



USPAK Foundation

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Press Release

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Congressman Rohrabacher Bill on Baluchistan would hurt US interests

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Maryland February 19th 2012: Discussion regarding U.S. support for an independent country of Baluchistan will have disastrous results for U.S. interests in the region. Baluchistan is one of four provinces of Pakistan, an independent Creation of Baluchistan state may be the precursor to not only the eventual breakup of Pakistan, resulting in increased instability and lawlessness in the region. Furthermore, tensions between Pakistan and Afghanistan, not to mention tensions between Pakistan and India will surely increase. Our mission in Afghanistan will be further complicated and hampered by yet another front of instability, porous border, while increasing the reach of war lords and becoming a safe haven for terrorists.

We must ensure that we are cognizant for US of any long or short term consequences of this action. Supporting the process of creating an independent Baluchistan may result in a problem much bigger than Afghanistan or Iraq. Our actions and rhetoric must be consistent with our foreign policy interests - an independent Baluchistan state is not the solution - it will only create a myriad of problems which we as a nation will have to contend with for decades to come.

The Pakistani government must support the basic human rights of all its citizens including the Baluchi people, and we must increase our efforts to stop any abuses perpetrated by the Pakistani government, Baluchi Tribal Leaders, or foreign miscreants.

In the interest of US foreign and defense policies, we ask Congressman Rohrabacher to withdraw his bill and cease further discussion on this issue.

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