

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  | NOTE-00 |
|      | PDI-00  | DS-00   | EAP-00  | EB-00   | EUR-00   | FAAE-00 | UTED-00 |
|      | H-00    | TEDE-00 | IO-00   | LAB-01  | L-00   | NEA-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  | SA-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   | NFAT-00 | SAS-00  |
|      | SWCI-00 | /001W   |         |         |  |         |         |

B3

-----85F28A 261104Z /38

O 261048Z JAN 06  
 FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7923  
 SECDEF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
 INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE  
 USMISSION USNATO IMMEDIATE  
 THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
 NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
 HQ USCENTCOM 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

UNCLAS ISLAMABAD 001248

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  
 SUBJECT: MEDIA SUMMARY: JANUARY 26, 2006

Summary: The statement by the U.S. Ambassador to India.

UNCLASSIFIED

regarding the Indian vote at the IAEA on the Iran's nuclear program is the major story of the day -- more than half of the English and Urdu newspapers carried the it as their lead item. Independent English daily, "Daily Times" reports that, the US Ambassador to India has said that "...if India does not vote against Iran's nuclear program" at IAEA "the fallout on the Indo-US nuclear deal in the US Congress will be 'devastating' and the initiative will 'die'." Second largest nationalist Urdu daily, "Nawa-e-Waqt" reports "A week before IAEA meeting on Iran issue, America has warned that if India does not vote against Iran in the meeting, America will abandon the nuclear treaty with India." (paras 27-28).

On the issue of the body search of Pakistani officials at New York Airport, "Din" quotes Senior Vice President of Pakistan Muslim League Akram Zaki saying "the norm in the U.S. is that the security staff does not let even a head of state pass by without security checking. He added that on one occasion, even Clinton was subjected to a search." However, another story in a small circulation Islamabad Urdu daily, "Pakistan" claims that "Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz has confirmed that on one occasion he himself made it clear to the U.S. immigration authorities that he represented his country and would rather go back home than being physically searched." (paras 17-20).

Editorial commentary continued to echo skepticism about the nature of U.S.-Pakistan relations. "The Nation," on Bush-Aziz meeting feels that "...it is difficult to see what concrete has been achieved, beyond the usual rhetoric we have been treated to since Pakistan offered 'unstinted support' in the wake of the 9/11 attacks...." Independent English daily, "The News" is pleased that "Regardless of the success of the talks, it's good to hear Mr. Bush reiterating the "vital and strategic" nature of his country's relations with Pakistan...." Independent English daily, "Dawn" recommends: "Pakistan must guard its sovereignty jealously. Fighting terrorists, foreign or homegrown, is Pakistan's responsibility. Foreign cooperation yes, but violation of our territory or air space must not be allowed." "Daily Times" warns "It appears that the red line has been drawn on how far President Musharraf can be trusted in Washington. The fallout in Pakistan, where a strong political consensus is developing against him and the US, will require a lot of damage control." (paras 32-44). End Summary.

# UNCLASSIFIED

-- News Stories

1. "Aziz Says US-Pakistan Ties 'Strategic, Vital'"  
"Dawn" (01/26)

"Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz on Tuesday night gave an upbeat assessment of his meeting with US President Bush noting that Mr. Bush had described America's relations with Pakistan as 'strategic and vital'. In a brief telephone interview before leaving Washington, Mr. Aziz did not say whether there was any forward movement on a deal on nuclear cooperation similar to the one given to India last year, but added: "The talks will continue in March when Mr. Bush visits Pakistan." On the issue of Bajaur and better coordination between US and Pakistan

in pursuing the war on terror, Mr. Aziz said: "We got assurances of better communication."

2. "Have Asked U.S. To Play Role In The Resolution Of Kashmir Issue; We Had Information About The Presence Of Foreigners In Bajaur: PM Aziz," "Nawa-e-Waqt", "Jang" (01/26)

"Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz has said that we have made it clear on America that it should play a role in the resolution of the Kashmir dispute. Our intelligence agencies had reports of foreigners' presence in Bajaur. Speaking to journalist on board the plane returning to Pakistan, the PM described the U.S. visit very successful and said that we have had open discussion with America on all the issues and they have concurred with our opinion."

3. "US Urged To Step Up Role In Kashmir Solution: PM"  
"Daily Times", "The News", "Pakistan Observer" (01/26)

"Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz has said that Pakistan has urged the United States to play a more pro-active role for the solution of the Kashmir issue. Talking to reporters on board his special plane while returning home on Wednesday, the premier called his week-long visit to the US "a great success", saying that he held detailed talks with the US leadership on regional peace and security, the war against terrorism, the Kashmir issue, defense, trade and economic relations, investment opportunities in Pakistan and interfaith harmony."

4. "Aziz Returns, Says Visit Successful: US Given List

"Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz has said that during his meeting with US President Bush, he has handed him over a list of Pakistan's defense needs, keeping in view its regional standing and special geographic and political conditions. Talking to newsmen on board his special plane while returning home Wednesday."

5. "Two Hundred Of 510 Million Dollars Of U.S. Aid For Quake Affected People Received: Prime Minister," "Jang" (01/26)

"Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz has expressed the pleasure that two hundred dollars of the promised 510 million dollars of U.S. aid for the earthquake victims would be received shortly. Talking to newsmen he said that this would enable Pakistan to expedite its quake relief efforts."

6. "Relations With Pakistan Are Excellent: US" "Daily Times" (01/26)

"US State Department spokesman Sean McCormak on Tuesday described US-Pakistan relations as 'excellent', saying the US had a fundamentally different relationship with Pakistan today than was the case five years ago. Talking to reporters at his daily briefing, he said that one of the turning points in the US-Pakistan relationship was President Musharraf's decision to join the US and the rest of the international community in fighting terror."

7. "Those Demanding Severing Of Ties With America Are Foolish: Sheikh Rashid" "Nawa-e-Waqt", "Jang" (01/26)

"Information Minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmed has said that ties with America would not be severed in any circumstances. Those making such demands are foolish."

8. "US Diplomats Call On AJK PM" "Pakistan Observer" (01/26)

"Two officers of the US Embassy Graham Under Coffer and Michael Mc Grady on Wednesday called on the AJK Prime Minister Sardar Sikandar Hayat at his office. On the occasion, AJK Prime Minister appreciated the resolve of the US government and people for extending financial and humanitarian support for the earthquake victims. Sikandar was of the view that the way the international community moved forward to extend help to the earthquake

victims was unprecedented, he said. UNCLASSIFIED

9. "Permission Not Needed To Attack Qaeda, Says WP"  
"Daily Times" (01/26)

"The Washington Post on Wednesday advised US President George W Bush to eliminate Al Qaeda and Taliban operations in Pakistan, if the targets could be located, "with or without General Pervez Musharraf's cooperation". The stinging editorial, appeared one day after the departure of Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz."

10. "Tripartite Commission To Discuss Bajaur Attack"  
"The News", "Jang" (01/26)

"A meeting of the Tripartite Commission, consisting of the chiefs of the armed forces of Pakistan, the US forces in Afghanistan and the Afghanistan army, has been convened in Rawalpindi early next month. The meeting to be held at the General Headquarters (GHQ) will discuss, besides other matters, the issue of the US air strike on the Damadola village of Bajaur Agency."

11. "Senate Condemns Bajaur Attack" "The News", "Dawn",  
"The Nation", "Pakistan Observer" (01/26)

"The opposition and the treasury in the Senate in a rare gesture of unity on Wednesday adopted a unanimous resolution to condemn the January 13 attack on the Damadola village in Bajaur Agency, terming it a violation of Pakistan's sovereignty. The carefully worded, yet strongest statement till date from the Pakistani side condemning the attack, stressed: "Maintenance of security inside the territory of Pakistan is the responsibility of Pakistani authorities. Such intrusion is not acceptable under any circumstances." But it avoided words directly implicating the United States as launcher of the attack."

12. "No Operation In US-Struck Bajaur, Says Ministry"  
"Daily Times" (01/26)

"The Interior Ministry on Wednesday rejected the reports that military operation was underway in Bajaur Agency, where 18 civilians were killed in a recent air strike by the US forces. "No military operation is being launched in Bajaur Agency or anywhere in Balochistan," Syed KamaI Shah, the interior secretary, told journalists after inaugurating a one-day workshop on human smuggling here

13. "We Will Now Go To Bajaur And Balochistan Accompanied By Hundreds Of Thousands Of People: Qazi Hussain Ahmad," (Din)

"MMA leader Qazi Hussain Ahmad has said that he would soon visit Bajaur and Balochistan along with MMA, ARD and other patriotic political parties. He said that this time he would be accompanied by hundreds of thousands of citizens. He said that if the opposition parties decide upon it earnestly, we can get rid of Pervez Musharraf in one month."

14. "'Fear Of Al Qaeda' Keeps Bajaur Elders From Joining Administration Against Militants" "Daily Times" (01/26)

"The Bajaur Agency administration is finding it difficult to get tribal chieftains on its side against wanted militant Maulvi Faqir Muhammad, who is suspected to be sheltering Al Qaeda-linked militants in the border area with Afghanistan. Sources close to the Bajaur administration said that they had tried three times since the US air strike on Damadola village on January 13 to raise a lashkar, or tribal army, to track down Muhammad or make him leave Bajaur. "They (tribal chieftains) are wary of getting on board because speaking openly against Al Qaeda can invite serious problems from the militants," the sources said."

15. "U.S. Spy Drone "Global Hawk" in Search of Usama and Aiman Al Zawahiri: Newsweek," (Khabrain) (01/26)

"U.S. magazine "Newsweek" writes in story that the CIA is using the latest unmanned spy plane "Global Hawk" in the border area between Pakistan and Afghanistan where Usama bin Laden and Aiman Al Zawahiri are suspected to be present.. The report says that the plane has not been used anywhere else."

16. "There is No Contradiction In Government Statements On Bajaur: Those Who Want Relations With U.S. To Be Severed Are Stupid: Sheikh Rashid," (Din)

"Federal Information Minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmad has said that we will not sever relations with the U.S.; those who make such demands are stupid. Talking with journalists after a Traffic Police function in Islamabad, he said that there is no contradiction in

UNCLASSIFIED  
government statements on Bajaur. He said that the President had only expressed the possibility of foreigners having been killed in Bajaur."

17. "Had Made it Clear on American Officials that I would Prefer Return to Pakistan on Physical Search: Shaukat Aziz" "Nawa-e-Waqt" (01/26)

"Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz has said that he had refused to present himself for body search on an attempt by American immigration to search him and said that as a representative of Pakistan he would prefer return to his country on the search. The U.S. visit was more successful than expected, he said"

18. "Overall, The PM'S Trip Was A Success: Akram Zaki; Security Staff's Humiliating Attitude With The Pakistani Delegation And Body Search Is Nothing New; God Willing,

This Should Happen To An American Delegation In Pakistan," "Din" (01/26)

"Senior Vice President of the Muslim League and former Secretary General Akram Zaki has said that the Prime Minister's visit to the U.S. was a success. On a question regarding the security staff's humiliating treatment of the PM's delegation, Akram Zaki said that that the norm in the U.S. is that the security staff does not let even a head of state pass by without security check. He added that on one occasion, even Clinton was subjected to a search. He said this is nothing new; during President Musharraf's trip, Major General Rashid Qureshi's shoes were taken off as well. On the statement by Mr. Tariq Azeem that any U.S. delegation coming to Pakistan would also be subjected to such a search, Zaki said I hope to God that this happens and the government goes ahead and does the same; however, in our country even if an ordinary white foreigner shows up, we end up giving him protocol."

19. "I Have Made It Clear To The U.S. Immigration Authorities That I Would Go Back Instead Of Being Searched Physically: Prime Minister" "Pakistan" (01/26)

"... Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz has confirmed that on one occasion he himself made it clear to the U.S. immigration authorities that he represented his country and would rather go back to his country than being physically searched. However, the Prime Minister said that the regulations of physical search in the U.S. are

different from Pakistan. Replying to a question about the special treatment received by the prominent personalities of the U.S. (when they visit Pakistan), he said that Pakistan's regulations are different. 'Physical search (in the U.S.) is a normal security procedure; it was not an unusual checking. Therefore, it didn't insult the respected members of the Parliament', he said. 'Nothing extraordinary happened', he added...."

20. "Showing Video Of Pakistan Delegation Being Searched Is Regrettable: Prime Minister," "Khabrain" (01/26)

"Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz has said that a private TV channel's airing of a video of the Pakistani delegation undergoing a body search is regrettable. Talking with a private TV channel in Washington, the PM said that the rules regarding [security] checking in the U.S. are different from those in Pakistan."

21. "Physical Search Of The PM Delegation Has Exposed The Pak-U.S. Friendship: Fazalur Rehman, MMA Leader " "Ausaf" (01/26)

"... Maulana Fazalur Rehman, leader of opposition in the National Assembly and the Secretary General of MMA has said that the insulting treatment of the members of the Prime Minister's delegation has exposed the friendship between Pakistan and the U.S. Talking to reporters in Karachi, Maulana Fazalur Rehman said that the Prime Minister's U.S. visit is not going to be productive...."

22. "Security Agencies Raid Islamic Trust's Relief Camp" "Daily Times" (01/26)

"Security agencies raided the base camp of Al Rehmat Trust in Haripur on Sunday night and took 25 workers, including the director of the camp, and five truckloads of relief goods into custody, trust officials told "Daily Times."

23. "American Diplomats Team Arrives In Mianwali To Inspect Kalabagh Dam Site" "Pakistan" (01/26)

"A team of American diplomats has arrived in Mianwali under extraordinary security arrangements to look into possible implications in the event of Kalabagh Dam's construction. This team of diplomats would meet



politicians of Mianwali and important persons of the area. According to details, this team of American diplomats is headed by Victoria Taylor and the purpose of the visit is to glean maximum information from political and social personalities [on the dam], possible implications and the impact of the dam's construction on the local population. The team arrived in Mianwali on Wednesday and met with District Nazim Obaidullah Shadikhel and DCO. According to sources, earlier this diplomatic team had tried to visit Mianwali for the purpose, but District Police Officer had not allowed the team in the district. However, after the lapse of few days the team has succeeded in getting into Mianwali. According to sources, the District Nazim is playing the host of the American diplomats, who has lodged them in Maple leaf Cement Rest House. Former PML-N National Assembly Member Inamullah Khan Niazi would host a dinner for the team on Thursday (today), who especially left Lahore for Mianwali for the purpose. According to sources, Mianwali has become very important for Americans for some sensitive issues other than Kalabagh Dam. That is why the team chose to visit Mianwali, despite the fact that President General Pervez Musharraf has not announced immediate construction of Kalabagh Dam."

24. "U.S. Is Planning To Play A Dangerous Game In The Region: Aslam Baig, Former Army Chief " "Ausaf" (01/26)

"... Former Army Chief General (r) Aslam Baig has said that the U.S. will not reduce its troops in Afghanistan because it is planning to play a dangerous game in this part of the world. Participating in a TV program, the former Army Chief said that, to defend itself, Pakistan should enhance its relations with China...."

25. "Govt. Downplays 'Unfriendly' Statements From Kabul" "The News" (01/26)

"With the expected visit of Afghanistan President Hamid Karzai to Pakistan in the middle of February, a possible meeting between Karzai and President Musharraf in Davos, Foreign Minister Khurshid Kasuri attending the London Conference on Afghanistan at the end of the month and a Foreign Secretary level political dialogue in Kabul, the government here is downplaying recent "unfriendly" statements from Kabul as reported by the media. Foreign Office officials and diplomatic sources talked to "The News" about Wednesday's AFP report from Kabul, headlined "Karzai lauds protests against Pakistan".

UNCLASSIFIED

26. "US May Opt For 'Limited Strikes' On Iran" "Dawn"  
(01/26)

"The United States has military options to use against Iran even though it is concentrating now on a diplomatic campaign to head off any Iranian move to develop a nuclear bomb. For most experts a bombing strike against a limited number of suspected nuclear sites is the most likely option being considered. The GlobalSecurity.org consultancy said there are about two dozen suspected nuclear facilities in Iran and that the 1,000-megawatt Bushehr nuclear plant would be a prime target."

27. "Pro-Iran Vote Can Kill Indo-US Civil Nuclear Deal: Mulford" "Daily Times", "The Nation", "The News", "The Post" (01/26)

"US Ambassador to India David C. Mulford has said if India does not vote against Iran's nuclear program at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on February 2, the fallout on the Indo-US nuclear deal in the US Congress will be 'devastating' and the initiative will 'die'. In an interview with India's leading news agency Press Trust of India on Wednesday, Mulford said ideas put forth by India on the separation of its civilian and military nuclear establishments had not met the "test of credibility".

28. "If India Doesn't Vote Against Iran, Nuclear Deal Will Be Abandoned: America" "Nawa-e-Waqt" (01/26)

"A week before IAEA meeting to take up Iran issue, America has warned that if India did not vote against Iran in the meeting then America would abandon the nuclear treaty with India. U.S. Ambassador to India David Mulford said speaking with Press Trust of India that America is not satisfied with the statement on bifurcating nuclear program into civil and military components. In the event of India not voting against Iran, the Congress would not approve of it."

29. "Pakistan Opposed To Taking Iran Row To UN" "The Post" (01/26)

"Information Minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmad has said Pakistan is opposed to take Iranian nuclear standoff to the UN Security Council (UNSC) and wants that it is defused at diplomatic level. "Pakistan wants the Iranian nuclear dispute to be addressed at diplomatic level and

it is opposed to take the issue to the USA. He said this while addressing a ceremony in connection with parents day in Bahria Foundation College Westridge campus Wednesday and later talking to the newsmen...."

30. "No Divide Between US And China On Iran: Zoellick" "Daily Times" (01/26)

"A senior US official gave a positive assessment of China's role in the standoff over Iran's nuclear program on Wednesday, saying Washington and Beijing had no major differences on the issue.... US Deputy Secretary of State Robert Zoellick said China's concerns were about 'tactics and timing' and there was no difference in 'core principles'."

31. "Lahore Marathon: We Will Not Even Let Men Participate If Women Are Allowed To Run: All Parties Conference" "Nawa-e-Waqt" (01/26)

"MMA has announced that come what may, women would not be allowed to run on January 29 on the pretext of marathon. If Government attempted to do so then we would not let even men participate in the event. MMA Deputy Secretary General and Jamaat-e-Islami Punjab Ameer Liaqat Baloch said this in All Parties Conference held under the auspices of Jamiat Ahle Hadith here in Lahore on Wednesday."

-----  
Editorials/Opinions  
-----

32. "Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz Meets President Bush," an editorial in the second largest Urdu daily "Nawa-e-Waqt" (01/26)

"Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz has only sought America's attention to the Kashmir issue. Will America ask India to solve a Muslim country's problem? America is in a state of war against Muslims in this region.... Pakistan should not even think of cooperation with America and Israel against Iran, because after Iran American guns would turn to Pakistan."

33. "PM's Trip to the U.S., an editorial in the center-right Urdu daily "Pakistan" (01/26)

"The real success of Prime Minister Aziz's visit to the U.S. would be measured only after the outcome of

34. "Death of Al Qaeda Members in Bajaur," an editorial note in the center-right Urdu daily "Pakistan" (01/26)

"President Musharraf has said that clues of Al-Qaeda operatives killing in Bajaur have been found.... The objection of the government and the people is that America interfered in Pakistani territory, so even if Al Qaeda members were killed in Bajaur, it does not justify the [U.S.] attack. The government should adopt a clear stance on this issue."

35. "Bush-Aziz Meeting," an editorial in the populist Urdu daily "Khabrain" (01/26)

"The need is for the U.S. to fulfill Pakistan's defense requirements and help it become economically stable. Pakistan should also be given civil nuclear reactors for peaceful purpose."

36. "Pak-U.S. strategic Partnership," an editorial in the independent Urdu daily "Din" (01/26)

"It now remains to be seen how fruitful and productive the PM's visit was in terms of convincing U.S. investors to come and invest in Pakistan."

37. "Proclamation To Flush Out Terrorists" an editorial in Popular Islamabad-based Urdu daily, "Ausaf" (01/26)

"... Following his meeting with PM Shaukat Aziz, U.S. President Bush has said that the U.S. and Pakistan would work together to flush out the terrorists.... Terrorism is a U.S. concern, but Pakistani rulers are extending cooperation to America without taking into consideration the sovereignty and integrity of the country. It is

important to address the causes of terrorism and Pakistan should cooperate with the U.S. on equal terms...."

38. "Expectations From Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz's Visit To U.S.," an editorial in the leading mass circulation Urdu daily, "Jang" (01/26)

"The cordiality expressed by President Bush and Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz at the conclusion of their meetings reflects an increase in the already existent multidimensional cooperation and relations between the

two countries. It is clear the Prime Minister has helped in further strengthening the ties between Washington and Islamabad and making them more meaningful. These would further be boosted by President Bush's visit to Pakistan."

39. "Shaukat-Bush Meeting," an editorial in the center-right national English daily, "The Nation" (01/26)

"Mr. Shaukat Aziz is not likely to be just as optimistic after his meeting with President Bush as he was before it with regard to Pak-US ties and Washington's outlook in the South Asian region. If there has been genuine progress on sensitive issues, they have been kept from the world.... Therefore, it is difficult to see what concrete has been achieved, beyond the usual rhetoric we have been treated to since Pakistan offered 'unstinted support' in the wake of the 9/11 attacks...."

40. "Aziz's US Tour," an editorial in the Lahore-based liberal English daily, "The Post" (01/26)

"... The fact remains that despite the praise of US relief efforts after the devastating earthquake of October 8, which earned the Americans some brownie points with the people of Pakistan, the Bajaur incident and the unapologetic US attitude since has created an uproar and given the appearance of the two sides being at cross-purposes in the anti-terror campaign. While President Bush refused to be drawn on the issue.... Whether in Washington, Oslo, or back home, the scenario seems strangely reminiscent of a government at cross purposes with itself, or at the very least badly lacking in coordination, at least at the level of public statements. The temptation to laugh this off is tempered only by the thought that these are serious, grave matters on which consistency and care would go a long way towards helping our case."

41. "Aziz's Talks With Bush," an editorial in the centrist national English daily, "The News" (01/26)

"Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz described his talks with President Bush on Tuesday as "very good." Regardless of the success of the talks, it's good to hear Mr. Bush reiterating the "vital and strategic" nature of his country's relations with Pakistan.... After last year's warming of US-Indian ties, with the tilt towards India involving the military and nuclear spheres, it had begun to appear as if the Bush administration was losing

interest in Pakistan, its Non-NATO ~~UNCLASSIFIED~~ laudable of Mr. Aziz to have raised concerns with Mr. Bush about the attack, as the prime minister mentioned in remarks to journalists later, as well as in an interview. "We have conveyed our concerns and

apprehensions."... The Prime Minister's talks may have gone well despite the strain produced by the attack, but it would be difficult for Pakistani-US relations to stay at the present level if there is a similar incident again."

42. "Relations With U.S. And Exigencies Of Country's Independence, Stability," an editorial in the Karachi-based pro-Taliban/Jihad Urdu daily, "Islam" (01/26)

"Statements emanating from both the camps after Bush-Aziz meeting have nothing new to offer. In the wake of the Bajaur incident the forthcoming visit of President Bush to Pakistan would not be of any interest for the people of Pakistan and there is all likelihood that it would be seen with a degree of displeasure at the public level. This visit is not expected to improve the relations between the two countries. The soft corner among the public for the U.S. created due to the American relief efforts has been washed away with the Bajaur incident and recent insulting attitude meted out to the Prime Minister's delegation."

43. "Pak-US Strategic Relations," an editorial in the Islamabad rightist English daily, "Pakistan Observer" (01/26)

"US President George W. Bush has termed Washington's ties with Islamabad as 'strategic' and 'vital' for the United States and expressed the desire to further strengthen these relations.... Such statements have, however, been made in the past as well, but the ground realities seem to be totally different. Pakistan is apparently fed more on rhetoric than in practice. There persists a public perception in Pakistan that we are non-NATO ally, but special favors are showered on New Delhi.... President Musharraf's statement in Oslo that Washington has assured Islamabad that the incidents like the one in Bajaur will not recur and that Pakistan's interests will not be harmed in future is welcome, but it would have been far better if the statement on this count had been made by the US President or officials during Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz's interaction with them. Interestingly, President Bush has confirmed his

44. "Outcome Of President And Prime Minister's Visits" an editorial in Popular Urdu daily, "Express" (01/26)

"... President Musharraf has said that the U.S. assured Pakistan that it would not go against Pakistan's interest, and would respect Pakistan's sovereignty.... Despite the fact that Pakistan has apprehended hundreds of Al-Qaeda fugitives, if the U.S. violates the sanctity of Pakistani borders, it is deplorable. It is an indication of an impending danger to Pakistan.... No international law allows anyone to cross the border of another country on any pretext...."

45. "US & South Asia," an editorial in the Karachi-based center-left independent national English daily, "Dawn" (01/26)

"... There are already signs that Islamabad has begun to feel frustrated over the lack of a meaningful Indian response to the many constructive proposals Pakistan has made for resolving the issue. The American president's

visit has aroused hopes because it will take place under completely different circumstances compared to President Bill Clinton's visit to South Asia in March 2000.... China's emergence as an economic superpower could also be a source of peace and stability in the region and the world seems not to have been given due attention in Washington and New Delhi, for both appear to consider China a threat. In formulating and evolving its foreign policy, Pakistan has to be mindful of this reality.... Pakistan must guard its sovereignty jealously. Fighting terrorists, foreign or homegrown, is Pakistan's responsibility. Foreign cooperation yes, but violation of our territory or air space must not be allowed."

46. "Insult As Per Routine," an editorial in the Karachi-based, right-wing, pro-Islamic unity Urdu daily, "Jasarat" (01/26)

"Pakistan Ambassador to the U.S. Jehangir Karamat has said that the body search of the members of Prime Minister's delegation was 'a matter of routine.' He is right to the extent that the U.S. has made the insult of Pakistani nation as its routine and we have wholeheartedly accepted it."

47. "Protest Of Pakistani delegation," an editorial

note in the second largest Urdu daily (Nawa-e-Waqt)  
(01/26) UNCLASSIFIED

"... Senator Tariq Azeem's statement is welcoming that if any U.S. delegation comes to Pakistan, they will be treated in the same manner as Pakistani delegation was treated at New York Airport.... This kind of treatment is an insult to the nation and it is also a serious violation of human rights and diplomatic norms...."

48. "Bajaur Accusations Recoil On Pakistan," an editorial in the Lahore-based liberal English daily, "Daily Times" (01/26)

"... Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz went to the US saying he was sure there were no Al Qaeda leaders in the village where the Americans struck. But there were "leaks" in the Washington press that contradicted the Pakistani position.... The "leaks" in Washington are coming thick and fast. One official has revealed from his record of intercepted phone messages: "You can draw the Afghan-Pakistan border on a map by looking at the pattern of signal intercepts. The bad guys chatter away in Pakistan, feeling they are safe. That area lights up like a Christmas tree. Then they go silent when they cross into Afghanistan, where they fear getting hit." In contrast, President Bush talked to Mr. Aziz for two hours and described relations with Pakistan as "vital and strategic". It appears that the red line has been drawn on how far President Musharraf can be trusted in Washington. The fallout in Pakistan, where a strong political consensus is developing against him and the US, will require a lot of damage control. There is a need to remove the cobwebs from President Musharraf's policy vis a vis Afghanistan. His operations in South Waziristan have not lent any clarity to his policy of fighting Al Qaeda.... If President Musharraf is double-minded on the policy in the West, it is more dangerous for Pakistan than Afghanistan."

49. "Bajaur Incident: Government's Meaningless Talk,"

an op-ed by Irshad Ahmad Haqqani in the leading mass circulation Urdu daily, "Jang" (01/26)

"Since the Government of Pakistan has been toiling to find a justification of U.S. attack on Bajaur, therefore President Musharraf has find a prop by saying that there were signs of presence of al Qaeda people in Bajaur. Even if true, does that give U.S. the right to conduct



missile attack in the area? Does that constitute UNCLASSIFIED  
action inside Pakistan's territorial boundaries? The  
President has also said that the U.S. has assured that  
it would not work against the interests of Pakistan.  
President Musharraf maybe a U.S. partner on war on  
terror but is he in a position to say that the interests  
of Pakistan and the U.S. were absolutely identical at  
each and every stage of action against al Qaeda. The  
point is that we don't have relations with the U.S. on  
an equal footing. The U.S. has a certain degree of  
superiority over Pakistan while dealing with it. An  
example of it could be found in the fact that the U.S.  
Under Secretary of State Nicholas Burns recently visited  
New Delhi. He could only meet the India Foreign  
Secretary and nobody above the rank but in Pakistan all  
the top government officials met him with open arms."

50. "Heap Of Evidences Against Ourselves," an editorial  
in the Karachi-based, right-wing, pro-Islamic unity Urdu  
daily, "Jasarat" (01/26)

"President General Pervez Musharraf has become a U.S.  
approver against his own country and nation after 9/11.  
He turned the jihad in Kashmir into to cross-border  
terrorism and said that Pakistan would stop it; he built  
a case against the country by leveling charges against  
Dr. A. Q. Khan; and now he says that that foreigners  
were in fact present in Bajaur at the time of U.S.  
attack. Now it has been proved beyond doubt that  
President General Musharraf was involved in the Bajaur  
incident and the action was carried out with his full  
knowledge. In the presence of General Musharraf,  
Pakistan does not need any external enemy."

51. "Iran And American Pangs," an editorial in the  
sensationalist Urdu daily, "Ummat" (01/26)

"Attacking Iran is not as simple as the U.S. considers.  
What the U.S. does not understand is that an attack on  
Iran would push back its nuclear program by few years  
but the entire Iranian nation, which is already against  
the U.S., would join ranks for securing nuclear  
technology. Iran is neither a terrorist country nor its  
ruler a dictator. Iran is the only Muslim country that  
is not ready to budge on its nuclear program under U.S.  
duress." Crocker

NNNN