

[Terrorists slaughter 18 injured colleagues](#)

News, 1 July 2009

ISLAMABAD: Security forces on Tuesday stated that the militants in the Biha Valley of Swat had slaughtered 18 of their own wounded comrades, as they could not be moved out along with the retreating miscreants. "It has been reliably learnt that during the clearance of Biha Valley, 18 wounded terrorists, who could not be taken to safety, were slaughtered by their own people on orders of their commanders," an ISPR statement said on Tuesday

http://www.thenews.com.pk/arc_default.asp

[Mangla repairs to take two months, at least](#)

News, 1 July 2009

LAHORE: The Monday's short-circuiting of 10 turbines at the Mangla Hydro Power Station will take at least two months for repair, The News has learnt. The entire power plant came to a grinding halt after the mishap, which, the sources revealed, was the result of Mangla managers' attempt to push the worn-out system beyond limits, taking the total generation to 1,150 MW against the normal 1,000 MW. The original 'oil-filled' cables, having outlived their utility, could not survive the extra load, leading to the disaster. The Wapda had already awarded the tender for the replacement of these underground oil-filled cables. These cables, joining the turbines with the national grid, had a lifespan of 30 years and should have been replaced till 199

http://www.thenews.com.pk/arc_default.asp

[Warplanes pound militant positions in NWA](#)

News, 1 July 2009

PESHAWAR/MIRAMSHAH: The government finally reacted to the militants' brazen terrorist activities in North Waziristan Agency (NWA) by targeting the suspected positions of the Hafiz Gul Bahadur-led Taliban fighters by warplanes on Tuesday. Also, fearing losses in the likely military operation against the militants, hundreds of Utmanzai tribal families started migration to relatively safer places in towns of Bannu, Lakki Marwat and Peshawar. Some of the families living on the Pak-Afghan border villages like Madakhel, Dattakhel and Lowara Mandi even crossed into neighbouring Afghanistan's Urgoon area, where an Afghan official welcomed the displaced tribal families and gave \$300 to each family

[Nawaz demands Musharraf's trial](#)

News, 4 July 2009

LONDON: Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Quaid Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif on Friday asked the PPP-led government to take a look again at the Charter of Democracy (CoD) he had signed with late Benazir Bhutto to get Pakistan on a truly democratic path or else the loser would be the State. Talking to the Pakistani media here, Nawaz devoted most of his interaction castigating former president Pervez Musharraf, who fearing uncertainty about his future in Pakistan, had taken up a permanent residence in London, only a stone's throw from the posh abode of Nawaz Sharif himself

[Pak-Afghan border needs a fence like US-Mexico: Gilani](#)

News, 4 July 2009

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani on Friday sought the support of

the United States to work out a permanent solution for uncontrolled, illegal crossings, particularly of militants and terrorists, and drug trafficking across the Pakistan-Afghanistan border. Gilani was talking to US Secretary for Homeland Security Janet Napolitano, who called on him here at the PM House on Friday. Referring to Janet's initiative, as governor of Arizona, of erecting a wall between the US and Mexico border, the prime minister said a similar pattern of fencing between Pakistan and Afghanistan could be implemented to stop infiltration and drug trafficking

[13 die in SWA drone attack](#)

News, 4 July 2009

WANA: Thirteen people were killed and seven others injured in a US drone attack in the troubled South Waziristan Agency (SWA), while eight persons died when fighter planes blitzed a hotel in North Waziristan Agency (NWA) on Friday. Tribal sources said a US drone fired three missiles at the office of Mufti Noor Wali Mehsud in Serwakai Tehsil at 9 am, killing 13 persons present in the office and injuring seven others. It was reported that Mufti Noor Wali had left the office 15 minutes prior to the attack to attend a Jirga. The injured were admitted to a private clinic, where four of them were stated to be in critical condition. The militants surrounded the area after the attack and nobody was allowed to approach the site

[Pakistan may appeal against Saeed's release; Move to clear the air ahead of Indo-Pakistan talks](#)

Hindu, 4 July 2009

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan government is preparing to file a "leave to appeal" petition against the release of Lashkar-e-Toiba founder and Jamat-ud-dawa chief Hafiz Saeed in the Supreme Court soon. Official sources said the papers for the petition were already finalised and may be filed by both the Punjab and federal governments before the Supreme Court as early as Saturday. The move is expected to help to clear the diplomatic air ahead of the next round of India-Pakistan meetings in Egypt later this month, at which the Prime Ministers of the two countries are to hold talks, following a meeting between their Foreign Secretaries at the same venue

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/07/04/stories/2009070456181400.htm>

[Is Lashkar the new al-Qaida?](#)

Times of India, 5 July 2009

NEW DELHI: The evidence is tumbling out of the closet: Pakistan's creation Lashkar-e-Taiba is not merely allied to al-Qaida but can now be described as the new al-Qaida. With the UN Security Council listing LeT leaders Arif Qasmani, Mohammad Yahya Mujahid and Abu Mohammed Ameen al-Peshawari as terrorists allied to al-Qaida, yet another veil is being ripped off Pakistan's terror claims. The three, banned under a UN Security Council resolution adopted on June 29, are not mere footsoldiers of the Lashkar. In fact, the resolution brings out their importance for LeT and al-Qaida

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/Lashkar-fast-emerging-as-new-al-Qaida/articleshow/4735818.cms>

[26 militants killed in Orakzai blitz](#)

News, 5 July 2009

PESHAWAR/WANA: Fighter planes and gunship helicopters on Saturday heavily blitzed suspected positions of militants in the Taliban-controlled Orakzai Agency, killing 26 militants a day after a military helicopter crashed in the area. Military spokesman Maj-Gen Athar Abbas confirmed the bombing on suspected positions of militants in the Orakzai Agency. He said the action was taken as a reaction to the attack of militants on security forces and a rescue team on Friday

http://www.thenews.com.pk/top_story_detail.asp?Id=23097

EDITORIAL: Focusing on the 'internal threat'

Daily Times, 5 July 2009

Addressing the 91st Officers Commissioning Parade at the Pakistan Naval Academy in Rawalpindi, the chief of the army staff (COAS), General Ashfaq Kayani, said Friday: "While external threats continue to exist, it is the internal threat to Pakistan that needs immediate attention". And to face up to the internal threat, he added, the army needed unity and support of the people: "With the nation's full support, we will succeed in our fight against terrorism"

http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\07\05\story_5-7-2009_pg3_1

Petitions against Saeed's release filed in Pakistan court

Hindu, 8 July 2009

ISLAMABAD: After the hiccups of the last few days, the government petitions against Hafiz Saeed's release are finally with the Pakistan Supreme Court, and may be heard later this week. The Pakistan federal government and the Punjab provincial government successfully filed their separate petitions in the Supreme Court on Tuesday against the Lahore High Court order of June 2, ordering the release of Mr. Saeed, the founder of the banned Lashkar-e-Taiba, which is blamed for the November 2008 Mumbai terrorist attacks

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/07/08/stories/2009070860531000.htm>

WB paints gloomy picture of Pakistan power sector

News, 8 July 2009

ISLAMABAD: The World Bank presents an extremely gloomy picture of Pakistan's power sector that is marred by corruption and inefficiency but sells electricity to the public for a price that is 60 per cent higher than that of India and 40 per cent more than that of Bangladesh. A draft report on "Pakistan's Investment Climate" issued in March this year by the World Bank reveals that Pakistan has become the worst performer in the world after Egypt in respect to the waiting period for a new connection. Regarding massive corruption in the provision of electricity connections, the report disclosed: "A stunning 84 per cent of firms that applied for connection had to make informal payments in order to obtain electricity services."

http://www.thenews.com.pk/arc_default.asp

US drone kills 14 militants in SWA

News, 8 July 2009

PESHAWAR/WANA: Fourteen suspected militants, including two senior commanders, were killed and several others injured in an attack by US spy plane on Zangara

village of the Ladha subdivision in the troubled South Waziristan Agency (SWA) on Tuesday. Tribal sources told The News from the restive tribal region that two US spy planes were seen flying over the area after the missile attack on Zangara village. The town is inhabited by the Shabikhel sub-clan of the Mehsud tribe.

[3 drones target Taliban convoy, 48 killed](#)

Daily Times, 9 July 2009

PESHAWAR: At least 48 Taliban were killed in two separate drone attacks – one of which was carried out using three drones to target a Taliban convoy – in a stronghold of Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) chief Baitullah Mehsud on Wednesday, according to officials and residents. At least 40 Taliban were killed when a five-vehicle convoy – en route to Sararogha from Ladah – was targeted by three drones from as many sides, said security officials from Wana over the telephone. They said Punjabi Taliban were riding in two of the vehicles while the rest were occupied by local Taliban

http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\07\09\story_9-7-2009_pg1_2

[Magistracy system to be revived on provinces' demand : LG elections postponed](#)

Daily Times, 9 July 2009

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani on Wednesday announced that the local government (LG) system would be abolished in August and administrators would be appointed in place of nazims to run LG affairs until fresh elections, a date for which would be decided later. The prime minister said the old executive magistracy system would be restored

http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\07\09\story_9-7-2009_pg1_1

[Editorial: Waning power of Taliban](#)

Daily Times, 9 July 2009

The news coming in from the regions formerly dominated by the Taliban clearly indicate a change in the security situation in Pakistan. Received by a "new mind" in Pakistan, the reports represent a turning of the tide and, more significantly, a change of strategy in the centres of national power. President Asif Ali Zardari, addressing the bureaucrats in Islamabad Tuesday, made some "candid admissions" that the Taliban policy of Pakistan in the past was wrong: "the terrorists of today are the heroes of yesteryear". He described the so-called "Taliban policy" when he said: "Militancy and extremism emerged on the national scene and challenged the state not because the civil bureaucracy was weakened and demoralised, but because they were deliberately created and nurtured as a policy to achieve some short-term tactical objectives". This articulation of "change" through the "redefinition" of old policy was needed although it has come only after the "new policy" of confronting the Taliban was actually executed on the ground

http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\07\09\story_9-7-2009_pg3_1

[Sarkozy links Afghan success to Pakistan](#)

Daily Times, 9 July 2009

PARIS: French President Nicolas Sarkozy said on Wednesday the international

community will not succeed in Afghanistan if it fails in Pakistan. "I will go to Pakistan before the end of the year," Sarkozy said in an interview with France 5 television to be broadcast on Monday. "Pakistan is a nuclear power and we cannot allow it to fall into terrorists' hands," Sarkozy warned. "France supports the Pakistani authorities," he added. "We have launched an in-depth collaboration. It is in our interest that Pakistan succeeds in its struggle against the Taliban." Pakistani troops have been pressing a battle to dislodge the Taliban that has displaced nearly two million people. Washington alleges the Taliban hide out in the mountains of Pakistan along the Afghan border, plotting attacks on Western targets in Afghanistan

http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\07\09\story_9-7-2009_pg7_11

Pakistan admits to creating militant groups

Hindu, 9 July 2009

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has, for the first time, acknowledged at the highest level that militant groups were created and nurtured by it for "tactical" objectives. Speaking to retired civil servants, who met him on Tuesday night to discuss national issues, President Asif Ali Zardari said militants and extremists had been "deliberately created and nurtured" as a policy for "short-term tactical objectives."

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/07/09/stories/2009070957160100.htm>

G8 leaders back Pakistan in war against terror

Daily Times, 10 July 2009

L'AQUILA: The Group of Eight (G8) leaders on Thursday expressed solidarity with Pakistan in its fight against the Taliban and called on Afghanistan to ensure credible and safe elections reflecting the people's will. The G8 summit in Italy said in a statement on Wednesday that they "stand with Pakistan" in its fight against the recent surge in Taliban activity in the country's northwest, where the military is trying to push back a growing insurgency.

http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\07\10\story_10-7-2009_pg1_5

IDPs to return from 13th: PM

Daily Times, 10 July 2009

ISLAMABAD: The return of internally displaced persons (IDPs) to their homes will begin from July 13, Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani announced on Thursday. Addressing a joint press conference with Information Minister Qamar Zaman Kaira, Gilani said the government had achieved the targets of the military operation in Malakand division. "We have achieved the targets," Gilani said, however he made it clear that the army would remain in the areas beyond the end of the operation

http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\07\10\story_10-7-2009_pg1_6

Editorial: Sad goodbye to local governments

Daily Times, 10 July 2009

After a meeting with heads or representatives of Sindh, Balochistan, the NWFP, Azad Jammu & Kashmir, the Northern Areas and Punjab, Prime Minister Yousaf Raza Gilani announced Wednesday that the Local Government elections, due in the current year, stood postponed till further decision in this regard by the provinces. Meanwhile, the

local bodies (LBs) would be run by administrators appointed by the provincial governments from out of the state bureaucracy. (Local government elections are held every four years and the last ones were held in August 2005.)

http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\07\10\story_10-7-2009_pg3_1

Forces kill 54 Taliban in FATA

Daily Times, 10 July 2009

DERA ISMAIL KHAN/ LAHORE/KHAR: Pakistani jets killed 12 suspected Taliban in South Waziristan and 39 in Orakzai Agency on Thursday as troops in Bajaur Agency also killed three Taliban. Intelligence officials said that in South Waziristan, jets pounded suspected Taliban hideouts in four villages in Ladha and Kani Guram areas. They said the bodies of 12 Taliban had been pulled out from destroyed houses where they were staying. At least four hideouts were destroyed in the strikes in South Waziristan. In Orakzai Agency, 39 Taliban were killed and eight injured in airstrikes that targeted Taliban hideouts in Chapri Feozkhel, Bahram Garh, Girajona and Astarsam areas, a private TV channel reported. In Bajaur, security forces raided Taliban hideouts in various areas, killing three Taliban and wounding five. The security forces targeted various areas of Charmang valley in Nawagai tehsil and Kohimor area. Troops also destroyed an important Taliban hideout in Kohimo

http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\07\10\story_10-7-2009

14 militants killed in Bajaur clash

Dawn, 11 July 2009

KHAR, July 10: Fourteen militants and two army personnel were killed in a clash in Nawagai tehsil of Bajaur tribal region on Friday, officials said. They said security personnel were on a search operation in Charmang area of the tehsil when they came under attack. The ensuing clash continued for about an hour. Several militants were killed in the fighting, said an official. Lieutenant Jehangir Ahmed and Lance Naik Ghulam Mustafa laid down their lives and five soldiers suffered injuries.

<http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/the-newspaper/front-page/14-militants-killed-in-bajaur-clash-179>

10 Taliban die in Zhob

Dawn, 11 July 2009

QUETTA, July 10: At least 10 Taliban were killed and several others injured in a clash with security personnel in the Sambaza area of Zhob district on Friday. Official sources told Dawn that a group of Taliban attacked a security post near the Afghan border, killing one soldier and injuring two. Security personnel cordoned off the area and returned fire. "We have information about the death of 10 Taliban in the fierce gunbattle," a security official in Quetta said

<http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/the-newspaper/front-page/gilani-says-local-govts-illegal,-unconstitutional-179>

Suspected US missile attack kills three

Dawn, 11 July 2009

DERA ISMAIL KHAN, July 10: A suspected US missile strike hit a communications centre of the Taliban on Friday, killing at least three people, intelligence officials said. The attack was the latest in a string of similar strikes by suspected US drone

aircraft in recent weeks to target Baitullah Mehsud and his network of militants. Two missiles struck a communications centre on Friday night belonging to Mehsud's group in the Paindakhel region of South Waziristan, three intelligence officials said on condition of anonymity

<http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/the-newspaper/front-page/suspected-us-missile-attack-kills-three-179>

[Trial of Mumbai attackers likely next week: Malik](#) **News, 12 July 2009**

ISLAMABAD: The government said on Saturday it would "probably" put on trial next week the five people accused of involvement in last year's terror attacks in the Indian city of Mumbai, which killed 166 people. "The trial of the five accused, who have been arrested, is probably going to start next week," Interior Minister Rehman Malik told reporters in Islamabad after meeting Indian Deputy High Commissioner Manpreet Vohra

http://www.thenews.com.pk/top_story_detail.asp?Id=23217

[Provinces to decide fate of local govts: Gilani](#) **News, 12 July 2009**

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani said on Saturday that local governments came under the purview of the provinces and it was up to them to decide their fate. Talking to reporters after the inauguration of the Margalla railway station here, he said it was up to the provincial governments to appoint administrators of local governments as well as to take the decision on the fate of local governments and that he had nothing to do with it. He said he had held a meeting with the chief ministers, the AJK prime minister and the chief executive of the Northern Areas on a uniform system of local governments in the country and would send the recommendations of the meeting to President Asif Ali Zardari for consideration

http://www.thenews.com.pk/top_story_detail.asp?Id=23218

[Harsh reality comes home to IDPs](#) **Dawn, 12 July 2009**

SULTANWAS (Buner), July 11: Crammed into rickety vans with electric fans and sacks of flour roped to the roof, the first of the two million displaced people have begun returning to their homes after the army said it had expelled Taliban militants from most of their strongholds. The refugees have spent the past two months in crowded camps and squeezed into houses with relatives and friends south of the war zone, and are eager to restart their lives. The government must now quickly restore electricity and water — and prevent the militants from coming back

<http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/the-newspaper/front-page/harsh-reality-comes-home-to-idps-279>

[Mullen seeks world support for Pakistan](#) **News, 17 July 2009**

NOWSHERA: US Joint Chiefs of Staff Admiral Mike Mullen on Thursday praised the role of Pakistan in the war against terror, saying the United States and the whole world should support Pakistan to eliminate militancy and terrorism from the region. During his first visit to the camp of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Jalozai near

Nowshera, he said Pakistan was a close ally and playing a key role in the global war on terrorism. He praised the response of the Pakistani nation and the government to such a huge challenge

[Eight more militants killed in Swat](#)

News, 17 July 2009

PESHAWAR: Security forces on Thursday killed eight more Taliban militants in the Loi Namal area of Matta in the Swat valley. The Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said that security forces carried out search and clearance operations in parts of the valley. "Security forces conducted a search operation in area around Loi Namal and Pansarat and killed eight terrorists, including local commander Bilal," the ISPR claimed. The militants had infested Matta Tehsil and had established several hideouts. A number of tunnels and hideouts were unearthed in Matta Tehsil. Security forces have also wrested the headquarters of the Taliban — Peuchar. They are still busy in search operations in parts of the troubled valley

[India and Pakistan to 'delink' action on terror from dialogue](#)

Hindu, 17 July 2009

Sharm-el-Sheikh: The leaders of India and Pakistan took a modest step towards thawing the bilateral relationship, frozen since the Mumbai terrorist attacks, with Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and his Pakistani counterpart Yousaf Raza Gilani, agreeing that dialogue between their two countries "is the only way forward." And though the joint statement issued after their meeting here on the sidelines of the Non-Aligned summit said nothing about when and how the Composite Dialogue process would resume, the two Foreign Secretaries have been tasked with meeting "as often as necessary" in the run-up to a review by the Indian and Pakistani Foreign Ministers in New York this September

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/07/17/stories/2009071757750100.htm>

[Where is Kashmir, ask Pakistani media](#)

Hindu, 17 July 2009

ISLAMABAD: The true import of the India-Pakistan joint statement following the meeting of the Prime Ministers of the two countries in Sharm-el-Sheikh seemed not to have sunk in fully here yet, with immediate reactions tending to pick instead on why there was no mention of Kashmir in the joint statement. As evident from the statement, India has made several significant shifts, including an agreement to continue with the composite dialogue format against the earlier thinking that a new framework was required for engaging with Pakistan post-26/11. Most importantly, there was an agreement that terrorism and talks must be delinked

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/07/17/stories/2009071760021000.htm>

[Musharraf: India, Pakistan were close to agreement on 3 issues](#)

Hindu, 18 July 2009

New Delhi: India and Pakistan came tantalisingly close to an agreement on Kashmir and two other contentious bilateral issues when Pervez Musharraf was in power. Asked during an interview with Karan Thapar for the TV programme "Devil's Advocate" whether the two countries were close to an agreement, the former General and President said: "Yes, absolutely. On all three issues — Kashmir, Siachen and Sir Creek."

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/07/18/stories/2009071861321000.htm>

[PPP-PML-N marathon talks at Raiwind](#)

News, 18 July 2009

LAHORE: President Asif Ali Zardari and PML-N Quaid Nawaz Sharif, during their marathon meeting here on Friday, reached consensus on repealing the 17th Amendment, securing the reserved seats for women and the joint electorate in the light of an accord, reached between the two parties under the Charter of Democracy. The PML-N leader reportedly also asked the president to improve the government's performance or else growing public anger might pose a grave threat to democracy in the country. The two leaders, along with their close aides, had a lunch together at Nawaz Sharif's Raiwind residence and discussed a number of issues of national and international significance.

[PM's adviser opposes Diamer-Bhasha Dam](#)

News, 18 July 2009

ISLAMABAD: Adviser to the Prime Minister on Water Kamal Majidullah on Friday shocked the authorities concerned and development planners when he vehemently opposed the construction of \$11.8 billion Diamer-Bhasha Dam in a meeting of the Central Development Working Party (CDWP), The News has learnt. The meeting was chaired by Planning Commission Deputy Chairman Sardar Aseff Ahmad Ali. The regime, since long, has been claiming that work on the dam portion will kick off in the current year, but the adviser placed his own government in an awkward position by coming down heavily on the decision to construct the dam, arguing the country had just water of 106 million acre feet (MAF) and the government should go for the dam only when the country had 142 million acre feet of water

[US drone attack kills five in NWA](#)

News, 18 July 2009

PESHAWAR/MIRAMSHAH: Five militants were killed and four others sustained injuries in a drone attack on a suspected hideout of Taliban fighters in Badar village near Gharium, about 30 kilometres from Razmak in the North Waziristan Agency on Friday. Sources told The News that a CIA-operated spy plane fired two missiles at the house of a local cleric, Maulana Abdul Majeed. The Badar village near Gharium is located on the border between North Waziristan and South Waziristan tribal region. According to sources, the five militants killed in the drone attack had come from the adjacent South Waziristan and were affiliated with the Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) chief Baitullah Mehsud

[More IDPs return home](#)

News, 18 July 2009

PESHAWAR/MINGORA: On the fifth day of repatriation, an estimated 67,823 internally displaced persons (IDPs) of 9,689 families returned to Mingora and different towns and villages of Buner on Friday as four persons, including two soldiers and a militant, were killed in Swat Valley. As thousands of IDPs were streaming into Mingora, two bodies, one of a militant, were found dumped in the city. It was a routine scene in this city before the operation. The Green Chowk was dubbed as Khooni Chowk after bodies of the Taliban opponents or government officials were used to be dumped here to terrify the people. Locals here identified a body at Gulshan Chowk to be of militant Abdul Ghaffar of Charbagh area. It was unclear as to who had killed the militant. Another corpse was found in College Colony

[Taliban resurface in parts of Buner district](#)

News, 18 July 2009

PESHAWAR: Taliban militants resurfaced in parts of the Buner district during the last several days, carrying out armed patrol on roads besides establishing a checkpoint in Pacha Killay, locals told The News on Friday. The reports about the reappearance of the militants emanated from the district at a time when the people, displaced by the Taliban arrival and the subsequent military operation, are returning to their homes. "My brother had gone back to his home after the start of the IDPs' return, but the situation there was still precarious and the Taliban were active, which forced him to leave Buner again," a resident of a village near Pir Baba said, requesting anonymity

Dismantle terror outfits, Hillary tells Pakistan

Hindu, 19 July 2009

Mumbai: United States Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said on Saturday the U.S. was supportive of the steps that India and Pakistan were taking to tackle terror. "India is a sovereign state, capable of protecting its interests. Any decision between India and Pakistan to explore issues is up to the two governments. The U.S. is not involved in promoting any particular position," she said. Asked at a press interaction at the Taj Mahal Palace and Tower hotel here whether the U.S. would step up pressure on Pakistan, Ms. Clinton did not give a direct reply. She called upon Pakistan to dismantle terror outfits such as the Lashkar-e-Taiba

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/07/19/stories/2009071957460100.htm>

Kabul, Islamabad agree to boost border controls

News, 19 July 2009

KABUL: Afghanistan and Pakistan vowed on Saturday to work together in the fight against an insurgency gripping both nations, promising boosted border controls and closer cooperation on arresting terror suspects. Interior Minister Rehman Malik told a press conference held jointly with his Afghan counterpart, Mohammad Anif Atmar, that mistakes had been made "by both sides in the past" in the fight against militants.

http://www.thenews.com.pk/top_story_detail.asp?Id=23338

India given proof of its hand in Balochistan: PM Says Pakistan fighting against terrorism on its own

News, 19 July 2009

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani on Saturday said Pakistan was fighting the war on terror for its own cause irrespective of whether Washington was pleased or not. "Terrorism is a menace and we are determined to root out this menace. We are very serious about it," he said while commenting on the recent statement of US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. He was addressing a press conference on his return home on Saturday after attending the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) summit at Sharm el-Sheikh, where he also met Indian Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh on the sidelines of the summit

http://www.thenews.com.pk/top_story_detail.asp?Id=23342

Lakhvi mastermind of Mumbai attacks: Pak admits in dossier

Times of India, 20 July 2009

In the 36-page dossier, that contains some annexures, Pakistan has informed India about the case details of five terrorists, including Lashkar-e-Taiba commander and "mastermind" Zaki-ur Rahman Lakhvi, who have been arrested, sources said

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/NEWS-India-Lakhvi-mastermind-of-Mumbai-attacks-Pak-admits-in-dossier/articleshow/4795874.cms>

[Police launch counterattack in Swat for first time](#)

News, 20 July 2009

PESHAWAR: For the first time in the last two years of unrelenting militancy in the Swat Valley, the police launched a counterattack on the Taliban militants in Sambat Cham area of Matta Tehsil after the beheading of a Matta police station class-1V employee, killing one militant besides demolishing seven houses. Also, three more militants were killed in the ongoing military operation in Swat Valley. The class-IV employee, Muhammad Iqbal, was beheaded inside his home in Sambat Cham of Matta Tehsil on the night between Friday and Saturday. The incident prompted the police to initiate action in the area, killing one suspected militant Bawar Khan and arresting Noorani Gul. They also had an exchange of fire with the militants after their raid on the Taliban hideouts. Seven houses of the militants were reportedly razed to the ground

http://www.thenews.com.pk/top_story_detail.asp?Id=23358

[Perpetrators of 9/11 in Pakistan, says Hillary](#)

News, 20 July 2009

NEW DELHI: US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has said perpetrators of the 9/11 terrorist attacks are in Pakistan. Talking to reporters in Gurgaon near here, she said terrorism posed a threat to the world. She expressed the hope that Pakistan would bring the perpetrators of the Mumbai attacks to book. Meanwhile, Hillary Clinton defended on Sunday Pakistan's commitment to fighting terrorism, while warning that the perpetrators of last year's Mumbai attacks must be brought to justice. "We believe there is a commitment to fighting terrorism that permeates the entire (Pakistan) government," Clinton told reporters in New Delhi during her first trip to India as Washington's top diplomat

http://www.thenews.com.pk/top_story_detail.asp?Id=23359

[IDPs' repatriation gains momentum](#)

News, 20 July 2009

PESHAWAR/MINGORA: Repatriation of the internally displaced persons (IDPs) to their respective areas further intensified on the seventh day of the drive as an estimated 82,005 persons returned home on Sunday. Buses, trucks, coasters, vans and cars boarded with the displaced families, who spent about two and a half months in camps and with relatives, drove through Malakand Pass to enter Swat district. The official data said the government facilitated the return of 3,492 people to Swat from Jalozai, Ambar, Jalala, Sheikh Yaseen, Sheikh Shahzad, Shah Mansoor and Yar Hussain. Some 11,060 families to Swat and 655 to Buner district moved back on Sunday. It has been noticed during the last seven days of repatriation that a great number of people preferred to return in private vehicles. On Sunday, an estimated 77,420 individuals of 11,060 families used private vehicles to go back to their homes in Swat and Buner districts

http://www.thenews.com.pk/top_story_detail.asp?Id=23360

[Good news on Balochistan in a few weeks, says minister](#)

Dawn, 25 July 2009

ISLAMABAD, July 24: There could be a "good news" in two to four weeks about Balochistan as a result of secret "back-channel" contacts, a minister told the Senate on Friday while ruling out talks with those seeking independence for the troubled province. But Interior Minister Rehman Malik, while responding to an opposition member's concern about a perceived

<http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/the-newspaper/front-page/good-news-on-balochistan-in-a-few-weeks,-says-minister-579>

[Scam-hit Punjab legislator resigns](#)

Dawn, 25 July 2009

LAHORE, July 24: Shomaila Anjum Rana, a PML-N member of the Punjab assembly involved in a credit card scandal, resigned from the assembly on Friday. Acting promptly, her party also cancelled her basic membership. The PML-N had given the MPA Friday's deadline to either prove her innocence or quit the assembly

<http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/the-newspaper/front-page/scamhit-punjab-legislator-resigns-579>

[Kargil was big success for Pak: Musharraf](#)

Times of India, 25 July 2009

NEW DELHI: Former Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf has described the Kargil operation as a "big success" which forced India to discuss the contentious issue of Kashmir. "Yes, indeed, it was a big success because it had impact even on the attitude of the Indian side. How did we start discussing the Kashmir dispute? How was it that the Indians agreed that we will discuss Kashmir and there must be a negotiated settlement? Before this there was no such thing at all," Musharraf said in an interview to an Indian channel

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/NEWS/India/Kargil-was-big-success-for-Pak-Musharraf/articleshow/4818429.cms>

[Proceedings against Lakhvi put off](#)

Hindu, 26 July 2009

ISLAMABAD: An anti-terror court has put off proceedings against five suspects in the Mumbai attacks case, including Lashkar-e-Taiba commander Zaki-ur-Rehman Lakhvi, to August 29. This is the longest adjournment since the hearing began in February. Accepting separate applications from the government and the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) that probed the involvement of Pakistanis in the attack, judge Baqir Ali Rana also ordered that the proceedings against the five men in custody be held in camera

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/07/26/stories/2009072657760100.htm>

[President finally forms NFC](#)

News, 26 July 2009

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari has finally constituted a nine-member National Finance Commission (NFC) that would decide the new mechanism of distribution of financial resources between the four federating units for the next five years. The commission will consist of the following members: the minister for finance as chairman of the commission, minister for finance, Punjab, as member, minister for finance, Sindh, as member, minister for finance, NWFP as member and minister for finance, Balochistan, as member

http://www.thenews.com.pk/top_story_detail.asp?Id=23480

[US Senate approves conditional aid bill](#)

News, 26 July 2009

WASHINGTON: The US Senate has approved the Department of Defence Authorisation Bill, which says the US military assistance to Pakistan can only be used to fight against al-Qaeda and Taliban. The bipartisan amendment in this regard was introduced by senators Robert Menendez and Bob Corker amidst growing apprehension among lawmakers that the American taxpayers' money given to Pakistan to fight against the Taliban and al-Qaeda was being used to build up its Army against India

http://www.thenews.com.pk/top_story_detail.asp?Id=23481

[Judicial system restored in Malakand](#)

News, 26 July 2009

RAWALPINDI: Peshawar High Court Registrar Qalandar Ali Khan has said that the judicial system has been restored in most of the districts of the Malakand Division. Talking to Geo News in Peshawar, he said judicial officers had resumed their duties in district Buner, Shangla, Dir Upper and Batkhela Tehsil of Malakand. He said camp courts had been set up in nearby districts for the people of Swat

http://www.thenews.com.pk/top_story_detail.asp?Id=23483

[Movement of US, Nato troops worries Waziristan tribes](#)

News, 26 July 2009

PESHAWAR/MIRAMSHAH: The movement of Afghanistan-based US and Nato troops over the past few days close to North and South Waziristan Agencies has frightened tribesmen, who are already under stress due to the increasing number of drone attacks and a possible military operation by the Pakistan Army. Official and tribal sources informed The News from the border villages of North Waziristan about the unusual movement of what they termed ihuge numberī of the US and Nato forces along the Pak-Afghan border. They said the Nato troops were armed with helicopter gunships, tanks and armoured personnel carriers (APCs) and had started establishing camps and checkpoints along the border

http://www.thenews.com.pk/top_story_detail.asp?Id=23487

[SAARC meet: New Delhi for Pak-Bangla train via India, Nepal](#)

Hindustan Times, 27 July 2009

In a bid to strengthen intra-regional connectivity and unite hearts of people of South Asia, India has proposed a demonstration train between Pakistan and Bangladesh via its territory and that of Nepal. The Indian proposal for running a trial train from Pakistan to Bangladesh via India and Nepal was welcomed by the SAARC member states at the meeting of their Transport Ministers in Colombo on Saturday

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/StoryPage/StoryPage.aspx?sectionName=IndiaSecti onPage&id=77ff43e8-67eb-4ab0-a72a-b4bae1713ba7&Headline=SAARC+meet+New+Delhi+for+Pak-Bangla+train+via+India+Nepal>

[Swat — it's too early to declare victory](#)

Dawn, 27 July 2009

MINGORA, July 26: Abdul Wadood has opened his cloth shop after three months. Broken pieces of glass litter the hallway and the wall is riddled with bullet marks, indicative of the fighting between Taliban and the security forces. Most of the shops in the town's central Sohrab Chowk market are still closed. "I hope there will be no fighting here any more," Wadood said dusting the cloth racks. He is among hundreds of thousands of people who have returned home after military declared the area cleared of insurgents. But it is going to take a long time for people like Wadood to revive their business and return to normal life

<http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/the-newspaper/front-page/swat-its-too-early-to-declare-victory-779>

Sufi Muhammad, two sons held in Peshawar

Dawn, 27 July 2009

PESHAWAR, July 26: The head of banned Tehrik Nifaz-i-Shariat-i-Muhammadi (TNSM), Maulana Sufi Muhammad, was arrested here on Sunday. Minister for Information Mian Iftikhar Hussain said at a press conference here that police arrested Sufi Muhammad from a house in Sethi Town. According to sources, two sons of Sufi Muhammad were also arrested from the house where they had been living since July 6. Mian Iftikhar, however, did not confirm the arrest of Sufi's sons

<http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/the-newspaper/front-page/sufi-muhammad,-two-sons-held-in-peshawar-779>

The ghosts of Kargil

Dawn, 27 July 2009

THE ghosts of Kargil continue to haunt us, and will continue to do so, unless we get to know the truth. Surprisingly, nobody talks about it more than the two men responsible for the disaster — the prime minister and the army chief in 1999. We have heard their versions many times, and they keep repeating themselves. Pervez Musharraf says that Nawaz Sharif was "on board" all along and that he was briefed by the military high command beforehand. We have also seen some photographs showing the prime minister being briefed — with maps and all that — and Mr Sharif somewhere in Azad Kashmir. That proves nothing.

<http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/the-newspaper/editorial/the-ghosts-of-kargil-779>