Examples of Editorials/Stories Citing Terror Free Tomorrow Pakistan Survey

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution ajc.com **ajc**

Editorial 11/06/07

American policy toward Pakistan had been a failure even before this latest setback. Despite plying Musharraf with public attention and billions in military aid, we haven't got much effective help from him in shutting down al-Qaida and Taliban sanctuaries in Pakistan's tribal regions.

The best explanation for that failure may come from a poll of Pakistanis commissioned by the American nonprofit group Terror Free Tomorrow.

According to that poll, taken in August, only 19 percent of Pakistanis felt favorably toward the United States. To put that in context, the favorability number for India — Pakistan's neighbor and hated rival, with whom it has fought several wars — was twice as high as that of the United States.

In that same poll, just 9 percent of Pakistanis expressed a favorable view of President Bush, and only 38 percent expressed a favorable view of Musharraf. By comparison, 46 percent of Pakistanis expressed a favorable opinion of Osama bin Laden.

Reversing those numbers would be difficult, but the United States does have some cards to play. The Pakistani people have made clear their yearning for democracy, and if the United States was perceived as supporting that ambition even against our own short-term interests, it could go a long way toward overcoming past mistakes.

The Washington Post

Editorial 11/21/07

Musharraf seems to be on the same path [as Egyptian President Mubarak]. While talking about fighting radicalism, his real energy has been devoted to imprisoning and harassing his democratic opponents. As in Egypt, this approach has elevated the Islamists. Polling by the nonprofit group Terror Free Tomorrow shows broad Pakistani support for democracy, coupled with considerable sympathy for radical groups that oppose the military regime. In the long run, propping up favorable dictators to fight terrorism causes a backlash.

Guardian Unlimited

Editorial November 8, 2007

The only way to explain why the US and its allies do not abandon a leader who is less popular (as shown by a Terror Free Tomorrow survey) with his people than the terrorist whom he is being paid billions to hunt is that the people of Pakistan are considered irrelevant in discussions about Pakistan.

Los Angeles Times

Editorial (11/15/07)

Today, Pakistan is in crisis once more. Musharraf has managed to alienate secular democrats and radical Islamists alike. As Musharraf clings to power, we continue to lose traction in the battle against extremism in Pakistan. A recent Terror Free Tomorrow opinion poll found that most Pakistanis are so alienated that they give Osama bin Laden higher approval ratings than they give to Musharraf -- or to George Bush.

THE HUFFINGTON POST.

Opinion November 8, 2007

Musharraf has been so successful as an anti-terrorist that he is now less popular in Pakistan than Osama Bin Laden (linking to Terror Free Tomorrow's poll).

NEW YORK POST

24 HOURS A DAY

Editorial (11/21/07)

Al Qaeda is quite popular there. A recent poll for the group Terror Free Tomorrow found that Osama bin Laden has a 70 percent favorability rating in the Northwest Frontier Province and other Pakistani tribal areas (not so coincidently, where US intelligence believes he is now holed up). The publicity about any US-led or -supported operation won't help. The poll shows there is no support for any US military action against these groups; Pakistanis see the War on Terror as America's problem - not theirs.

Editorials (10/08/07)

All this is of great moment to Americans because of Pakistan's role in the war against Islamist extremism. Within Pakistan, the war is not going well. This is confirmed by the Washington-based research institute, Terror Free Tomorrow, which released a survey showing that three quarters of Pakistanis oppose American military action against Al Qaeda and the Taliban inside Pakistan···. Aside from that, popular support for the Taliban and Osama bin Laden has hardened in Pakistan. The Terror Free Tomorrow survey found that, bin Laden was more popular among Pakistanis than Musharraf. The al-Qaida leader received a 46 percent approval rating to Musharraf's 38 percent. Asked about their view of the purpose of the US-led war on terrorism, 66 percent of Pakistanis said they believe that the US is acting against Islam.

MiamiHerald.com ⓗ The Sacramento Bee

baltimoresun.com

Editorials (10/06/07 – 10/14/07)

A poll of Pakistanis released by Terror Free Tomorrow in early September found than bin Laden had a 46 percent approval rating, while Musharraf's stood at 38 percent. A destabilized Pakistan is yet another al Qaeda threat to world security. And like the battles in Iraq and Afghanistan, this one has profound military, economic and political consequences for the United States.

INTERNATIONAL
THE NEWS

Editorial (9/23/07)

Pakistan's political landscape has been repeatedly reduced to the binary that pits extremist militants against the military. Take, for example, the oft-quoted survey released earlier this month by the Washington-based think tank Terror Free Tomorrow. Local and international politicians, policy makers as well as the mainstream media have highlighted the fact that the survey shows bin Laden to be more popular than General Musharraf amongst Pakistanis,

with the former boasting approval ratings of 46 per cent
against the president's 38 percent. Of course, the politics
and problems of a nation as diffuse as Pakistan are rarely
so easily summarized. What most media coverage of the
Terror Free Tomorrow survey neglects to report is that the
statistics also show Pakistanis to have a 69 percent
approval rating of Chief Justice Iftikhar Chaudhry, 63
percent for Benazir Bhutto and 57 percent for Nawaz Sharif.
The average Pakistani's ability to see that there are many
influential actors in the epic drama that is national
politics is, however, dismissed in favor of a neat binary
placing the military in opposition with the militants.

The New York Times
November 5, 2007

In a front page story, the *Times* cites Terror Free Tomorrow's recent survey of Pakistan:

"A poll in September by Terror Free Tomorrow, a Washington-based nonprofit group, showed that Osama bin Laden was more popular in Pakistan than General Musharraf, with 46 percent of respondents giving him a "favorable" rating against 38 percent for the president. Ms. Bhutto got a "favorable" rating from 63 percent. The nationwide poll surveyed 1,044 adults and had a margin of sampling error of plus or minus three percentage points."

The Washington Post
October 31, 2007

In a front page story, the *Post* cites Terror Free Tomorrow's recent survey of Pakistan:

"A poll in August conducted for the Washington-based nonprofit group Terror Free Tomorrow found that 19 percent of Pakistanis held a favorable view of the United States, down from 26 percent the previous year. Osama bin Laden had a far higher approval rating, at 46 percent, than either Musharraf (38 percent) or President Bush (9 percent)."

The Washington Post
Los Angeles Times

November 16, 2007

"Patience with Musharraf's U.S. backers is also wearing thin. Even before the latest crisis, Pakistanis were highly suspicious of U.S. intentions. A poll released in September by the Washington-based nonpartisan group Terror Free Tomorrow found that only 19 percent of Pakistanis had a favorable view of the United States."

Chicago Tribune

October 30, 2007

"A poll released in September by Terror Free Tomorrow, a Washington-based non-profit, found that only 19 percent of Pakistanis polled had a favorable opinion of the U.S. -- making the U.S. the most unpopular country here, even more unpopular than historic enemy India."