

SECRET

ACTION SCA-00

INFO	LOG-00	AID-00	AMAD-00		INL-00	DODE-00	DOEE-00
	PERC-00	DS-00	EAP-00	FBIE-00	VCI-00	H-00	TEDE-00
	INR-00	M-00	VCIE-00	NSAE-00	ISN-00	NSCE-00	NIMA-00
	MCC-00	GIWI-00	SCT-00	ISNE-00	DOHS-00	FMPC-00	SP-00
	SSO-00	SS-00	ASDS-00	BBG-00	IIP-00	SCRS-00	DSCC-00
	PRM-00	NFAT-00	SAS-00	SWCI-00	/000W		

B3

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P 200546Z JUN 06

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2225

INFO AMEMBASSY ALMATY PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ASHGABAT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BISHKEK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DHAKA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DUSHANBE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TASHKENT PRIORITY

AMCONSUL KARACHI PRIORITY

AMCONSUL LAHORE PRIORITY

AMCONSUL PESHAWAR PRIORITY

RELEASED IN PART

B1, 1.4(B), 1.4(D), B3, NSA50

S E C R E T ISLAMABAD 011675

NOFORN

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/19/2016

TAGS: PK, PREL, PTER

SUBJECT: FATA: MISSING PAKISTANI JOURNALIST FOUND DEAD IN
WAZIRISTAN

Classified By: Ambassador Ryan C. Crocker, Reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

1. (U) On June 17, Pakistani media reported that the body of Hayatullah Khan Dawar, a Pakistani journalist who has been missing since December 5, 2005, was discovered by local officials in North Waziristan on Friday, June 16. The Mir Ali Assistant Political Agent Muhammad Fida Khan told the "Daily Times" that the body was found in the Khaisor mountains, four kilometers south of Mir Ali. Fida Khan said that Hayatullah had been shot in the rear of his head, and that the body was hand-cuffed and looked very weak. A long beard suggests Hayatullah had been in captivity since his disappearance six months ago.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 REVIEW AUTHORITY: SHARON E AHMAD
 CLASSIFICATION: SECRET REASON: 1.4(B), 1.4(D)
 DECLASSIFY AFTER: 20 JUN 2021
 DATE/CASE ID: 27 JUN 2011 201000373

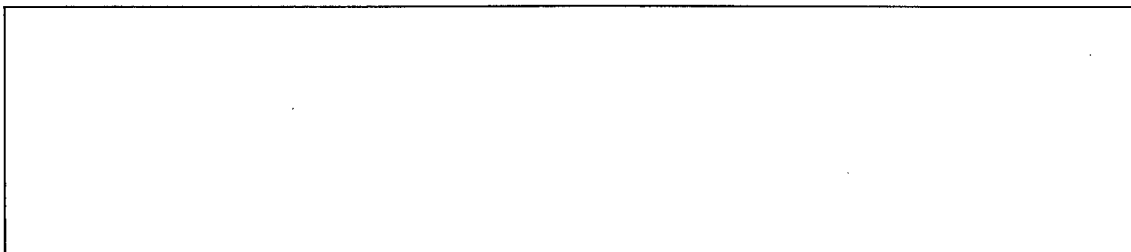
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2. (U) Hayatullah disappeared while working on an investigation of the death of Egyptian al Qaeda operative Hamza Rabia in Miran Shah, North Waziristan on December 1, 2005. Pakistani security agencies maintained that Rabia had been killed in a blast caused by bomb-making explosives in the house in which he was hiding. Hayatullah visited what remained of the house to investigate Rabia's death. The "Daily Times" described his photos of the wreckage as including "what some Western experts determined were parts of a Hellfire missile." Hayatullah's account, which was widely covered in Pakistan and abroad, speculated that the missile had been launched by a CIA drone. According to media accounts, Hayatullah's family maintains that he began receiving threats from "certain quarters" soon after the story broke, with an unidentified "political administration" official offering him three options: leave North Waziristan, stop reporting or accept a government job.

3. (SBU) News of Hayatullah's death has prompted a strong reaction, with sympathetic politicians turning out for demonstrations in several cities organized by the Tribal Union of Journalists and other media advocacy organizations. Both the English- and Urdu-language press have condemned the killing, which has raised more questions than it has answered: Who abducted Hayatullah? Why was he confined for so many months before being killed? Most press outlets have expressed deep skepticism regarding the government's claim that Hayatullah was kidnapped and executed by al Qaeda sympathizers. Although stopping short of accusing the USG, the majority have openly accused Pakistani security forces of complicity in the journalist's death, saying that government forces had more to gain by silencing Hayatullah -- whose reporting directly contradicted official accounts of Rabia's death -- than did tribal militants sympathetic to al Qaeda. Journalists point to the timing of the disappearance so soon after Rabia's death, the government's failure to launch a serious public investigation into the kidnapping, the coincidental discovery of the body soon after local officials told the family to expect "good news" and even the handcuffs binding the victim as evidence of government involvement in this crime.



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