

## China: U.S. And NATO Have Trampled On International Law

By Global Research

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<u>Agenda</u>

\* State newspaper says attack proves US will not show the slightest hesitation to violate sovereignty of another nation to ensure its 'absolute security'

BEIJING: China's top state newspaper on Tuesday accused the United States of flouting international law and fanning terrorism after a NATO attack killed 24 Pakistani soldiers, and it warned that the Islamabad's grip on security could be dangerously weakened.

The condemnation in the People's Daily, the main newspaper of China's ruling Communist Party, kept up Beijing's angry words in support of its partner, Pakistan, as Prime Minister Yousaf Raza Gilani has said that "business as usual" with the United States has been over after the attack on Saturday.

NATO called the killings a "tragic, unintended incident", and the US officials said NATO and American investigations would determine what happened in the attack in northwest Pakistan.

But the People's Daily said the attack already laid bare deeper problems in the US approach to militant threats.

"Above all, we must be clear that the United States and NATO have trampled on international laws and rules," said a commentary in the newspaper.

"The United States and NATO have violated international law and international norms," the paper said in an editorial condemning the attacks.

"This shows...that at crucial moments, the United States will not show the slightest hesitation to violate the sovereignty of another nation to ensure its 'absolute security'."

"The risk in fighting terror this way is that it will ignite latent sympathy and support for terrorism, as well as hurting many innocent people and damaging international law," said a commentary in the Chinese-language newspaper.

"The soil nurturing terrorism will become even more fertile, and the space for terrorism to spread even broader," it said.

The commentary came after the Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Hong Lei voiced shock over the assault, and the Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi offered Beijing's firm support to his Pakistani counterpart, Hina Rabbani Khar.

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The close ties between China and Pakistan reflect...a desire to hedge against US influence across the region.

The People's Daily commentary said the killings of the soldiers could inflict lasting damage.

"Islamabad's grip on domestic security will also be weakened," it said. "This will not only work against the war on terror, it could also leave the risk of long-term turmoil."

Stop NATO e-mail list home page with archives and search engine: <a href="http://groups.yahoo.com/group/stopnato/messages">http://groups.yahoo.com/group/stopnato/messages</a>

Stop NATO website and articles: <a href="http://rickrozoff.wordpress.com">http://rickrozoff.wordpress.com</a>

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