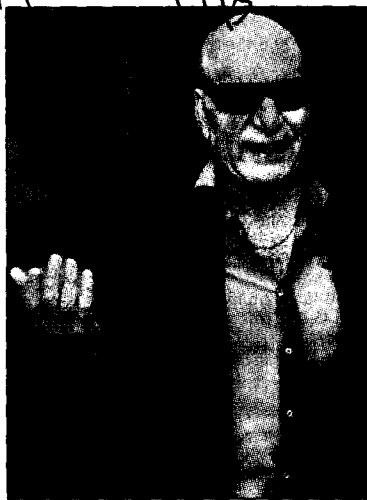


Pak bans Feroze Khan's entry

Karachi: President Pervez Musharraf has banned veteran Bollywood actor Feroze Khan from entering Pakistan after his reported remarks highlighting comfort levels of Muslims in India in comparison to that in Pakistan triggered a nationwide controversy. Musharraf took the decision following a report submitted by the intelligence agencies.

"Feroze Khan has been banned from entering Pakistan in future. The President's decision has been communicated to the Pakistan high commission in New Delhi," a private television reported quoting sources in the presidency. Interior ministry and foreign office have also been directed accordingly, ARY channel said quoting sources.

"The President house has taken serious notice of his remarks which were widely covered in the Indian and Pakistani media and directed the concerned authorities to blacklist him and impose ban on his next entry into Pakistan," it said. The Pakistan for-



eign office would also inform the high commissioner in New Delhi not to issue visa to the 67-year-old actor in future, it said.

Feroze Khan's reported remarks during the premiere of his brother

Akbar Khan's film *Taj Mahal* in Lahore last month set off a heated verbal exchange between him and a local compere.

"I am a proud Indian. India is a secular country. Muslims there are making lot of progress. Our President is a Muslim, Prime Minister a Sikh. Pakistan was made in the name of Islam but look how the Muslims are killing each other. I have not come here on my own. I was invited to come. Our films are so powerful that your government could not stop them for long," he was quoted as saying by a Pakistani daily last month.

About his brother's remarks, Akbar Khan on Monday said Feroze Khan "did not mean what he said". "My brother did not mean what he said. It was merely a slip of tongue. We are very upset on the comment made by BJP vice president Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi in which he has called my brother a 'true nationalist'. He is treating my brother in a wrong light," he said. AGENCIES

19 MAY 2006

Pakistan's Allies~II

The Pakistan-UK-USA Alliance Ended On September 11 2001

The budding US-China *détente* brokered by Pakistan came into full bloom here. NBC News on 7 January 1980 said "for the first time in history (a senior State Department official) publicly admitted the possibility of concluding a military alliance between the United States and China". London's *Daily Telegraph* reported on 5 January 1980 "China is flying large supplies of arms and ammunition to the insurgents in Afghanistan. According to diplomatic reports, supplies have arrived in Pakistan from China via the Karakoram Highway... A major build-up of Chinese involvement is underway ~ in the past few days. Scores of Chinese instructors have arrived at the Shola-e-Javed camps." Afghan reports in 1983-1985 said "there were eight training camps near the Afghan border operated by the Chinese in Singkiang province" and that China had supplied the guerrillas "with a variety of weapons including 40,000 RPG-7 and 20,000 RPG-II anti tank rocket launchers." Like Pakistan, "China did not publicly admit its involvement in the Afghan conflict: in 1985 the Chinese Mission at the UN distributed a letter denying that China was extending any kind of help to the Afghan rebels" (Anwar *The Tragedy of Afghanistan*, 1988, p. 234).

Arab support

Support extended deep and wide across the Arab world. "The Saudi and Gulf rulers ... became the financial patrons of the Afghan rebels from the very start of the conflict". Anwar Sadat, having won the Nobel Peace Prize, was "keen to claim credit for his role in Afghanistan... by joining the Afghanistan jihad, Sadat could re-establish his Islamic credentials, or so he believed. He could thus not only please the Muslim nations but also place the USA and Israel in his debt." Sadat's Defence Minister said in January 1980: "Army camps have been opened for the training of Afghan rebels; they are being supplied with weapons from Egypt" and Sadat told NBC News on 22 September 1981 "that for the last twenty-one months, the USA had been buying arms from Egypt for the Afghan rebels. He said he had been approached by the USA in December 1979 and he had decided to 'open my stores'. He further disclosed that these arms were being flown to Pakistan from Egypt by American aircraft.

Subroto Roy

Egypt had vast supplies of SAM-7 and RPG-7 anti-aircraft and anti-tank weapons which Sadat agreed to supply to Afghanistan in exchange for new American arms. The Soviet weapons, being light, were ideally suited to guerrilla warfare. ... the Mujahideen could easily claim to have

capturesque Oriental weapons." (Treadgold, *Twentieth Century Russia*, 1990, p. 213). Now instead, the Afghan misadventure had contributed to the collapse of the Soviet Empire itself, the USSR ceasing to be a political entity by 1991, and even Gorbachev being displaced by Boris Yeltsin and



captured them from Soviet and Afghan troops in battle... Khomeini's Iran got embroiled in war (against Iraq) otherwise Kabul would also have had to contend with the full might of the Islamic revolutionaries." (Anwar *ibid.* p. 235).

Afghanistan had been occupied on 26-27 December 1979 by Soviet forces sent by the decrepit Leonid Brezhnev and Yuri Andropov to carry out a *putsch* replacing one communist, Hafizullah Amin, with a rival communist and Soviet protégé, Babrak Karmal. By 1985 Brezhnev and Andropov were dead and Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev had begun his attempts to reform the Soviet system, usher in openness, end the Cold War and in particular withdraw from Afghanistan, which by 1986 he had termed "a bleeding wound". Gorbachev replaced Karmal with a new protégé Najibullah Khan, who was assigned the impossible task of bringing about national reconciliation with the Pakistan-based guerrillas and form a national government. Soviet forces withdrew from Afghanistan in February 1989 having lost 14,500 dead, while more than a million Afghans had been killed since the invasion a decade earlier. Not long after Russia's Bolshevik Revolution, Gregory Zinoviev had said that international communism "turns today to the peoples of the East and says to them, 'Brothers, we summon you to a Holy War first of all against British imperialism!' At this there were cries of Jihad! Jihad! And much brandishing of pic-

later Vladimir Putin in a new Russia.

What resulted for the people of the USA and Britain and the West in general was that they no longer had to live under threat of hostile Soviet tanks and missiles, while the people of Russia, Ukraine and the other erstwhile Soviet republics as well as Eastern Europe were able to throw off the yoke of communism that had oppressed them since the Bolshevik Revolution and instead to breathe the air of freedom. What happened to the people of Afghanistan, however, was that they were plunged into further ghastly civil war for more than ten years. And what happened to the people of Pakistan was that their country was left resembling a gigantic Islamist military camp, awash with airfields, arms, ammunition and trained guerrillas, as well as a military establishment enlivened as always by perpetual hope that these supplies, provisions and personnel of war might find alternative use in attacks against India over J&K. "We helped you when you wished to see the Soviet Union defeated and withdrawing in Afghanistan", Pakistan's generals and diplomats pleaded with the Americans and British, "now you must help us in our wish to see India defeated and withdrawing in Kashmir". Pakistan's leaders even believed that just as the Soviet Union had disintegrated afterwards, the Indian Union perhaps might be made to do the same.

Not only were the two

cases as different as chalk from cheese, Palmerstone's dictum there are no permanent allies in the politics of nations could not have found more apt use than in what actually came to take place next.

September 11 2001

Pakistan's generals and diplomats felt betrayed by the loss of Anglo-American paternalism towards them after 1989. Modern Pakistanis had never felt they subscribed to the Indian nationalist movement culminating in independence in August 1947. The Pakistani state now finally declared its independence in the world by exploding bombs in a nuclear arsenal secretly created with help purchased from China and North Korea. Pakistan's leaders thus came to feel in some control of Pakistan's destiny as a nation-state for the first time, more than fifty years after Pakistan's formal creation in 1947. If nothing else, at least they had the Bomb.

Secondly, America and its allies would not be safe for long since the civil war they had left behind in Afghanistan while trying to defeat the USSR now became a brew from which arose a new threat of violent Islamism. Osama bin Laden and the Taliban, whom Pakistan's military and the USA had promoted, now encouraged unprecedented attacks on the American mainland on September 11 2001 ~ causing physical and psychological damage which no Soviet, Chinese or Cuban missiles ever had been allowed to do. In response, America attacked and removed the Taliban regime in Afghanistan, once again receiving the cooperative use of Pakistani manpower and real estate ~ except now there was no longer any truck with the Pakistani establishment's wish for a *quid pro quo* of Anglo-American support against India on J&K. Pakistan's generals and diplomats soon realised their Anglo-American alliance of more than a half-century ended on September 11 2001. Their new cooperation was in killing or arresting and handing over fellow-Muslims and necessarily lacked their earlier feelings of subservience and ingratiation towards the Americans and British, and came to be done instead under at least some duress. No benefit could be reaped any more in the fight against India over Jammu & Kashmir. An era had ended in the subcontinent.

(Concluded)

PAKISTAN'S ALLIES ~ I

Whatever else the British said or did, they were allied to Pakistan on the matter of Gilgit. The Anglo-American alliance with Pakistan peaked in the 1980s guerrilla war

From the 1846 Treaty of Amritsar creating the State of Jammu & Kashmir until the collapse of the USSR in 1991, Britain and later the USA becoming increasingly interested in the subcontinent's Northwest. The British came to India by sea to trade. Barren, splendid, landlocked Afghanistan held no interest except as a home of fierce tribes; but it was the source of invasions into the Indian plains and prompted a British misadventure to install Shah Shuja in place of Dost Mohammad Khan leading to ignominious defeat. Later, Afghanistan was seen as the underbelly of the Russian and Soviet empires, and hence a location of interest to British and American strategic causes.

In November 1954, US President Dwight Eisenhower authorized 30 U-2 spy aircraft to be produced for deployment against America's perceived enemies, especially to investigate Soviet nuclear missiles which could reach the USA. Reconnaissance balloons had been unsuccessful, and numerous Western pilots had been shot down taking photographs from ordinary military aircraft. By June 1956, U-2 were making clandestine flights over the USSR and China. But on May 1 1960, one was shot or forced down over Sverdlovsk, 1,000 miles within Soviet territory. The Americans prevaricated that it had taken off from Turkey on a weather-mission, and been lost due to oxygen problems. Nikita Khrushchev then produced the pilot, Francis Gary Powers, who was convicted of spying, though was exchanged later for a Soviet spy. Powers had been headed towards Norway, his task to photograph Soviet missiles from 70,000 ft, his point of origin had been an American base 20 miles from Peshawar.

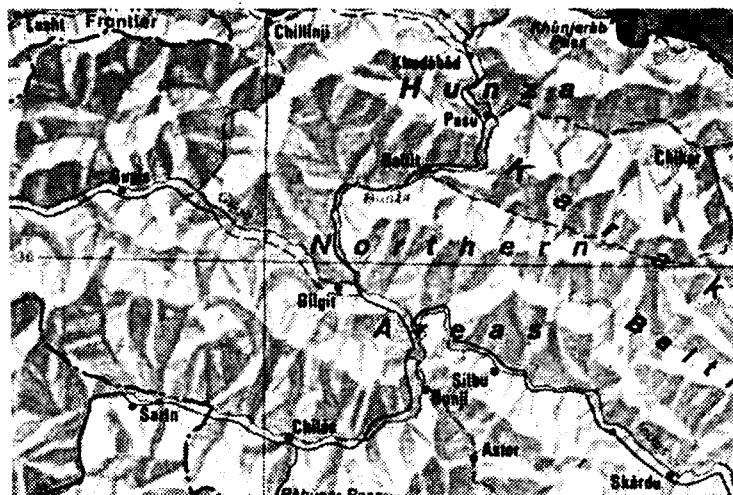
America needed clandestine "forward bases" from which to fly U-2 aircraft, and Pakistan's ingratiating military and diplomatic establishment was more than willing to offer such cooperation, fervently wishing to be seen as a "frontline state" against the USSR. "We will help you defeat the USSR and we are hopeful you will help us defeat India" became their constant refrain. By 1986, the Americans had been permitted to build air-bases in Baluchistan and also use Mauripur air-base near Karachi.

J&K and especially Gilgit-Baltistan adjoins the Pashtun regions whose capital has been Peshawar. In August-November 1947, a British *coup d'état* against J&K State secured Gilgit-Baltistan for the new British Dominion of Pakistan. The Treaty of Amritsar had nowhere required Gulab Singh's dynasty to accept British political control in J&K as came to be exercised by British "Residents" in all other Indian "Native States". Despite this, Delhi throughout the late 19th Century relentlessly pressed Gulab Singh's successors

The author is Contributing Editor, The Statesman

Si 8 316
By SUBROTO ROY
Ranbir Singh and Partab Singh to accept political control. The Dogras acquiesced eventually. Delhi's desire for control had less to do with the welfare of J&K's people than with protection of increasing British interests in the area, like European migration to Srinagar Valley and guarding against Russian or German moves in Afghanistan.

"Sargin" or "Sargin Gilit", later corrupted by the Sikhs and Dogras into "Gilgit", had an ancient people who spoke an archaic Dardic language "inter-



mediate between the Iranian and the Sanskritic". "The Dards were located by Ptolemy with surprising accuracy on the West of the Upper Indus, beyond the headwaters of the Swat River (Greek: Soastus) and north of the Gandarac (i.e. Kandahar), who occupied Peshawar and the country north of it. This region was traversed by two Chinese pilgrims, Fa-Hsien, coming from the north about AD 400 and Hsuan Tsiang, ascending from Swat in AD 629, and both left records of their journeys." Gilgit had been historically ruled by a Hindu dynasty called Trakane; when they became extinct, Gilgit Valley "was desolated by successive invasions of neighbouring rulers, and in the 20 or 30 years ending with 1842 there had been five dynastic revolutions. The Sikhs entered Gilgit about 1842 and kept a garrison there." When J&K came under Gulab Singh, "the Gilgit claims were transferred with it, and a boundary commission was sent" by the British. In 1852 the Dogras were driven out with 2,000 dead. In 1860 under Ranbir Singh, the Dogras "returned to Gilgit and took Yasin twice, but did not hold it. They also in 1866 invaded Darel, one of the most secluded Dard states, to the south of the Gilgit basin but withdrew again." The British appointed a Political Agent in Gilgit in 1877 but he was withdrawn in 1881. "In 1889, in order to guard against the advance of Russia, the British Government, acting as the suzerain power of Kashmir, established the Gilgit Agency". The Agency was re-established under control of the British Resident in Jammu & Kashmir. "It comprised the Gilgit Wazarat; the State of Hunza and Nagar; the Punial Jagir; the

Governorships of Yasin, Kuh-Ghizr and Ishkoman, and Chilas". In 1935, the British demanded J&K lease to them for 60 years Gilgit town plus most of the Gilgit Agency and the hill-states Hunza, Nagar, Yasin and Ishkuman. Hari Singh had no choice but to acquiesce. The leased region was then treated as part of British India, administered by a Political Agent at Gilgit responsible to Delhi, first through the Resident in J&K and later a British Agent in Peshawar. J&K State no longer kept troops in Gilgit and a mercenary force, the

Gilgit Scouts, was recruited with British officers and paid for by Delhi.

In April 1947, Delhi decided to formally retrocede the leased areas to Hari Singh's J&K State as of 15 August 1947. The transfer was to formally take place on 1 August. On 31 July, Hari Singh's Governor arrived to find "all the officers of the British Government had opted for service in Pakistan". The Gilgit Scouts' commander, a Major William Brown aged 25, and his adjutant, a Captain Mathieson, planned openly to engineer a *coup d'état* against Hari Singh's Government. Between August and October, Gilgit was in uneasy calm. At midnight on 31 October 1947, the Governor was surrounded by the Scouts and the next day he was "arrested" and a provisional government declared. Hari Singh's nearest forces were at Bunji, 34 miles from Gilgit, a few miles downstream from where the Indus is joined by Gilgit River. The 6th J&K Infantry Battalion there was a mixed Sikh-Muslim unit, typical of the State's Army, commanded by a Lt Col. Majid Khan. Bunji controlled the road to Srinagar. Further upstream was Skardu, capital of Baltistan, part of Laddakh District where there was a small garrison. Following Brown's *coup* in Gilgit, Muslim soldiers of the 6th Infantry massacred their Sikh brothers-at-arms at Bunji. The few Sikhs who survived escaped to the hills and from there found their way to the garrison at Skardu.

On 4 November 1947, Brown raised the new Pakistani flag in the Scouts' lines, and by the third week of November a Political Agent from Pakistan had established himself at Gilgit. Brown had engineered Gilgit and its adjoining states to first secede

from J&K, and, after some talk of being independent, had promptly acceded to Pakistan. His commander in Peshawar, a Col. Bacon, as well as Col. Iskander Mirza, Defence Secretary in the new Pakistan and later to lead the first military *coup d'état* and become President of Pakistan, were pleased enough. In July 1948, Brown was awarded an MBE (Military) and the British Governor of the NWFP got him a civilian job with ICI~ which however sent him to Calcutta, where he came to be attacked and left for dead on the streets by Sikhs avenging the Bunji massacre. Brown survived, returned to England, started a riding school, and died in 1984. In March 1994, Pakistan awarded his widow the *Sitara-i-Pakistan* in recognition of his *coup d'état*.

Gilgit's ordinary people had not participated in Brown's *coup* which carried their fortunes into the new Pakistan, and to this day appear to remain without legislative representation. It was merely assumed that since they were mostly Muslim in number they would wish to be part of Pakistan ~ which also became Liaquat Ali Khan's assumption about J&K State as a whole in his 1950 statements in North America. What the Gilgit case demonstrates is that J&K State's descent into a legal condition of ownerless anarchy open to "Military Decision" had begun even before the Pakistani invasion of 22 October 1947 (viz. "Solving Kashmir", *The Statesman*, 1-3 December 2005). Also, whatever else the British said or did with respect to J & K, they were closely allied to the new Pakistan on the matter of Gilgit.

The peak of Pakistan's Anglo-American alliance came with the enormous support in the 1980s to guerrilla forces created and headquartered in Peshawar, to battle the USSR and Afghan communists directly across the Durand Line. It was this guerrilla war which became a proximate cause of the collapse of the USSR as a political entity in 1991. President Ronald Reagan's CIA chief William J. Casey sent vast sums in 1985-1988 to supply and train these guerrillas. The *Washington Post* and *The New Yorker* reported the CIA training guerrillas "in the use of mortars, rocket grenades, ground-to-air missiles". 200 hand-held Stinger missiles were supplied for the first time in 1986 and *The New Yorker* reported Gulbudin Hikmatyar's "Hizbe Islami" guerrillas being trained to bring down Soviet aircraft. "Mujahideen had been promised two Stingers for every Soviet aircraft brought down. Operators who failed to aim correctly were given additional training... By 1986, the United States was so deeply involved in the Afghan war that Soviet aircraft were being brought down under the supervision of American experts". (Raja Anwar, *The Tragedy of Afghanistan*, 1988, p. 234).

(To be concluded)

Extend N-deal to South Asia: Aziz

Islamabad: Pakistan Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz has said the whole initiative of the US-India civilian nuclear deal can be enveloped in a nuclear restraint regime which allows production of fissile material for all of South Asia.



Speaking to CNN about the importance of such a deal for Pakistan, Aziz said, "As you know, the energy needs of both countries are growing. Pakistan's economy

is growing at 6 to 8% a year and our energy needs are very acute.

"Pakistan's energy needs are similar to that of India and we would like this opportunity to be used to come up with nuclear restraint environment.

He said it would be good for Pakistan and good for the region if the country has more avenues for peaceful production of nuclear energy under IAEA safeguards and guidelines to meet its growing electricity needs.

About its future impact, the prime minister said, "We believe

that a nuclear restraint regime around the whole issue will help control production of fissile material in South Asia and lead to the lowering of tension and create peace.

He added it would be helpful for containing production of fissile material. And we have made this position clear to the US administration," said Aziz.

Aziz said the A Q Khan episode was closed from all perspectives and "we have shared whatever information we could have with the stakeholders." Dawn

07 APR 2006

THE TIMES OF INDIA

Pakistan to fence parts of border with Afghanistan

Move to reinforce interdiction and elimination of terrorists

B. Muralidhar Reddy

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan would fence parts of its 2,500-km border with Afghanistan to reinforce interdiction by its forces and seek to eliminate terrorist elements located in Afghan refugee camps and elsewhere among the refugee population.

Pakistan's U.N. Ambassador Munir Akram told the world body's Security Council in New York on Tuesday that his country has deployed 80,000 troops on its Afghan border and a matching effort was required on the other side if the "hammer and anvil strategy" was to work in the war on terrorism.

According to Pakistan's official

news agency, Associated Press of Pakistan (APP), Mr. Akram said together with its intelligence sharing, Pakistan expected its partners to enhance its capabilities for interdiction and counter-terrorism through provision of electronic and other equipment, especially additional helicopters, to enhance mobility and reaction time.

Relations nose-dive

Pakistan-Afghanistan relations have nose-dived in recent weeks following charges by Kabul that several senior leaders of Al-Qaeda and Taliban leaders sheltered in the tribal belt of Pakistan were engaged in efforts to undermine peace in Afghanistan.

Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf described the charges levelled by the Hamid Karzai Government as "ridiculous" and said elements in Afghan Government were defaming Pakistan at the behest of foreign agencies. He urged Mr. Karzai to set his own house in order before pointing fingers at the neighbour.

In his presentation, Mr. Akram said Pakistan wants joint counter-terrorism operations with Afghanistan to be conducted with full adherence to the international law, including respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-interference.

17 MAR 2006

17 MAR 2006

AFGHAN LEADERS SAY PAK PLOTTED SUICIDE ATTACK

Neighbours trade charges

KANDAHAR, March 12. — The head of Afghanistan's upper house of parliament accused Pakistani intelligence of plotting a suicide attack that lightly wounded him and killed four other people in Kabul today.

Pakistan denied the allegation that widened a rift between the two neighbours, already at growing odds over Afghan claims that Taliban militants are taking shelter inside Pakistan.

Meanwhile, officials confirmed that four Albanians and four Afghans were abducted in a volatile southern province, and a purported Taliban spokesman claimed the militia's responsibility.

The car bombing in the capital targeted Sibghatullah Mujaddedi, a Muslim cleric who briefly served as president in 1992. He is now head of

the new Meshrano Jirga, or upper house, and leads a commission that encourages Taliban fighters to reconcile with the government.

Mujaddedi escaped with burns to his hands and face, but two attackers driving a station wagon that was destroyed in the blast, and two bystanders a woman and a man on a motorbike were killed.

Five others were wounded.

"The explosion was very strong. For a while I couldn't see anything. I was in the front seat of my car. I saw a big fire came toward me," the white-bearded Mujaddedi told a news conference a few hours later, his hands wrapped in bandages — burned when he raised them to protect his face from the blast.

Two of the three vehicles in his convoy were damaged by shrapnel, their windows shattered, and a body-

guard sitting behind Mujaddedi suffered an eye injury. Three bodies could be seen either side of the bloodstained road, which was littered with parts of the attackers' car.

President Mr Hamid Karzai condemned it as "an attack on the voice of Afghanistan and clerics of Afghanistan."

He did not blame anyone outright, but said that he had received information two months ago of a plot to "attack important personalities in Afghanistan." Mujaddedi was more forthright, and directly accused Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence agency for the bombing. He offered no proof.

"We have got information that ISI of Pakistan has launched a plan to kill me," he said.

Islamabad dismissed Mujaddedi's charges.

Stop being India-centric: Mush to Pakistanis

Says His Priorities Are Improving The Economy & Fighting Terror, Not An Arms Race With Neighbours

By M Ziauddin

Rawalpindi: Pakistan President Gen Pervez Musharraf has said his country is focused on improving its economy, alleviating poverty and eradicating terrorism from its soil and is not interested in joining a numerical arms race with its neighbour India.

"We are pursuing our national interests as other countries do. We are not in competition with India. India has global and regional aspirations. We do not have such aspirations. Our aspirations are defensive. We want to create jobs, reduce poverty," he told senior media persons of the country invited to his Camp Office in Rawalpindi following the visit of United States President George W Bush to the region.

Musharraf described the results flowing from Bush's weekend visit to Islamabad as positive. Pakistan-US relations were institutionalised, broad-based, long-term and multifaceted, he said, advising his countrymen to stop being India-centric.

"They (the Indians) are going in a different direction and we are going in a different direction," the Pakistani President said.

He agreed when reminded that it was the Pakistani army and the foreign office, which had drummed these India-centric ideas into the minds of Pakistanis over the last 60 years. Musharraf said he felt the government, the foreign office, the political leadership and the media should try to remove this India fixation, but added with a smile: "The army will still remain India-centric for obvious reasons." *Dawn*

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neighbour

India.

N-Programme: Pakistan does not need cooperation from outside.

F-16s: Willing to buy F-16s if they come under a Non-Nato Alliance concession. Otherwise money is better spent on strengthening economy, alleviating poverty.

Kashmir: Pakistan expects Washington to continue to play the role of a facilitator. "We will have to tackle and resolve the issue at the bilateral level."

Energy: "We need energy, we need gas, we need hydroelectricity... The US recognises this. We are getting one more 300mw nuclear power plant from China. We need a 1,000mw nuclear power

plant from the US."

A Q Khan: "Every time a new aspect of the clandestine trade comes to the fore, they come asking why the doctor did not reveal it earlier. And there are two more doctors, Dr Jaffery and Dr Farooq, whom the US wants to interrogate. We will not hand them over to anybody. We will question them using our own methodology and if they (the US) have any questions they can send them to us."

Terror: Four-point strategy—use force against militants, take administrative action to address Taliban activity, encourage progressive forces in affected areas and start reconstruction in those areas.



Musharraf blasts Karzai

Leak of intelligence to media infuriates Pakistan President

B. Muralidhar Reddy

ISLAMABAD: Two days after U.S. President George W. Bush said he expected Pakistan to do "lot more" in taking on the Al-Qaeda, Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf launched a scathing attack on his Afghanistan counterpart Hamid Karzai and said if Mr. Karzai is serious in tackling terrorism, he should take a hard look at his defence and intelligence apparatus.

In an interaction with senior Pakistani journalists, Gen. Musharraf on Monday said he has invited John Abizaid, in-charge of U.S. Central Command, to Pakistan for a frank exchange of views on the

developments centred on the cooperation in the war against terrorism in general and the state of affairs in Afghanistan in particular.

U.S. protege

Political and diplomatic observers here are surprised at the no-holds-barred attack by Gen. Musharraf directed at Mr. Karzai since the latter is essentially is seen as a protégé of Washington.

The decision of the Karzai Government to leak a list of wanted persons allegedly sheltered in Pakistan handed over by Afghan President to Islamabad days before the visit of Mr. Bush appears to have triggered the lat-

est row. It is the list and the glitches in the cooperation in the fight against terrorism which dominated the agenda of Mr. Bush's meeting with Gen. Musharraf on Saturday.

In an interview with the CNN on Sunday night, Gen. Musharraf accused Afghanistan of stirring trouble in Pakistan and said Mr. Karzai "does not appreciate what Pakistan has done for him".

In an interview to a news agency on February 18, Mr. Karzai urged neighbouring nations to stop meddling in Afghan affairs. Gen. Musharraf said he also gave Mr. Karzai an intelligence report, detailing how Afghan agencies were trying to stir trouble in Pakistan.

After Bush leaves, Mush scolds Karzai

Blasts Intelligence On Terror Camps

Washington/Rawalpindi: Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf blasted Afghan President Hamid Karzai on Sunday for being "totally oblivious of what is happening in his own country".

Tension between the two leaders, both US allies in the war on terror, has developed "in the last one or two months", Musharraf told CNN's *Late Edition*.

Following the departure of US President George W Bush from Asia, Musharraf renewed his tiff with Afghanistan over coop-

an Associated Press report that Karzai had given Pakistan intelligence suggesting that former Taliban leader Mullah Mohammed Omar and his associates are hiding in Pakistan.

The AP report also said Afghanistan had given Pakistan information about the locations of alleged terror camps along the Pak-Afghan border. "I am really surprised and shocked why they (the Afghans) have disclosed this to the media," Musharraf said. "We've already

gone through this list. Two-thirds of it is months old, and there is nothing there," he said. "What there was, the telephone numbers that they are talking of, two-thirds of them are dead numbers, and even the CIA knows about it. The location they are talking of Mullah Omar is nonsense."

Musharraf also accused Karzai of "waiting for a presidential visit to hand me over this list"—an apparent reference to Bush's visit. "Is that the way intelligence functions?... I feel there is a very, very deliberate attempt to malign Pakistan by some (Afghan) agents, and President Karzai is totally oblivious of what is happening in his own country."

Musharraf accused Karzai personally of releasing the information publicly, saying he "has raised this accusation against Pakistan". Agencies



Uneasy Allies In The War On Terror

eration in the search for Osama bin Laden and operatives of the Taliban and Al Qaida.

Pakistan has faced pressure from Washington and Kabul to strengthen efforts to dismantle terror camps. While in Pakistan, Bush said it was imperative to hunt down Al Qaida and suggested Pakistan could do a better job of sharing intelligence.

On Sunday, Gen Musharraf told CNN he was furious about

Pak trade on China lips

JEHANGIR S. POCHA

Beijing, Feb. 22: Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf's four-day visit to China is not deepening strategic ties between the two countries as much as Islamabad would like.

Though Beijing is, and is likely to remain, Islamabad's largest arms supplier, the Chinese leadership repeatedly parried Musharraf attempts to make headway on sensitive geo-political issues.

Instead, officials here focused on trying to jump-start bilateral trade, which reached only about \$4.25 billion last year.

"China wants its ties with Pakistan to also have economic benefits so if you notice, every agreement signed on this visit yet has had an economic element," said Hu Shisheng, director of the South Asian studies at the China Institute of Contemporary International Relations in Beijing.

"This is necessary if we want to make our relationship sustainable. The irony is that while Sino-Pakistani political relations are stronger than Sino-Indian political relations, Sino-Indian trade relations



Musharraf Sino alert

have become stronger than Sino-Pak trade relations."

So far, Musharraf, who has been accompanied by scores of businessmen, has signed 32 agreements and MoUs worth about \$500 million with the Chinese government and private sector. The bulk of this money will go towards real estate development, the creation of a mass transit system in Karachi, and widening the Karakorum Highway that connects Pakistan with China's west.

The two sides also agreed to expedite the creation of a mutual free-trade agreement and investigate building an energy pipeline that would

connect China to Iran through Pakistan.

China also said it would continue transferring civilian nuclear technology to Pakistan, something that has irked India and many western countries, including the US.

But officials here were markedly cool towards the idea of Pakistan's cherished goal of becoming a full-member of the strategically important Shanghai Cooperation Organization.

The six-member grouping, which includes Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan, is increasingly becoming the major

forum for trade and security in Central Asia, an area Pakistan sees as its backyard.

Chinese leaders also refused to be drawn into a discussion on the Kashmir issue, which Musharraf repeatedly referred to as one of the root causes of terrorism in the world.

In fact, Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao rapped Musharraf on the knuckles for the killing of three Chinese civilians by Islamic militants in Baluchistan on February 15.

"I hope Pakistan will adopt measures to guarantee the personnel safety and property of Chinese in Pakistan," Wen said.

THE TELEGRAPH

Pak spread N-tech, US winked: Report

By Chidanand Rajghatta/TNN

Washington: Successive American administrations condoned serial nuclear proliferation by Pakistan before and after 9/11 while dragging the US into a disastrous war in pursuit of phantom weapons programme in Iraq, a new investigative report has said.

In the second of a two-part article in the Atlantic Monthly, the journalist writer William Langwiesche delivers a stinging indictment of American obfuscation and inaction over the prolif-

eration activities of US client state Pakistan, ostensibly because of its help in the war on terrorism. But as the report—much of it based on the painstaking work of nuclear chronicler Mark Hibbs spread across two decades—shows, the Americans knew about Pakistan's proliferation much before 9/11 and still winked at it even as it sporadically bore down on the recipients of Islamabad's services—Iraq, North Korea, Iran and Libya among them.

The report, based on interviews with Hibbs and many in-

siders in the nuclear business, reveals how Pakistan's rulers repeatedly lied about their proliferation activity while "delivering nuclear capability into the hands of America's most significant enemies, including regimes with overt connection to Islamic terrorists" and finally got away by pinning the blame on the rogue metallurgist A Q Khan.

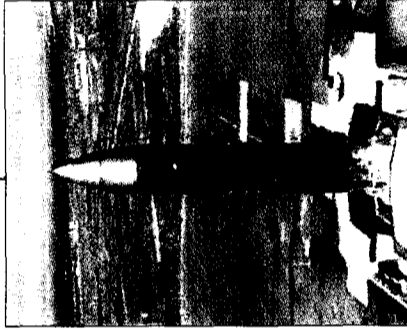
The report says western non-proliferation experts knew about Pakistan's misadventures but "they remained largely paralysed so long as their own governments and particu-

larly leaders of the US placed greater importance on propelling up various Pakistani regimes than on stopping the spread of nuclear weapons."

In a scalding passage about Washington's dubious poster boy Pervez Musharraf, Langwiesche says his investigation when the proliferation came out in the open "was a cover-up and a sham, of a sort possible only in a morally bankrupt and corrupt nation where cowardly and illegitimate rulers propped up by huge infusion of American dollars and depen-

dant on their soldiers guns, suppress genuine inquiries because they themselves would be implicated and, in the embarrassment that followed, would be cut off from foreign aid and driven from power by their own people, who almost universally now detest them."

Langwiesche says that the US knew that Iran was Pakistan's longest standing customer going back to the early 1990s. The connection was reported by Hibbs in Nucleonics Week, a specialised industry magazine in May 1991.



Airstrike targets Zawahri, kills Pak civilians

Islamabad condemns attack

ASSOCIATED Press
Damadola (Pakistan), January 14

A US airstrike that killed at least 17 people in a Pakistani border village on Friday had targeted al-Qaida's No 2 Ayman al-Zawahri, but the suspect wasn't there.

Two senior Pakistani officials said on Saturday that the CIA had acted on incorrect information in launching the attack in the north-western village of Dalamoda, near the Afghan border.

The airstrike has created quite a furore with Islamabad condemning the act and deciding to summon the US envoy to the foreign office to lodge its protest.

Information Minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmed said the government regretted the loss of civilian lives. "We want to assure the people we will not allow such an incident to happen again," Ahmed said.

Citing unnamed American Intelligence officials, US networks reported that al-Zawahri, Osama bin Laden's top lieutenant, could have been at a compound targeted in the attack or about to arrive. "Their information was wrong, and our investigations conclude that they acted on a false information," said a senior Intelligence official who has direct knowledge of the investigations launched by Pakistan to look into the attack.

Like bin Laden, al-Zawahri, is believed to have been hiding along the rugged Pakistan-Afghan frontier since the September 11, 2001, attacks on America. He has a \$25 million US government bounty on his head.

There was no confirmation from either Islamabad or Washington on the reports about the

airstrike, but a Pakistani intelligence official said that the CIA had told Pakistani agents that they had targeted al-Zawahri.

A reporter who visited Damadola about 12 hours after the attack saw destroyed houses, and villagers burying at least 17 people, including women and children. The villagers denied hosting al-Zawahri or any other al-Qaida or Taliban figure, and said all the dead were local people.

On Saturday, more than 8,000 tribesmen staged a peaceful protest in a nearby town to condemn the airstrike, which one speaker described as "open terrorism." Police dispersed a smaller protest in another town using tear gas.

Pakistani officials told NBC news that US predator drones had fired as many as 10 missiles at Damadola in the Bajur tribal region of northwestern Pakistan. ABC quoted anonymous Pakistani military sources as saying al-Zawahri could have been among five top al-Qaida officials believed killed. The second Pakistani intelligence official said the remains of some bodies had "quickly been removed" from Damadola after the strike and DNA tests were being conducted, but would not say by whom. He spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to media.

Shah Zaman, a tribesman whose home was destroyed but survived the attack, denied hosting any terrorists and said no officials had taken bodies away. "I don't know him (al-Zawahri). He was not at my home. No foreigner was at my home when the planes came and dropped bombs," he said.

THE HUSTON TIMES

Pak ready to junk pipeline for N-deal

By Chidanand Rajghatta/TNN

Washington: Pakistan has signalled that it is ready to ditch the pipeline project linking Iran with India if Washington offers it the same nuclear deal it has struck with New Delhi. Pakistan's latest gambit was laid out by its Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz at a UN news conference over the weekend ahead of his White House meeting with President Bush on Tuesday.

He said Pakistan was considering "several alternatives" to meet its energy needs, including pipelines from Qatar and Turkmenistan.

Primarily though, Pakistan has been hinting that it will go to any lengths to win the same nuclear deal from Washington as envisaged in the US-India nuclear agreement currently under discussion.

It is also ready to vote with the US against Iran when the IAEA meets in early February to decide on referring Teheran to the UN Security Council for nuclear infractions. "We will take any decision which we have to in our national interests...Our energy needs are very pronounced. Energy security is something we focus on seriously," Aziz told reporters in New York before arriving in Washington.

Prior to the US-India nuclear deal, Pakistan had seldom spoken about its energy requirements.



AZIZ: Bargaining hard

Thus far though, Washington has not shown the slightest inclination to put Pakistan in the same bracket as India in nuclear matters, in part because of its dismal non-proliferation record and also because of its unstable history.

Meanwhile, with western powers lining up against an increasingly isolated Iran and growing ambivalence regarding Iran in both New Delhi and Islamabad, partly in their quest for nuclear energy, the ambitious project to tap into Iran's energy cornucopia seems dead in the water despite periodic pronouncements that it is still under consideration.

India has said its booming economy needs energy from both sources. But if Islamabad ditches the project, there is little New Delhi can do since Pakistan is the transit country.

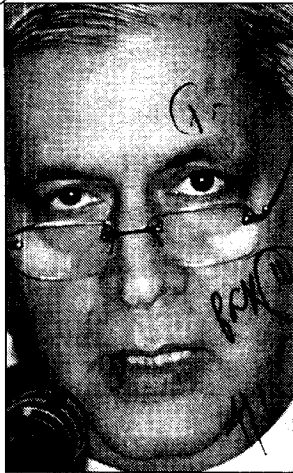
So desperate is Pakistan to hang on to the coattails of the US-India nuclear deal that for once even the familiar refrain of F-16s supplies has receded to the background.

In part because of the world attention on the earthquake tragedy, Islamabad has agreed to defer purchase of new fighter planes, settling for a few refurbished one to keep its air force running. Strategic parity with India now devolves much more around getting a nuclear energy deal than F-16s.

After years of military build-ups and muscle-flexing, there is a distinct change in Pakistan's security outlook with greater emphasis on economic security.

As a result, even as Aziz, a former Citibank executive, was selling Pakistan in New York as an investment destination, his military leader Pervez Musharaf was winging his way to the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.

While fishing for a nuclear deal with the US, Aziz is also expected to cast for trade concessions and greater US involvement in the Kashmir issue. Pakistan is also seeking a respectable Bush layover in Islamabad when he visits the Indian sub-continent early March.



Shaukat Aziz: Big plans

Pak to buy N-reactors from China, says paper

London, Jan. 3 (Reuters): Pakistan is in talks to buy up to eight nuclear power reactors from China for between \$7 billion and \$10 billion, Britain's *Financial Times* reported today.

Construction on the plants could start by 2015 and end 10 years later, the newspaper said, quoting an unidentified senior Pakistani official.

The new power stations would add 3,600-4,800 megawatts of capacity using a series of 600 megawatt reactors, according to the report.

Pakistan's Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz formally launched construction last week of a Chinese-supplied nuclear plant at Chashma in the eastern province of Punjab.

In September, Pakistan called on the US and other western countries for help in developing civilian nuclear technology that would meet its growing energy needs. However there have been international concerns over Pakistan's activities since its top nuclear scientist, Abdul Qader Khan, admitted in 2004 selling nuclear technology to Iran, North Korea and Libya.

Khan, once revered as the father of Pakistan's atomic bomb, ran a nuclear black market supplying technology to make highly enriched uranium for nuclear bombs.