquire 36 Combat Aircraft From China: PAF Chief" "The News" (11/20)

"Air Chief Marshal Tanvir Mahmood says 5th generation aircraft will provide an extra punch to PAF." Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Tanvir Mahmood Ahmad on Wednesday said 36 high-tech combat aircraft (CF-20) would be inducted into the PAF fleet by 2010. The 21st Century - fifth generation - aircraft are of Chinese origin and

10. "Ex-Chief of Commando Force Gunned Down" "Dawn" (11/20)

"A former head of the army's elite commando force, Maj. Gen (retd) Ameer Faisal Alvi, and his driver were gunned down in Islamabad on Wednesday morning. Gen (retd) Alvi, who commanded the Special Services Group (SSG) during the first major assault on militants in South Waziristan in 2004, was killed near his home on the outskirts of the city."

11. "Tribal People Coming To Peshawar via Afghanistan" "Daily Times" (11/20)

"People fleeing from Bajaur and Mohmand agencies due the ongoing military operation there are coming to Peshawar through Afghanistan, an official at the Torkham border told 'Daily Times' on Wednesday. The official said more than two hundred people have crossed the border in one day. "We had to cross into the bordering areas of Afghanistan and cover a long distance to reach the border because security forces have blocked roads leading from the two agencies to Peshawar," a senior citizen from Mohmand Agency told Daily Times."

12. "Terror Probe May Harm Talks with Pakistan: BJP" "Dawn" (11/20)

"An Indian police probe into an army officer's alleged role in the Samjhauta Express blasts among other terror attacks could harm talks with Pakistan, India's main opposition party said on Wednesday. The Bharatiya Janata Party described ongoing investigations by the Maharashtra state police's anti-terrorist squad (ATS) as juvenile."

13. "Judge Defers Aafia's Case Decision Till Dec 17" "Dawn" (11/20)

"The judge hearing the case of Aafia Siddiqui, the Pakistani neuroscientist charged with firing on U.S. officials, deferred on Wednesday a decision on her competency to stand trial till Dec 17. At a conference hearing, Federal Judge Richard Berman asked defense lawyers and prosecutors to present their own findings on the mental status of Ms Siddiqui by Dec 17 before he could proceed with trial. Meanwhile, Pakistan's Ambassador Hussain Haqqani has sent a letter to the U.S. State Department, urging the U.S. authorities to allow Aafia Siddiqui to return home."

14. "Fading American Economic and Military Dominance - Lesser U.S. Role Foreseen In 2025" "Daily Times" (11/20)

"The top U.S. intelligence panel is expected to issue a snapshot of the world in 2025, in a report that predicts fading American economic and military dominance and warns of a nuclear arms race in

the Middle East - with the region labeled as 'arc of instability' over the next two decades." "The predictions come from a National Intelligence Council (NIC) report - a draft copy of which is titled 'Global Trends 2025: A Transformed World' - slated for release as early as Thursday. "The U.S. will remain the single most powerful country, although less dominant," according to a 'working draft' of the document."

Editorials/Op-eds

15. "For Better Coordination," an editorial in the Karachi-based center-left independent national English daily "Dawn" (cir. 55,000) (11/20)

"More controversy has come to surround the American Predator attacks and missile strikes on suspected terrorist targets in FATA and now even in settled areas of Pakistan. The claims and noises made in the aftermath of all such strikes by American and Pakistani officials in recent weeks do not match. The question remains: what does one make of the contradictory claims emanating from either side, or indeed a wish list that seems to go nowhere? Perhaps there still exists a trust deficit between the US military/intelligence operatives in Afghanistan and a section of their Pakistani counterparts across the border."

16. "Parliament Must Be Taken into Confidence on All Decisions," an editorial in the leading mass circulation centrist Urdu daily "Jang" (cir. 300,000) (11/20)

"The U.S. and Pakistani forces have launched a joint operation against militants at the Pakistan-Afghan border... Meanwhile credible sources in ISPR have affirmed that Pakistan and U.S. forces would take action in their own territories separately; however, coordination between the two sides is being improved. Nevertheless, the issue of U.S. drone attacks is a serious matter for our national sovereignty, independence, and safety of Pakistani citizens. And the entire Pakistani nation is very upset over this question. It is essential for the government to realize the seriousness of the state of affairs and initiate debate in the Parliament to take the elected representatives into confidence and evolve an appropriate strategy."

17. "Friends of Pakistan: Much Ado But No Cash Injections," an editorial in the country's premier business newspaper, "Business Recorder" (cir. 25,000) (11/20)

"To many this silence comes as no surprise. The reasons being cited for this are varied. Some believe that the Friends of Pakistan want

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to keep Pakistan on a tight leash in an effort to ensure that our government continues its commitment to the war on terror with little flexibility to undertake policies that are not supported by the international community. Others argue that Pakistan must first go on an International Monetary Fund (IMF) program which would force the government to set its house in order through adopting conditionalities that would have implications for improving governance as well as macroeconomic stability."

18. "Operation Lion Heart: The Need for Caution" an editorial in the Lahore-based independent Urdu daily "Din" (cir. 5000) (11/20)

"Pakistan has agreed to the joint [Pak-U.S] operation due to increasing pressure, and the growing tension in Pak-U.S. defense relations. There is no harm in Operation Lion Heart if it succeeds in curtailing terrorists' movement, restores peace in Pakistan, and brings an improvement in Pak-U.S. relations. However, we need to remain vigilant that American forces do not create more problems for Pakistan under the guise of this operation."

19. "Pak Army Gets Further Sucked In," an editorial in the Islamabad-based rightist English daily "Pakistan Observer" (cir. 5,000) (11/20)

"There was already an impression that the Pakistani forces were doing U.S. bidding in the name of war against terrorism. Previously, the US attacks inside Pakistani territory were considered to be unilateral acts of aggression and provocation and despite reports of

some sort of understanding the Pakistani authorities had been lodging protests over such incidents. But the latest disclosure means that drone and rocket attacks by US forces were now things of the past as the cooperation has been taken to the next level where the Pakistan Army would be aiding and assisting foreign invading forces in killing of our own people and destruction of their properties. Pakistan Army was already carrying out intense operation in Swat and tribal areas and now it would be sucked in further in the quagmire."

20. "Pak-U.S. Forces Joint Operation" an editorial in liberal Urdu daily "Express" (cir. 25,000) (11/20)

"It is Gen Petraeus' responsibility to inform his government that the Pakistani forces are performing admirably to control the extremists. Extremism cannot be controlled without Pakistan's cooperation. The U.S. will need Pakistan when the time for talks comes after the military operation. The U.S. is mistaken if it feels that it can resolve the Afghan issue without Pakistan's support. America will gain Pakistan's cooperation only when it respects its sovereignty."

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21. "Obama's Likely Approaches," an op-ed by in the Karachi-based center-left independent national English daily "Dawn" (cir. 55,000) (11/20)

"... Now, as regards to Pakistan, Obama has repeatedly acknowledged that the war on terror cannot be won without its full support and commitment and therefore has called for meaningful engagement with the democratic government in Islamabad, including meeting its security concerns.... As regards Pakistan the US has to give greater focus to strengthening its democratic institutions while recognizing that peace and stability in Afghanistan cannot be achieved at the expense of Pakistan's security interests...."

22. "Pushed into Quagmire," an editorial in the center-right national English daily "The Nation" (cir. 20,000) (11/20)

"... The much-trumpeted policy not only failed to crush the militants but has during the intervening four years spread their influence, earlier confined to the two Waziristan Agencies, to the other tribal areas also. The policy of reliance on shock-and-awe methods turned an otherwise peaceful Bajaur Agency into a hotbed of the militants.... Pakistan has to end the ongoing military operations at the earliest and seek a solution of the issue of militancy mainly through peaceful means as required by the resolution passed unanimously by Parliament. Islamabad has to persuade Washington that recourse to helicopter gunships, tanks and heavy artillery leads to the killing of more innocent people than terrorists who operate from the shadows. COAS General Kiyani, who discussed the issue of drone attacks with the NATO Secretary General in Brussels on Tuesday, rightly observed that only Pakistani forces had the right to take any action against terrorists in our territory."

23. "Joint Operation or...?" an editorial note in the Karachi-based, pro Taliban Jihadi Urdu daily "Islam" (cir. 15,000) (11/20)

"It is astonishing that the Pakistan Army has assumed a stance that Pakistani troops are helping the NATO forces to launched operation on Afghan territory, conversely ISAF is saying that the Pakistani troops helped maneuver in a Pakistani area. Now the people of Pakistan are forced to believe in the light of these conflicting statements that the U.S. might be allowed to launch ground attacks following aerial operations."

24. "Iftikhar Chaudhry's Rousing Welcome in the U.S" an editorial note in the second-largest, center-right nationalist Urdu daily "Nawa-i-Waqt" (cir. 125,000) (11/20)

"Justice Iftikhar Muhammad Chaudhry is given a rousing reception in

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the United States.... The government of Pakistan is not willing to reinstate the deposed Chief Justice. An impression is being created at official level that America will be annoyed if Justice Chaudhry is reinstated. Looking at the rousing welcome given to the Justice in the U.S. this does not seem to be the case; although it might have been so some time ago."

Patterson

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