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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 08 ISLAMABAD 003585

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PAK-U.S. RELATIONS; INDO-PAK TENSIONS; MIDDLE EAST
PEACE PROCESS

(MAY 04-06, 2002)

**REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior
Reviewer**

NEWS:

PAKISTAN POLITICAL SITUATION/REFERENDUM
TERRORISM/AFGHANISTAN
PAK-U.S. RELATIONS
INDO-PAK TENSIONS

OPINION:

PAKISTAN POLITICAL SITUATION/REFERENDUM
TERRORISM/AFGHANISTAN
INDO-PAK TENSIONS
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MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS

1. HEADLINES

"ELECTORAL COUNTDOWN BEGINS: POLITICAL PARTIES INVITED FOR CONSULTATIONS; MUSLIM LEAGUE (N) ALSO INVITED: NISAR MEMON," "NAWA-E-WAQT" (05/06)

"U.S., MUSHARRAF USING EACH OTHER: BENAZIR BHUTTO," "JANG" (05/06)

"3 AFRICAN MEN DIE MYSTERIOUSLY IN ISLAMABAD'S DIPLOMATIC AREA," "NAWA-E-WAQT" (05/06)

"PAKISTAN SUFFERS \$870 MILLION LOSS AS A RESULT OF U.S. OPERATION IN AFGHANISTAN," "ISLAM" (05/04)

"PAKISTAN'S NUCLEAR INSTALLATIONS UNDER SEVERE THREAT: AGHA SHAHI (FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER)," "ISLAM" (05/04)

"U.S. COMMANDO OPERATION AGAINST AL-QAEDA IN WAZIRISTAN," "PAKISTAN" (05/06)

"AFGHANISTAN ANNOUNCES RELEASE OF 400 PAKISTANIS," "NAWA-E-WAQT" (05/06)

"STRICT AERIAL SURVEILLANCE OF TRIBAL AREAS BY U.S. FOR IMPENDING OPERATION," "UMMAT" (05/06)

"NEW PAK-U.S. ANTI-TERRORISM AGREEMENT LIKELY THIS
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MONTH," "JASARAT" (05/04)

"U.S. PLANS TO LAUNCH OPERATION AGAINST AL QAIDA MEMBERS IN AFGHAN REFUGEE CAMPS IN KARACHI," "JASARAT" (05/05)

NEWS

--PAKISTAN POLITICAL SITUATION/REFERENDUM

2. "DEVOLUTION TO BE IRREVERSIBLE: PRESIDENT," A NEWS STORY IN THE CENTRIST NATIONAL DAILY, "THE NEWS" (05/05)

QUOTE: A MEETING CHAIRED BY MUSHARRAF HERE ON SATURDAY REITERATED THAT KEY TO DEVOLUTION IS FINANCIAL DEVOLUTION, AND IT DECIDED TO INSTITUTIONALIZE THE DEVOLUTION OF POWER SO THAT WHEN THE CHANGE OCCURS IN OCTOBER 2002, THE SYSTEM WILL REMAIN FUNCTIONAL AND IRREVERSIBLE "AS MANDATED BY THE

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PEACE PROCESS

NATION IN THE REFERENDUM."... END QUOTE.

3. "ARD TO CONVENE APC TO DEVISE FUTURE STRATEGY," A
NEWS STORY IN THE CENTRIST NATIONAL DAILY, "THE NEWS"
(05/05)

QUOTE: THE ALLIANCE FOR THE RESTORATION OF DEMOCRACY
(ARD) HAS DECIDED TO CONVENE AN ALL PARTIES CONFERENCE
(APC) TO DEVISE ITS STRATEGY FOR THE FUTURE IN THE
WAKE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL REFERENDUM.... END QUOTE.

4."SUPREME COURT WILL HAVE POWER TO SACK
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GOVERNMENT: MUSHARRAF," A NEWS STORY IN THE LAHORE-
BASED INDEPENDENT NATIONAL DAILY, "DAILY TIMES"
(05/05)

QUOTE: PRESIDENT MUSHARRAF PROMISED TO HAND OVER "THE
POWER TO GOVERN" TO AN ELECTED PRIME MINISTER BY
OCTOBER, JOKING ON SATURDAY THAT HE HOPED TO HAVE MORE
TIME TO PLAY TENNIS AND GOLF.... HE HAS PROMISED TO
OBEY A SUPREME COURT RULING TO HOLD PARLIAMENTARY
ELECTIONS BY OCTOBER, AND SAID AN ELECTED PRIME
MINISTER WILL HAVE THE FREEDOM TO GOVERN THE COUNTRY
ON A DAY-TO-DAY BASIS.... END QUOTE.

5. "DIALOGUE WITH POLITICAL PARTIES SOON: MEMON," A
NEWS STORY IN THE LAHORE-BASED INDEPENDENT NATIONAL
DAILY, "DAILY TIMES" (05/04)

QUOTE: FEDERAL INFORMATION MINISTER NISAR MEMON TOLD
A PRESS CONFERENCE ON FRIDAY THAT THE PRESIDENT WILL
BEGIN A FRESH ROUND OF CONSULTATIONS WITH POLITICAL
PARTIES FOR THEIR VIEWS ON AMENDMENTS TO THE
CONSTITUTION AND OTHER ISSUES OF NATIONAL
IMPORTANCE.... END QUOTE.

6. "WILL THE REFERENDUM AND ITS RESULT HEAD TO
POLITICAL STABILITY? E-POLL," "THE NATION" (05/04)

YES NO CAN'T SAY
34% 63% 3%

--TERRORISM/AFGHANISTAN
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7."OPERATION SNIPE TO RESCUE U.S. SOLDIERS IN TALIBAN CUSTODY," A NEWS STORY IN THE LAHORE-BASED INDEPENDENT NATIONAL DAILY, "DAILY TIMES" (05/06)

QUOTE: BRITISH-LED COMMANDOS ARE SET TO BEGIN OPERATION SNIPE, A RESCUE AND RECOVERY MISSION TO TRACE THE WHEREABOUTS OF 76 SOLDIERS FROM THE ALLIED FORCE WHO WERE TAKEN CAPTIVE BY THE TALIBAN AND AL-QAEDA DURING THE ARMA PEAKS BATTLE IN PAKTIA... SATELLITE SLEUTHING HAS YIELDED LITTLE INFORMATION AND THE FATE OF THE 76 SOLDIERS IS UNCERTAIN. SINCE THE U.S.-LED MILITARY CAMPAIGN BEGAN ON OCTOBER 7, SOURCES SAY AT LEAST 400 ALLIED SOLDIERS HAVE BEEN KILLED. THE PENTAGON HAS ONLY REPORTED A HANDFUL OF ACCIDENTAL CASUALTIES.... END QUOTE.

8. "JUI DEMANDS EXPULSION OF U.S. TROOPS FROM FATA," A NEWS STORY IN THE KARACHI-BASED INDEPENDENT NATIONAL DAILY, "DAWN" (05/04)

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QUOTE: THE JAMIAT ULEMA-I-ISLAM (FAZAL) HAS DEMANDED
THAT THE GOVERNMENT EXPEL THE AMERICAN MARINES WHICH,
ACCORDING TO THE JUI, ARE CONDUCTING RAIDS ON
SEMINARIES IN THE TRIBAL VILLAGES ALONG THE PAK-AFGHAN
BORDER.... END QUOTE.

9. "TRIBESMEN WARN OF ANTI-U.S. ARMED STRUGGLE," A
NEWS STORY IN THE CENTRIST NATIONAL DAILY, "THE NEWS"
(05/05)

QUOTE: NORTH WAZIRISITAN AGENCY TRIBALS THREATENED TO
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LAUNCH A WAR AGAINST JOINT RAIDS BEING CONDUCTED BY
PAKISTANI AND U.S. FORCES ON RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS IN
PURSUIT OF TALIBAN AND AL-QAEDA MEMBERS.... END
QUOTE.

10. "AL-QAEDA CANNOT REGROUP IN PAKISTAN," A NEWS
STORY IN THE CENTRIST NATIONAL DAILY, "THE NEWS"
(05/05)

QUOTE: ON SATURDAY PRESIDENT MUSHARRAF SAID HE
BELIEVED ALLEGED TERRORIST MASTERMIND USAMA BIN LADEN
WAS STILL IN AFGHANISTAN BUT THAT HE MIGHT BE DEAD
ALREADY.... HE ALSO SAID "HARDLY A DOZEN" U.S MILITARY
COMMUNICATIONS EXPERTS WERE WORKING IN PAKISTAN WITH

LOCAL FORCES TO HUNT DOWN BIN LADEN'S FIGHTERS AS THEY
FLED ACROSS THE BORDER.... END QUOTE.

11. "SUPREME COURT STARTS PEARL CASE HEARING TODAY,"
A NEWS STORY IN THE CENTER-RIGHT NATIONAL DAILY, "THE
NATION" (05/06)

QUOTE: ON SATURDAY THE SUPREME COURT AGREED TO HEAR
THE APPLICATION OF ACCUSED SHAIKH OMAR AND OTHERS WHO
ARE BEING TRIED IN AN ANTI-TERRORISM COURT IN THE
ALLEGED ABDUCTION AND MURDER CASE OF AMERICAN
JOURNALIST DANIEL PEARL TO MOVE THE TRIAL BACK TO
KARACHI. IT FIXED THE PRELIMINARY HEARING ON THEIR
APPLICATION FOR MONDAY (TODAY).... END QUOTE.

--PAK-U.S. RELATIONS

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12. "ISLAMABAD TO SEEK FUGITIVES' CUSTODY: MOIN
LEAVES FOR WASHINGTON TOMORROW," A NEWS STORY IN THE
KARACHI-BASED INDEPENDENT NATIONAL DAILY, "DAWN"
(05/06)

QUOTE: PAKISTAN IS ASKING THE UNITED STATES TO HAND
OVER ABOUT A DOZEN OF ITS FUGITIVES LIVING THERE AND
RELEASE A HANDFUL OF INNOCENT PAKISTANIS DETAINED IN
GUANTANAMO BAY FOR THEIR ALLEGED LINKS WITH AL
QAEDA.... A 10-MEMBER DELEGATION LED BY INTERIOR
MINISTER MOINUDDIN HAIDER WILL BE LEAVING HERE FOR A
THREE-DAY VISIT TO WASHINGTON BEGINNING TUESDAY. END
QUOTE.

13. "WE CONSIDER PAKISTAN AN ALLY, ITS ROLE IN THE
WAR AGAINST TERRORISM IS UNFORGETTABLE: U.S.
AMBASSADOR," NEWS ITEM IN THE POPULAR URDU DAILY "DIN"
(05/06)

QUOTE: SIALKOT -- THE U.S. AMBASSADOR TO PAKISTAN
WENDY CHAMBERLIN HAS SAID THAT THE U.S. CONSIDERS
PAKISTAN AN ALLY. SHE SAID TERRORISTS HAVE NO RELIGION

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OR COUNTRY AND THE WAR AGAINST TERRORISM WILL CONTINUE
UNTIL IT IS ELIMINATED. END QUOTE.

--PAK-INDIA TENSIONS

14. "WILL INDIA END BORDER TENSIONS IN RESPONSE TO
CONDOLLEEZA RICE'S APPEAL? E-POLL," "THE NATION"
(05/06)

YES	NO	CAN'T SAY
9%	88%	3%

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OPINION

--PAKISTAN POLITICAL SITUATION/REFERENDUM

15."TRANSPARENT ELECTIONS, GOVERNMENT, MUSLIM LEAGUE GUE AND THE SHARIF FAMILY'S RESPONSIBILITY," AN EDITORIAL IN THE SECOND LARGEST URDU DAILY "NAWA-E-WAQT" (05/06)

QUOTE: AFTER THE REFERENDUM, THE GOVERNMENT IS NOW TALKING ABOUT AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION AND IMPOSING A POLITICAL SYSTEM OF ITS CHOICE IN THE COUNTRY...THE INTERNATIONAL MEDIA HAS OBSERVED THAT THE REFERENDUM HAS WEAKENED MUSHARRAF'S POSITION AND UPSET THE U.S.... IN THIS SITUATION, THE GOVERNMENT COULD BECOME EVEN MORE DEPENDENT ON THE U.S. SIMILARLY, BENAZIR BHUTTO IS ALSO TRYING TO STRIKE A DEAL WITH THE U.S., BECAUSE THERE IS NO CONTRADICTION BETWEEN MUSHARRAF'S FOREIGN POLICY AND THAT OF MS. BHUTTO. IN THIS SCENARIO, ONLY THE MUSLIM LEAGUE CAN, IN ALLIANCE WITH THE RELIGIOUS PARTIES, STOP THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS AGENDA. THE PML (N) AND THE SHARIF FAMILY'S POLITICAL FUTURE WILL BE SUNK IF THE PARTY REMAINS FRAGMENTED AND ITS LEADERSHIP CONTINUES TO SIT IN JEDDAH, UNWILLING TO RETURN TO PAKISTAN DUE TO ITS OWN FEARS. THIS WILL BE DETRIMENTAL NOT ONLY FOR THE PML, BUT ALSO FOR THE COUNTRY. END QUOTE.

16."INQUIRY INTO (REFERENDUM) IRREGULARITIES," AN UNCLASSIFIED

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EDITORIAL IN THE PRO-MUSLIM LEAGUE URDU DAILY
"PAKISTAN" (05/06)

QUOTE: THE GENERAL IMPRESSION THAT EMERGES IS THAT THERE ARE RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE REFERENDUM RESULTS. PERHAPS IT IS WHAT LED MUSHARRAF TO SAY HALF-HEARTEDLY THAT AN INQUIRY MIGHT BE HELD INTO REFERENDUM IRREGULARITIES... IN VIEW OF THE POSSIBLE INQUIRY, THE ELECTION COMMISSION MUST SEAL THE RESULTS RECEIVED FROM EVERY POLLING STATION SO THAT IT CAN BE DETERMINED WHERE VOTERS CAST MULTIPLE VOTES OR WHERE THE POLLING STAFF THEMSELVES STUFFED THE BALLOT BOXES. THE FEDERAL LAW MINISTER HAS SAID THAT A NEW PARLIAMENT WILL HAVE TO OPERATE UNDER THE REFERENDUM ORDER. IF THIS IS WHAT THE GOVERNMENT WANTS, IT BECOMES ALL THE MORE IMPORTANT THAT THE RESULTS BE ABOVE SUSPICION. END QUOTE.

--TERRORISM/AFGHANISTAN

17. "TRIBAL WARNING," AN EDITORIAL IN THE CENTRIST NATIONAL DAILY, "THE NEWS" (05/06)

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QUOTE: THE WARNING BY TRIBESMEN IN NORTH WAZIRISTAN
N

THAT THEY WILL WAGE AN ANTI-AMERICAN STRUGGLE SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN LIGHTLY BY PAKISTAN IF EMPIRICAL EVIDENCE IS ANYTHING TO GO BY. THE JOINT RAIDS BEING CONDUCTED BY U.S. SPECIAL FORCES WITH PAKISTANI TROOPS IN THE TRIBAL AREAS TO HUNT FOR AL-QAEDA MEMBERS AND THE TALIBAN HAVE CAUSED MUCH CONSTERNATION, PUSHING THE TRIBESMEN TOWARDS A CONFRONTATIONAL SITUATION THAT COULD CREATE SERIOUS PROBLEMS FOR ISLAMABAD.... THERE HAS ALWAYS BEEN SPECULATION THAT AL-QAEDA AND TALIBAN
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ELEMENTS FLED INTO PAKISTAN'S TRIBAL AREAS AS THEIR STRONGHOLDS WERE OVERRUN BY AMERICAN FORCES. THE AMERICANS HAVE MADE KNOWN THEIR INTENTION TO PURSUE THE FLEEING FIGHTERS INTO PAKISTANI TERRITORY AND IT WAS EXPECTED THAT ISLAMABAD WOULD EVENTUALLY ACQUIESCE.... PAKISTAN'S DIFFICULTY IS TO SOMEHOW HARMONIZE ITS COMMITMENT TO THE FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM WITH ITS OWN INTERNAL COMPULSIONS.... THE GOVERNMENT WOULD DO WELL TO REIN IN ITS ENTHUSIASM TO FULFILL ITS END OF THE COMMITMENT SO AS TO AVOID ANY UNTOWARD INCIDENT THAT COULD THREATEN NATIONAL STABILITY. THERE HAS TO BE A LIMIT TO ALLOWING FOREIGN INTERFERENCE WITHIN THE COUNTRY. THE EFFECTS OF ZIAUL HAQ'S CARTE BLANCHE TO THE AMERICANS TO WAGE A FIGHT AGAINST THE SOVIET UNION FROM PAKISTAN'S SOIL ARE STILL BEING EXPERIENCED. END QUOTE.

18. "U.S. TROOPS IN FATA," AN EDITORIAL IN THE
CENTER-RIGHT NATIONAL DAILY, "THE NATION" (05/06)

QUOTE: THE INITIAL REACTION OF THE POPULATION OF THE FEDERAL ADMINISTERED TRIBAL AREAS TO THE PRESENCE OF U.S. TROOPS IN THEIR MIDST HAS BEEN AS NEGATIVE AS WE HAD PREDICTED. IT IS NOT A GOOD IDEA TO SEND U.S. TROOPS TO ANY PLACE IN PAKISTAN.... THE FATA SITUATION HARDLY MERITS THE PRESENCE OF U.S. TROOPS. THE U.S. TROOPS ARE NOT APPARENTLY HERE TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL SUPPORT, BUT TO CARRY OUT THE MAIN OPERATION. IF THAT OPERATION IS IN PAKISTAN'S INTEREST, THEN THE PAKISTAN ARMY SHOULD DO THE JOB.... ANY AL-QAEDA AND TALIBAN IN THE HILLS AROUND MIRAN SHAH ARE, AT THE MOMENT,
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DOING NO HARM TO U.S. INTERESTS. WHILE KEEPING THEM BOTTLED UP, THE PAKISTAN GOVERNMENT SHOULD WORK ON THE TRIBES TO WIN OVER THEIR ACQUIESCENCE, OR EVEN SUPPORT, FOR A CLEAN-UP OPERATION TO BE CARRIED OUT WITHOUT ANY FOREIGN PRESENCE.... SINCE SEPTEMBER 11,

THERE HAS BEEN A PATTERN OF PAKISTAN ULTIMATELY CONCEDING TO THE U.S. WHATEVER IT WANTS, NO MATTER HOW HARMFUL TO PAKISTAN'S OWN NATIONAL INTERESTS, OR EVEN TO U.S. INTERESTS. THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD IGNORE THE DAMAGE TO ITS CREDIBILITY DUE TO THE REFERENDUM, AND STOP RELYING SO HEAVILY ON U.S. SUPPORT FOR ITS SURVIVAL. IF IT STANDS UP TO THE U.S. IN THE INTEREST OF NATIONAL HONOR, IT WILL FIND MORE SUPPORT THAN IT CAN IMAGINE. END QUOTE.

19. "HIJACKING THE WAR," AN EDITORIAL IN THE KARACHI-BASED INDEPENDENT NATIONAL DAILY, "DAWN" (05/04)

QUOTE: ALMOST SEVEN MONTHS AFTER THE U.S.-LED ATTACKS ON AFGHANISTAN, ONE WONDERS WHERE THE MUCH-VAUNTED WAR AGAINST TERRORISM IS HEADING.... THE INCREASINGLY NARROW FOCUS OF PRESIDENT BUSH'S WAR AGAINST TERROR IS

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ACTION INR-00

INFO LOG-00 NP-00 AID-00 ACQ-00 CIAE-00 INL-00 SRPP-00
DS-00 EUR-00 FBIE-00 UTED-00 VC-00 TEDE-00 IO-00
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PA-00 ACE-00 SSO-00 SS-00 TEST-00 USIE-00 SA-00
R-00 IIP-00 DSCC-00 PRM-00 DRL-02 NFAT-00 SAS-00
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O 060939Z MAY 02
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
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SECDEF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
NSC WASHDC 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
USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL//CCPA IMMEDIATE
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CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CCPA IMMEDIATE

USCINCPAC 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/PA, 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: OPRC, PGOV, PREL, KMDR, PK
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: PAKISTAN POLITICAL
SITUATION/REFERENDUM; TERRORISM/AFGHANISTAN;
PAK-U.S. RELATIONS; INDO-PAK TENSIONS; MIDDLE EAST
PEACE PROCESS

CAUSING DEEP UNEASE ACROSS THE MUSLIM WORLD.... THE
U.S. IS OBVIOUSLY DIVERTING THE ORIGINAL AIMS OF THE
WAR AGAINST TERRORISM TO SUIT ITS OWN SECURITY
AGENDA.... THE RHETORIC OF THE WAR AGAINST TERROR
ALSO CREATED A DISCOURSE THAT WAS CYNICALLY EXPLOITED
BY CERTAIN COUNTRIES TO SETTLE OLD SCORES, MOST
NOTABLY BY ISRAEL AND INDIA. ISRAEL WENT ON THE
RAMPAGE AGAINST THE PALESTINIANS TO WAGE ITS OWN
COPYCAT WAR AGAINST TERROR, AS THE U.S. WATCHED ON.
MEANWHILE, THE INDIANS BORROWED THE AMERICANS'
RHETORIC AND USED AN ATTACK ON ITS PARLIAMENT BUILDING
AS AN EXCUSE TO VIRTUALLY SEVER TIES WITH PAKISTAN AND
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MASS HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF TROOPS ON THE BORDER....
THERE IS STILL TIME FOR THE U.S. TO ACT SWIFTLY AND
CORRECT ITS POLICIES TO RESTORE THE COALITION'S
INITIAL AIM. THE ALTERNATIVE COULD BE THE COLLAPSE OF
THE COALITION AGAINST TERROR. AND THE WORLD, CONTRARY
TO THE ORIGINAL AIMS OF THE ANTI-TERROR CAMPAIGN, WILL
BECOME A FAR MORE DANGEROUS PLACE. END QUOTE.

--INDO-PAK TENSIONS

20. "U.S. ADVICE TO INDIA," AN EDITORIAL IN THE
KARACHI-BASED INDEPENDENT NATIONAL DAILY, "DAWN"
(05/05)

QUOTE: FOR THE UMPTEENTH TIME, A SENIOR U.S. OFFICIAL
HAS ASKED NEW DELHI TO HOLD TALKS WITH ISLAMABAD TO
SEEK WAYS TO END THE TENSE BORDER STAND-OFF BETWEEN
THE TWO NEIGHBORS.... CONDOLEEZA RICE SAID INDIA
SHOULD GIVE DIPLOMACY A CHANCE SO THAT THE TWO
COUNTRIES COULD EMBARK ON A RELATIONSHIP.... THE REAL
ISSUE, AS DELHI PERHAPS KNOWS ONLY TOO WELL, IS
KASHMIR.... UNFORTUNATELY, INDIA'S CONSISTENT REFUSAL
TO TALK TO PAKISTAN ON SCALING BACK THE MILITARY

DEPLOYMENT IS ONLY TO BE EXPECTED IF ONE LOOKS AT ITS RECORD OF PERSISTENTLY REFUSING TO TALK ABOUT KASHMIR.... THEIR REFUSAL TO TALK ON KASHMIR CAN ONLY BE EXPLAINED IN TERMS OF INDIA'S OBSESSION TO HOLD ON TO KASHMIR, NO MATTER WHAT THE COST. THE LONGER IT PERSISTS IN THIS FOLLY, THE SMALLER WILL BE THE CHANCES FOR PEACE AND SECURITY BETWEEN THE TWO NUCLEAR-CAPABLE NEIGHBORS. END QUOTE.

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21. "CALL WITHOUT SPIRIT," AN EDITORIAL IN THE CENTRIST NATIONAL DAILY, "THE NEWS" (05/05)

QUOTE: CONDOLEEZZA RICE ASKED INDIA TO SHOW SOME DEGREE OF FLEXIBILITY AND RESUME DIALOGUE WITH ISLAMABAD, WHICH, SHE SAID, IS TAKING STEPS AGAINST TERRORISM IN THE WAKE OF SEPTEMBER 11 ATTACKS. THOUGH HER STATEMENT LACKED QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS OF PAKISTAN'S ANTI-EXTREMISM EFFORTS, IT CERTAINLY WAS A POWERFUL ACKNOWLEDGMENT, ESPECIALLY OF THE PLANNED MADRASSA REFORMS THAT THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED FOLLOWING PRESIDENT MUSHARRAF'S JANUARY 12 SPEECH.... BUT AT THE SAME TIME THE U.S. DOES NOT WANT TO RUFFLE THE FEATHERS OF HARDLINERS IN NEW DELHI AS IT STILL EXPECTS ISLAMABAD TO ADDRESS THE GENUINE INDIAN CONCERNS ABOUT CROSS-BORDER TERRORISM.... SINCE INDIA AND PAKISTAN DIFFER ON THEIR DEFINITION OF THE CORE ISSUES BETWEEN THEM, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN ONLY SENSIBLE ON PART OF THE AMERICAN OFFICIAL TO TAKE A BALANCED APPROACH IN THE SOUTH ASIAN CONTEXT, RATHER THAN LOOKING AT ALL WORLD ISSUES FROM ITS 'WAR AGAINST

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PA-00 ACE-00 SSO-00 SS-00 TEST-00 USIE-00 SA-00
R-00 IIP-00 DSCC-00 PRM-00 DRL-02 NFAT-00 SAS-00
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FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6784
SECDEF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE
JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE

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TERROR' PERSPECTIVE. IT IS THIS SELF-CENTERED AMERICAN
APPROACH THAT, ON ONE HAND, ENCOURAGED ISRAEL TO WRITE
A NEW CHAPTER ON ITS PALESTINIAN BASHING, AND ON THE
OTHER, ENABLED INDIA TO RESPOND TO ALL PAKISTAN'S
PEACE OFFERS SO FAR WITH MORE MILITARY BUILD-UP....
WASHINGTON MUST REALIZE THAT RESOLUTION OF ALL
INTERNATIONAL ISSUES REQUIRES A UNIQUE APPROACH AND
LINKING THEIR SETTLEMENT WITH ACHIEVEMENT OF ITS
INTERESTS WILL ONLY PERPETUATE THEM.... END QUOTE.

--MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS

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22."WHY ISRAEL GETS AWAY WITH MURDER," AN EDITORIAL
IN THE LAHORE-BASED INDEPENDENT NATIONAL DAILY, "DAILY
TIMES" (05/05)

QUOTE: ... IN THE ULTIMATE ANALYSIS THE U.S.
ADMINISTRATION AND THE U.S. CONGRESS HAVE ONE BASIC
CONCERN AND POLICY IN THE MIDDLE EAST. THAT IS TO

SECURE THE MAXIMUM ADVANTAGE FOR ISRAEL BY DEPRIVING THE PALESTINIANS OF THEIR MEANS TO RESIST, REDUCING THEIR EXPECTATIONS TO THE BARE MINIMUM AND THEN

N
RESOLVING THE ISSUE ON THE BASIS OF PARED DOWN EXPECTATIONS. SO THE U.S. ALLOWS THE ISRAELIS TO DO WHAT THEY WANT BUT THEN PRESENTS ITSELF AS THE ONLY ARBITRATOR OF THE DISPUTE. IT SLAPS THE PALESTINIANS AROUND AND THEN TRIES TO APPEASE THEM. IT GETS AWAY WITH THIS BECAUSE THERE IS NO COUNTERVAILING POWER IN THE WORLD TO CHECK ITS ARBITRARY POWER. AND IT WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO BECAUSE THE ARABS ARE MILITARILY DISPERSED, ECONOMICALLY WEAK AND POLITICALLY DISUNITED. END QUOTE.

23. "GAME OF INTERESTS AND EXPEDIENCIES," AN EDITORIAL IN THE SENSATIONALIST URDU DAILY, "UMMAT" (05/06)

QUOTE: THE UNITED STATES HAS NOT LAUNCHED A WAR AGAINST TERRORISM BUT IT HAS, IN FACT, BECOME TERRORIST ITSELF. THE U.S. HAS MADE MUSLIMS THE TARGET OF THIS CAMPAIGN THE WORLD OVER. THIS IS NOTWITHSTANDING THE FACT THAT U.S. ITSELF IN IRAQ AND
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IN ITS HANGER-ON COUNTRIES ISRAEL AND INDIA HAVE WAGED TERROR IN PALESTINE AND KASHMIR. DURING ITS AFGHANISTAN ADVENTURE, U.S. AND BRITISH TROOPS HAVE KILLED ABOUT SIXTY THOUSAND INNOCENT CITIZENS. END QUOTE.

24. "SUPPORT OF ISRAELI AGGRESSION BY U.S. CONGRESS," AN EDITORIAL IN THE LEADING MASS CIRCULATION URDU DAILY, "JANG" (05/06)

QUOTE: TO BE HONEST THE ATTITUDE OF THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION AND CONGRESS HAS BEEN PARTISAN NOT ONLY TOWARDS THE PALESTINIAN ISSUE. THE FACT OF THE MATTER IS THAT ON MANY OTHER INTERNATIONAL ISSUES THEIR POSTURE HAS NOT BEEN UNBLEMISHED. BE IT VIETNAM OR GRENADA, KASHMIR OR CHECHNYA OR PALESTINE, THE UNITED STATES HAS ADOPTED A POSTURE CONTRARY TO ESTABLISHED INTERNATIONAL NORMS THEREBY CREATING PROBLEMS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND STABILITY. BY PATTING THE BACK OF ISRAEL FOR ITS NAKED AGGRESSION THE RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE U.S. CONGRESS IS UNJUST AND PARTISAN TO A SHAMEFUL EXTENT. END QUOTE.

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25."OBSTINACY BY AMERICA, ISRAEL," AN EDITORIAL IN
THE KARACHI-BASED TALIBAN MOUTHPIECE URDU DAILY,
"ISLAM" 05/06)

QUOTE: THE PASSAGE OF A RESOLUTION BY THE U.S.
CONGRESS IN FAVOR OF ISRAEL IS JUST LIKE RUBBING SALT

T
IN THE WOUNDS OF MUSLIMS AROUND THE WORLD. THE TIME
FOR A FINAL DECISION BY THE MUSLIM WORLD TO GIVE A
BEFITTING REPLY TO THE U.S. AND ISRAEL FOR THEIR
ROGUSH ATTITUDE HAS NOW ARRIVED. END QUOTE.

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26. "MIDDLE EAST: THE BEGINNINGS OF AN OLD GAME," AN
EDITORIAL IN THE KARACHI-BASED RIGHT WING PRO-ISLAMIC
UNITY URDU DAILY, "JASARAT" (05/05)

QUOTE: THE PASSAGE OF A RESOLUTION IN FAVOR OF ISRAEL
IN THE U.S. CONGRESS REVEALS THE TRUE AMBITIONS OF
UNITED STATES WITH RESPECT TO ITS POLICY ON THE MIDDLE
EAST. THIS RESOLUTION HAS BEEN ADOPTED DESPITE A CLEAR
WARNING TO THE CONTRARY BY THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION.
HAD PRESIDENT BUSH REALLY WANTED, THE SITUATION WOULD
DEFINITELY HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT. THE QUESTION IS, IN
THE LIGHT OF THESE GROUND REALITIES, WHAT IS THE NEED
FOR HOLDING A PEACE CONFERENCE AND WHAT ARE THE
CHANCES OF ITS SUCCESS? END QUOTE.

27. "ISRAELI SPY NETWORK IN THE U.S.," AN OP-ED BY
JOHN F. SUGG IN THE LEADING MASS CIRCULATION URDU
DAILY, "JANG" (05/06)

QUOTE: A RECENTLY RELEASED REPORT BY THE U.S. DRUG
ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION REVEALS THAT AN ISRAELI SPY
NETWORK IS VERY ACTIVE IN THE U.S., AND IT IS STEALING
THE IMPORTANT SECRETS OF THE COUNTRY. A PRO-ISRAEL
NEWSPAPER HAS TRIED TO EXPLAIN THAT THESE PEOPLE ARE,
IN FACT, KEEPING AN EYE ON ARABS IN THE U.S. THE U.S.
MEDIA HAS SURPRISINGLY OVERLOOKED THIS REPORT AND SOME
OTHER NEWS REPORTS TO THIS EFFECT. THE BUSH
ADMINISTRATION TRIED TO DOWNPLAY THIS STORY SO AS TO

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AVOID EMBARRASSMENT. IT WILL BE VERY DIFFICULT FOR
THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION TO EXPLAIN WHY THEY HAVE
NEGLECTED SUCH ACTIVITY. END QUOTE.
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