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ACTION INR-00

INFO	LOG-00	AID-00	AMAD-00	A-00		INL-00	NOTE-00
	PDI-00	DS-00	EAP-00	EB-00	EUR-00	FAAE-00	UTED-00
	H-00	TEDE-00	IO-00	NEA-00	DCP-00	NSAE-00	ISN-00
	OIC-00	OIG-00	NIMA-00	EPAU-00	PA-00	PER-00	GIWI-00
	ISNE-00	IRM-00	SA-00	FMP-00	BBG-00	R-00	EPAE-00
	ECA-00	IIP-00	SCRS-00	DSCC-00	PRM-00	DRL-00	NFAT-00
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 FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3998  
 SECDEF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
 INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE  
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 THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
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 HQ USCENCOM MACDILL AFB FL//CCPA// IMMEDIATE  
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 JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
 DIA WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
 AMCONSUL KARACHI  
 AMCONSUL LAHORE  
 AMCONSUL PESHAWAR  
 AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
 AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU  
 AMEMBASSY TASHKENT  
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 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  
 SUBJECT: SUBJECT: MEDIA SUMMARY: DECEMBER 03-05, 2005

Summary:

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

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Whether or not the 'foreign Al-Qaeda Network' killed in North Waziristan was Hamza Rabia, the head of operations for the al-Qaeda network, remained an issue of debate in the Pakistani media during the weekend. Although President Musharraf, who is currently visiting Kuwait, more than once confirmed that Hamza had been killed, stories printed in the Pakistani dailies continued to raise two questions: was it really Hamza; who killed him? Most dailies in Pakistan reported today President Musharraf saying, "Yesterday I said (his death) was 200 per cent confirmed. Now, I say it is 500 per cent confirmed" ("The News"). Urdu daily "Ausaf" reported that "Quoting an unnamed CIA official, NBC reported that al-Qaeda No. 3 Abu Hamza was killed in a rocket attack and the American CIA fired the rocket. The U.S. agency fired the missile from a drone, NBC claimed." However, the same paper also reported that NSA Hadley refused to confirm the reports by saying "the U.S. is currently assessing reports of the killing of al-Qaeda suspect Abu Hamza, however at this stage, we are not in a position to officially confirm his death."

Another story in the prestigious, independent English daily, "Dawn" quotes the Pakistani Interior Minister, Aftab Ahmed Khan Sherpao telling AFP "It is a big blow to Al Qaeda"... and that "certainly there are some foreigners hiding there." (paras 2-4, 7-8)

Several editorials take note of the departure plans announced by NATO forces. Surprisingly, the sensationalist Jihadi Urdu daily, "Ummat" decided to thank NATO by saying "Now that their return has been decided, one should not be stingy in admitting and acknowledging their role and great services they have rendered during their stay in Pakistan." Another Urdu daily "Jasarat" the party-organ of the leading religious political party of the country, "Jamat-i-Islami" still has doubts and fears from the NATO forces: "February is when their return is expected which is still far away. Much could happen before that." However, the largest circulation and most-read independent Urdu daily, "Jang" counsels that now that an official clarification has been made by the Pakistani government "all sorts of doubts and suspicions about the presence of NATO troops in Pakistan should come to an end." (paras 9-11) End summary.

-- News Stories

1. "Aziz Lauds NGOS' Help To For Quake-Hit People,"

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"Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz Sunday appreciating role of the civil society to provide help to the victims in the earthquake areas said the NGOs played a very important and effective role in the devastated areas of NWFP and Azad Kashmir. Talking to a delegation of the International Rotary Club here at the Prime Minister's House, he lauded efforts of the Rotary Club in different fields especially in providing relief in the affected areas...."

2. "Pakistan Sure Rabia Is Dead, US Not," "The News" (12/05)

"President Pervez Musharraf insisted in Kuwait on Sunday that Hamza Rabia, the head of operations for the al-Qaeda network, had been killed. "Yesterday I said (his death) was 200 per cent confirmed. Now, I say it is 500 per cent confirmed," Musharraf told state-run Kuwait News Agency (KUNA). In Islamabad, Interior Minister Aftab Sherpao and Information Minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmed also confirmed the death of Rabia "in an explosion in North Waziristan", saying the contradictory reports were not true. "Pakistan has no doubt that Hamza Rabia was killed in the explosion," Rashid told newsmen. "There is no doubt that Hamza Rabia and his two bodyguards had died, while some other persons were injured in the explosion," he added...."

3. "It's Good That Al-Qaeda Leader Abu Hamza Is Dead, But We Cannot Confirm It: Stephen Hadley, U.S. National Security Advisor" "Ausaf" (12/05)

"... Stephen Hadley, the U.S. National Security Advisor has said that the U.S. is currently assessing reports of the killing of al-Qaeda suspect Abu Hamza, however at this stage, we are not in a position to officially confirm his death. He said that if he (the person killed) is really the same person, then it's a good news. 'Abu Hamza was a dangerous man, and after the detention of Abu Faraj, he was the chief of operations for al-Qaeda in Pakistan', he added...."

4. "Al-Qaeda Suspect Abu Hamza Was Killed By CIA: NBC News Claims" "Ausaf" (12/05)

"... American TV network NBC-News has claimed that al-Qaeda suspect Abu Hamza was killed in North Waziristan by the CIA. Quoting an unnamed CIA official, NBC

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reported that al-Qaeda No. 3 Abu Hamza (U) fired a rocket attack and the American CIA fired that rocket. The U.S. agency fired the missile from a drone, NBC claimed...."

5. "Israel Had Gen Zia Killed: Former U.S. Ambassador [to India]," "Pakistan" (12/04)

"A former U.S. Ambassador to India John Gunther Dean has revealed that Israel had Pakistan's former president Gen Ziaul Haq killed. This revelation has been made in an article in an American journal World Policy Journal. Gunther Dean was U.S. Ambassador to India in 1988. According to the article, Dean feels that there is a possibility of Israeli secret service Mossad's involvement in Zia's killing. When Dean presented his point of view before the U.S. State Department and insisted on a detailed investigation into Indo-Israeli linkage and Zia's assassination, he was termed as mentally unfit and removed from diplomatic service."

6. "U.S. Ambassador's Statement Regarding Zia's Killing Cannot be Ignored: Politicians," "Pakistan" (12/05)

Raja Zafarul Haq, Chairman, Muslim League (N), has said that the government should have launched a full-fledged inquiry into the incident. However, even now when a responsible person, who was a U.S. ambassador, is making such a statement it should not be ignored.... Retired Gen. K.M. Azhar said that these are speculations, as it is not yet known who was behind the air crash. [He added that] Israel might have been involved as latest

technology was used and if any one has such modern technology after the U.S. and western countries, it is Israel. However, he added, it is a tragedy that there has been no investigation so far."

7. "Militant, Soldier Killed In South Waziristan," "The News" (12/05)

"An unidentified militant was killed and another captured after they shot dead an Army soldier on Sunday in Shakai area of South Waziristan. Confirming the incident, government officials and tribal sources said the captured militant was being interrogated to find out more about his network and the men harboring them. By late afternoon, the arrested militant and the bodies of the two slain men were shifted to Wana. It wasn't known if the captured

militant would then be shifted to Bannu or Peshawar for investigation. Tribal sources said the two militants, sitting in ambush, fired at and killed a soldier who had come to a spring from his nearby military outpost in Mandata Teet Raghzai in Shakai area on Sunday morning to fetch water. The troops retaliated and an exchange of fire took place. One of the militants was killed and the other was captured...."

8. "Foreigners Still In Waziristan, Says Minister," "Dawn" (12/05)

"Interior Minister Aftab Ahmed Khan Sherpao said on Sunday that the death in north-eastern Pakistan of an Egyptian described as a leading Al Qaeda operative was a big setback for the terror network. "It is a big blow to Al Qaeda," Mr. Sherpao told AFP, adding that operations were continuing to track down Al Qaeda members in North Waziristan where Hamza Rabia is said to have met his end. Asked if other key Al Qaeda members were still hiding in the area, the minister replied: "We just don't know, but certainly there are some foreigners hiding there." Officials have said that Hamza was killed with four other militants while handling explosives late Wednesday...."

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Editorials/Opinions  
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9. "Return Of NATO Forces In Peace, Safety," an editorial in the sensationalist Urdu daily, "Ummat" (12/03)

"If the presence of NATO forces in Pakistan would not have been declared a threat to the country's independence, security and sovereignty and they would not have been made the target of criticism, then maybe they would have got an extension in their stay notwithstanding the huge expenditures being incurred on their upkeep. Now that their return has been decided, one should not be miser to admit and acknowledge their role and great services they rendered during their stay in Pakistan."

10. "Stay Of NATO Forces Till February," an editorial in the Karachi-based, right-wing, pro-Islamic unity Urdu daily, "Jasarat" (12/03)

"The sudden arrival of NATO forces in Pakistan was quite

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dubious and the suspicions are still hovering around. February, when their return is expected, is still very far away and there are chances that much could happen in December and January."

11. "Return Of NATO Forces: Clarification Of Foreign Secretary, " an editorial in the leading mass circulation Urdu daily, "Jang" (12/03)

"Not only in Pakistan, but elsewhere also the NATO troops have taken part in the relief and rehabilitation activities of people affected by natural calamities. Now that an official clarification has been made that they are not going to stay beyond February next, all sorts of doubts and suspicions about the presence of NATO troops in Pakistan should come to an end."

12. "Ties with the US," an editorial in the Karachi-based center-left independent national English daily, "Dawn" (12/04)

"... Will history repeat itself and the US end its current involvement with Pakistan when it suits it? Already, the focus of America's concerns seems to be shifting away from Afghanistan, as is evident from its consistent pleas with NATO to play a greater role there. Will that mean that Islamabad will be asked to fend for itself once again? What the US needs to realize is that Pakistan's geographic location and the western orientation of its institutions give it a special position at the meeting place of South Asia, southwestern Asia and the Gulf. In this region - extending from the Gulf to the Mediterranean - the US has special economic and geopolitical interests. Unfortunately, Pakistan's domestic scene, marked by the absence of democratic institutions, inhibits its relations with western democracies. The repeated military interventions in politics have been compounded by the concerns over the shadow which talibanism has been casting over Pakistan. While the US has in no small measure contributed to the rise of religious militancy in Pakistan in the eighties, certain sections of the army cannot be excused for patronizing extremist parties even after the USSR had withdrawn from Afghanistan. This had a disastrous effect on Pakistan's domestic scene. While a lasting political, economic and cultural relationship with the US is in Pakistan's interest, we must as a nation put our house in order before we expect other nations to take us seriously and respect us as a

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13. "Bush, A Despicable Person," an editorial in Popular Islamabad-based Urdu daily, "Ausaf" (12/05)

"... According to an opinion poll held in six Arab countries including Jordan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, UAE and Morocco, 78 percent Arab people have expressed their dislike of President Bush. Maryland University and Zogby International Group carried out the poll. President Bush has become a despicable personality in the world just because of his hegemonic policies. Adolph Hitler is the most despicable person in the world, but it looks that U.S. President Bush is soon going to become the most despicable person in the world...."

14. "Defense and Stability" an editorial in Second largest national daily, "Nawa-e-Waqt" (12/05)

"... The U.S. attack on Afghanistan and Iraq, and its threats against Syria and Iran are highly objectionable, but India and Israel are also perpetrating state-terrorism in Kashmir and Palestine. They (India and Israel) neither care about the UN resolutions, nor they are ready to pay heed to OIC appeals. If the Muslim world wants a decent place in the world, they must get rid of the U.S. control. They must set up their own defense alliance, like the NATO... If we continue to be a part of the U.S. led crusade against the Jihadi elements, it (U.S.) will definitely use us to destroy the Muslim world...."

15. "U.S. Demand For A Sikh State, Khalistan" an editorial in Islamabad-based Urdu daily, "Jinnah" (12/03)

".... According to an Indian daily, 'Asian Age', U.S. Congressman Dan Burton has asked India and Pakistan to initiate dialogue on the establishment of an independent Sikh state Khalistan... It is clear to every one that Pakistan never supported the idea of a separate Sikh state; also it is an internal matter for India. Dan Burton may not have expressed his personal opinion; this proposal might have explicit support of the U.S. administration. May be, the U.S. is using this issue as a pressure tactic over the Indian government.... The U.S. should refrain from entangling itself in these unnecessary issues, and fulfill its responsibility as a

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superpower to resolve the Kashmir dispute

16. "The Fate Of Lone Super Power In Iraq," an editorial in the Karachi-based, right-wing, pro-Islamic unity Urdu daily, "Jasarat" (12/04)

"Iraq has become the graveyard f Americans. This is when the resistance is totally indigenous and devoid of any foreign assistance or support. Despite that the lone super power of the world is facing the music for its actions in Iraq."

Crocker

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