

ACTION INR-00

|      |         |         |         |         |  |         |         |  |
|------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--|---------|---------|--|
| INFO | LOG-00  | AID-00  | AMAD-00 | A-00    | <span style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 60px; height: 15px;"></span> | INL-00  | DOTE-00 |  |
|      | PDI-00  | DS-00   | EAP-00  | EB-00   | EUR-00   | OIGO-00 | FAAE-00 |  |
|      | UTED-00 | VCI-00  | H-00    | TEDE-00 | IO-00  | LAB-01  | MOFM-00 |  |
|      | MOF-00  | VCIE-00 | DCP-00  | NSAE-00 | ISN-00   | OIC-00  | OIG-00  |  |
|      | NIMA-00 | EPAU-00 | PA-00   | PER-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  | CARC-00 | NFAT-00 | SAS-00   | FA-00   | SWCI-00 |  |

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O 030854Z NOV 06  
 FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4387  
 SECDEF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
 INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE  
 USMISSION USNATO IMMEDIATE  
 THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
 NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
 HQ USCENCOM MACDILL AFB FL//CCPA// IMMEDIATE  
 HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CCPA// IMMEDIATE  
 JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
 DIA WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
 AMCONSUL KARACHI  
 AMCONSUL LAHORE  
 AMCONSUL PESHAWAR  
 AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
 AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU  
 AMEMBASSY TASHKENT  
 AMEMBASSY ASHGABAT  
 AMEMBASSY LONDON  
 AMEMBASSY PARIS  
 AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
 HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI

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STATE FOR INR/R/MR, IIP/T, IIP/G/NEA-SA, SA  
 SA/PAB, SA/INS, SA/RA, SA/PPD, DRL  
 LONDON FOR POL/GOODRICH; PARIS FOR POL/HANSON  
 CENTCOM PUBLIC AFFAIRS-MAJ.BALDWIN/SGT. BAKER  
 USCINCPAC FOR POLAD AMBASSADOR HOLZMAN  
 SECDEF FOR PA

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: KMDR, KPAO, OIIP, OPRC, PGOV, PREL, PK

SUMMARY: Remarks of various leaders of religious parties' alliance implicating U.S. in the Bajaur incident figure prominently in the Pakistani newspapers on Friday (paras 4-5). While the government glibly contested the veracity of the allegation (para 3), a number of newspapers also report government's intention to take the country's parliament into confidence on this incident, which killed over 80 people (para 2).

A commentator in the centrist national English daily "The News" writes: "I may be wrong but I cannot believe that the Pakistan Army would kill in cold blood so many of its own people which included young children." (para 12). In its editorial on the incident Urdu daily "Mashriq" pointed out that Bajaur incident has left no other option for the extremists than to carry on their activities with more dedication (para 14). End Summary.

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News Stories  
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1. "Jaswant Says India Has To Live With US-Pakistan Ties" "Dawn" (cir. 55,000) (11/03)

"India will have to live with the fact that the US will continue to rely on Pakistan as a key ally in the war against terror, says India's former Minister for External Affairs Jaswant Singh. "The US has no option but to continue its policy towards Pakistan and therefore India would have to continue to pay a price," Mr. Singh told a meeting in Washington on Wednesday. Mr. Singh opposed Washington's efforts to act as an "external equalizer" in South Asia and urged the US to leave the region alone."

2. "Info On Bajaur To Be Made Public: PM" "The Nation" (cir. 20,000) (11/03)

"Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz on Thursday talking to newsmen said that the government is collecting more information regarding Bajaur operation and the same would be made public."

3. "Seminary Was Training Suicide Bombers: Sultan" "The News" (cir. 55,000) (11/03)

"Director General Inter Services Public Relations Major General Shaukat Sultan said the Madarassa in Bajaur was imparting suicide attack training and the Madarassa administration was warned before the operation to stop its activities. While talking to a private channel on Thursday, ISPR GD said prior to bombing the Madarassa its administration was warned to stop its activities but it did not pay

heed to the warnings and continued UNCLASSIFIED training."

4. "Government Covering For US Military Action In Bajaur: APC"  
"Dawn" (cir. 55,000) (11/03)

"The Deputy Chief of the Jamaat-e-Islami, Professor Ghafoor Ahmed, said that the killing of 83 people in the recent bombing on a seminary in Bajaur was one of the saddest chapters in the history of Pakistan through which the rulers had appeased their masters in Washington."

5. "Army Carried Out Dummy Attack After US Air Strikes: MNA" "The Post" (cir. 5,000) (11/03)

"Ameer Jamaat-e-Islami, Bajaur Agency Haroonur Rashid on Thursday alleged that Pakistan Army only showcased a dummy military action on a seminary after American drone planes hit a Madarassa with missiles that killed over 83 innocent students including three teachers. 'Pak army flew helicopters at the outskirts of the area after 20

minutes of US air strikes and carried out a dummy bombardment creating an impression that the seminary was being used as training camp for terrorist activities,' Haroonur Rashid told a news conference."

6. "Camera Crew Filming With US Army Injured" "The News" (cir. 55,000) (11/03)

"Two crew members of the National Geographic television channel who were injured in a landmine explosion targeting US troops in Afghanistan have been flown out to Germany and the US to receive advanced medical treatment."

7. "US 'Spy' Killed In Bajaur" "The News" (cir. 55,000) (11/03)

"A tribesman found dead in Bajaur Agency was suspected by militants to be a spy for the US military. Jan Mohammad, in his mid-40s, was allegedly killed by unknown militants on October 30, the day a seminary in Chingai village in Mamond area of Bajaur was hit by aerial strikes and 80 of its inmates were killed."

8. "State Department Talks Of A Lame Duck Bush" "The News" (cir. 55,000) (11/03)

"The State Department has joined many independent think tanks and polling organizations in discussing the chances of President George Bush becoming a lame-duck president after the November 7 polls, just five days away. The Washington File, an important component of the State Department web site, which records all government activity on a daily basis, interviewed several experts to discuss the election

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prospects and quoted these experts UNCLASSIFIED Bush becoming a lame duck president."

9. "US To Deploy Inspectors At Pakistani Ports" "Daily Times" (cir. 10,000) (11/03)

"The United States will soon deploy inspectors at Pakistani ports and airports to monitor passengers and cargo ships in a bid to prevent terrorist attacks on the country in future, a customs clearing agent on Thursday quoted senior Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) officials as saying during a briefing about new measures relating to shipments from Pakistan to the US."

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Editorials/Opinions  
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10. "Engaging The Taliban," an op-ed by Talat Masood in the Karachi-based center-left independent national English daily, "Dawn" (cir. 55,000) (11/03)

"... The rise of the Taliban in Afghanistan and parts of Pakistan is more of a phenomenon than a movement. Their resurgence is indicative of a failing state because people are falling back on extremist religious and nationalist groups to provide them security and livelihood, even if it means forgoing their basic rights."

11. "The Taliban Rise Again," an op-ed by Dr. Muzaffar Iqbal in the centrist national English daily, "The News" (cir. 55,000) (11/03)

"... Whatever the dynamics of local and international politics, Afghanistan is now heading toward a long drawn out war, with no end in sight. It is no more a Taliban war; it is an Afghan war against foreign troops - something that Afghans seem to have done throughout their history."

12. "Tragedy In Bajaur," an op-ed by Shafqat Mahmood in the centrist national English daily, "The News" (cir. 55,000) (11/03)

"... There is obviously more to this business than we are being made to believe. It is not as simple as Pakistan Army helicopters destroying a terrorist hideout in the early hours of the morning. I may be wrong but I cannot believe that the Pakistan Army would kill in cold blood so many of its own people which included young children. Its intelligence agencies obviously knew that this was a Madarassa and not a terrorist training camp in the classical definition of the term. Unless the army has drastically changed, I cannot believe the official version of the events."

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13. "Are Mayhem And Turbulence Temporarily?" editorial note in the second largest, Center-right nationalist Urdu daily, "Nawa-e-Waqt" (cir. 125,000) (11/03)

"... No one is ready to believe that the youngsters who were busy in saying prayers could be bombard by Pak Army. Pakistani nation is facing turmoil and unrest in the country, and this is not earning a good name to the present government. If President (Musharraf) wants to end this turmoil, he must not intensify conflicts (in tribal areas)."

14. "Bajaur Bombing - A Stumbling Block In Establishment Of Peace" an editorial in Peshawar-based Urdu daily, "Mashriq" (cir. 55,000) (11/03)

"... Undoubtedly, Pak Army is well capable to do anything, but it must not demonstrate these feats on its own soil. It is better to employ this competence against the adversaries. Bajaur incident has left no option to extremists to carry on their activities with more dedication."

15. "Admittance Of Defeat By NATO Commander" an editorial in the Karachi-based, pro-Taliban Jihadi Urdu daily, "Islam" (cir. 15,000) (11/03)

"... Taliban have demonstrated that the upright people of Afghanistan, despite their lack of resources and any support from the outer world, are in a position to overpower the mightiest force of the world. The U.S. defeat in Afghanistan and Iraq has shown that subjugating an independent nation by force is not acceptable even today."

16. "A Black Market In Abductions," an op-ed by Farhatullah Babar in the centrist national English daily, "The News" (cir. 55,000) (11/03)

"... The revelation that individuals and agencies personnel have been rewarded with millions of dollars for the arrests and detentions of terror suspects has raised concerns whether the un-audited rewards may actually lie behind arbitrary arrests and enforced disappearances. The question has become important as citizens continue to vanish without a trace."

17. "Keeping The Bomb Safe From Extremists," an editorial in the Lahore-based liberal English language daily, "Daily Times" (cir. 10,000) (11/03)

"... Pakistan says it has set up a fail-safe system of safety for its nuclear facilities, but any known estimates of how a state may achieve complete security of nuclear materials militate against such

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a claim. Apart from Pakistan's financial safeguard a completely fail-safe nuclear security, there are political risks run only by Pakistan as an Islamic state that cannot be ignored.... Nuclear weapons are 'irrational' devices that are expected to be controlled by rational mind. Nonetheless, many great thinkers of our

times have questioned the desirability of acquiring these weapons if they cannot be used and threaten humanity with death even in the hands of rational leaders. But what if these irrational devices were to fall in the hands of people whose worldview is based on irrationality, on faith rather than reason?"

18. "What Is The Logic Of Minimum Deterrence?" an editorial in the second largest, Center-right nationalist Urdu daily, "Nawa-e-Waqt" (cir. 125,000) (11/03)

"... Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz has assured the visiting Belgian Foreign Minister that Pakistan will not join in the arms race in the region, however it believes in minimum deterrence of the security.... Quite the opposite, Pakistan should advance its defense capabilities to deal with a clever and cunning archrival India. Only, then India will be forced to come on dialogue table."

19. "Israel & The Saudi Plan," an editorial in the Karachi-based center-left independent national English daily, "Dawn" (cir. 55,000) (11/03)

"Israel's acceptance of a peace plan, even with reservations, means nothing. In the past it has accepted and even signed agreements with much fanfare. Yet it sabotaged them all.... This background to Israel's attitude towards international agreements and the contempt with which it has treated all UN resolutions on Palestine must be taken into account in assessing Tel Aviv's guarded reaction to the Saudi peace initiative." Crocker

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