

China: ‘Something Out Of Kilter in the World’

China’s response to U.S./NATO threats against Syria, Iran, and Pakistan, is expressed in the following two statements from the Chinese press on Dec. 2.

China Daily Editorial: In the wake of Washington and Paris’ overt threat to use force against Syria and reports that an American aircraft carrier is heading toward the coastal waters of Syria, the possibility that the United States and its NATO allies will start a Libya-style military intervention in Syria is increasing. Washington and Paris have obviously been emboldened by the success of the NATO intervention in Libya. However, it should be remembered the military campaign against Libya, which was supposed to be over in a few days, dragged on for more than eight months, with internal dissension emerging several times within NATO. . . .

Syria is Iran’s most important ally in the Arab world. So intervention by Iran cannot be ruled out. And by striking at Syria, the US would actually be trying to clear the way for attack on Iran. It would be a challenge even for the US to launch a war against Damascus and Teheran simultaneously. Meanwhile, if forced into a corner by a military invasion by the West, Syria would be likely to strike against Israel, which would lead to full-blown conflicts in the Middle East. . . .

There is clearly something out of kilter in the world, with conflicts breaking out one after another. Yet those who benefit from this imbalance in international relations are loath to accept any rebalancing that would make it more difficult for them to run roughshod over the consensus of the rest of the international community.”

People’s Daily Overseas Edition: “The US-Pakistan anti-terrorism coalition is about to collapse,” by Fu Xiaoqiang.

...An important reason leading the anti-terrorism coalition to the verge of collapse is that the United States follows no rules in its anti-terrorism actions. The United States always says “rules must be followed” on the one hand, but it ignores basic principles of interna-

tional law while conducting anti-terrorism activities in Pakistan and Afghanistan on the other hand. Unmanned U.S. aerial vehicles have recklessly trampled on Pakistan’s sovereignty, security and territorial integrity, and caused casualties of Pakistani civilians, soldiers and policemen. The case of Bin Laden killed by the United States this May reveals the United States’ selfishness and distrust in Pakistan since it has not considered the feeling of Pakistan as a front-line ally of anti-terrorism at all and never regarded Pakistan as an equal anti-terrorism partner. . . .

Pakistani people regard the U.S. crossing of the Pakistani border to kill Bin Laden as a public insult to their country and have started to question the Pakistani army’s capacity to defend the country. The political and military authorities of Pakistan are facing severe challenges and are already not able to stand by and allow the United States to continue damaging Pakistan’s sovereignty and security just for a little U.S. aid any more. . . .

If the United States does not change its policies and take measures to guarantee Pakistan’s sovereign[ty] and security, the U.S.-Pakistan alliance will inevitably come to an end.

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