

CHRONOLOGY OF TWIN PEAKS CRISIS

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October 1, 2001: Militants attack the Jammu and Kashmir state assembly building. India's Ministry for External Affairs issues a statement demanding that Pakistan curb the activities of the Jaish-e-Muhammad and other terrorist groups.

October 2, 2001: India claims that credible links between the group that attacked the Kashmir assembly building and al-Qaeda have been established. It asks for extremist groups operating in Kashmir to be identified by the US-led coalition as part of the global campaign against terror and banned. Prime Minister Vajpayee writes a letter to President Bush describing the need to restrain Pakistan.

October 3, 2001: India asks Pakistan to hand over Maulana Masood Azhar, the leader of the Jaish-e-Muhammad.

October 5, 2001: The Indian army reports killing twelve militants in Poonch.

October 6, 2001: Explosions and shootouts kill sixteen militants and six civilians in Jammu and Kashmir.

October 7, 2001: The US begins airstrikes against Afghanistan.

October 8, 2001: Musharraf calls Vajpayee promising to investigate the attack on the Kashmir assembly. He expresses a desire to resume dialogue and invites Vajpayee to Pakistan. Vajpayee offers aid to Afghan refugees in Pakistan, which Musharraf accepts.

October 10, 2001: A spokesman for the Indian Ministry of External Affairs states that India is prepared to resume dialogue with Pakistan provided that Islamabad open talks to issues other than Kashmir. India's ground rules also require Pakistan to take steps to curb terrorism and respond positively to confidence building measures.

October 12, 2001: The US freezes the assets of the Jaish-e-Muhammad.

October 14, 2001: India claims to have killed six Pakistani intruders along with five other militants attempting to cross the border from Pakistani to Indian-controlled Kashmir.

October 15, 2001: The Indian army shells Pakistani posts in the Mendhar and Akhnoor sectors of Jammu and Kashmir. US Secretary of State Colin Powell arrives in Islamabad.

October 16, 2001: Musharraf issues a statement at a news conference with Powell expressing a desire for normal relations with India. He states that Kashmir is the core issue in the dispute.

October 17, 2001: Vajpayee announces that a resolution to the Kashmir issue cannot be a precondition to improving Indo-Pakistani ties. Pakistan accuses India of moving more troops to the LoC. India denies the claim.

October 18, 2001: India and Pakistan exchange fire across the line of control. India downplays the incident, noting that only small arms were used.

October 22, 2001: Indian security forces kill four militants attempting to attack an Air Force base in Kashmir. Prime Minister Vajpayee claims that there is “no point in talking to Pakistan” at that point but does not rule out future dialogue. President Musharraf states that Pakistan will retaliate against India if it engages in “adventurism” along the LoC.

October 23, 2001: Pakistan démarches India, citing “anti-Pakistan rhetoric” and troop movements along the LoC.

October 28, 2001: Indian television reports one of the bloodiest days in Kashmir, citing the deaths of approximately 30 civilians, militants and Indian soldiers.

October 29, 2001: Vajpayee rules out a meeting with Musharraf on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly.

November 1, 2001: India reports one soldier killed and three injured in Pakistani shelling across the LoC. Vajpayee states that, although Indian troops are prepared to respond to aggression, India has no plans to attack Pakistan.

November 2, 2001: India claims to have killed twenty militants in the Poonch district of Kashmir amid Pakistani shelling.

November 3, 2001: Three Pakistani troops are reportedly killed in an exchange of gunfire along the LoC.

November 4, 2001: US Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld arrives in Islamabad.

November 5, 2001: Rumsfeld meets with Indian Defense Minister George Fernandes in New Delhi. Rumsfeld indicates that the global campaign against terrorism will not exclude Kashmir.

November 12, 2001: India and Pakistan exchange fire on the Siachen glacier.

November 16, 2001: In a speech, Musharraf accuses India of planning aggression against Pakistan.

November 22, 2001: Pakistan claims that Indian forces fired on civilians in Azad, Kashmir leading to one death and several injuries.

November 24, 2001: Vajpayee states that a meeting with Musharraf at the SAARC summit in January 2002 is possible. Musharraf states that Pakistan is ready to discuss all issues with India, including but not limited to Kashmir.

November 27, 2001: India reports that militants killed twelve Indian security personnel in an ambush in the mountains of Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district.

November 28, 2001: India reports killing sixteen Pakistani soldiers and destroying seventeen bunkers in an exchange of fire across the LoC. Pakistan denies the report.

December 4, 2001: India and Pakistan exchange fire across the LoC.

December 6, 2001: Pakistan's High Commissioner in India, Ashraf Jehangir Qazi, writes in the Times of India that Musharraf seeks normalized relations with India built on a fair resolution to the Kashmir issue, and urges Vajpayee to ignore those in his government who agitate for war.

December 8, 2001: Ten Civilians, two militants and two Indian soldiers are reported killed in Srinagar in a shootout following an attack on an army convoy.

December 10, 2001: Indian forces claim to have killed ten Jaish-e-Muhammad militants in Kashmir.

December 13, 2001: Militants attack the Indian Parliament in New Delhi. Vajpayee comments, "This was not just an attack on the building, it was a warning to the entire nation... We accept the challenge."

December 14, 2001: US State Department updates travel warnings for Pakistan, authorizing the departure of all non-essential US Embassy and Consulate staff.

December 15, 2001: The Indian police report that Pakistan's main intelligence service, the ISI, is linked to the suicide attack on the Parliament.

December 17, 2001: Charges are brought against accused mastermind of December 13th attack, Mohammed Afzal, a suspected member of the Jaish-e-Mohammed.

December 18, 2001: India launches a massive mobilization known as Operation Parakram. It places its armed forces on high alert, and begins to redeploy troops westward. Pakistan increases the alert status of its armed forces.

December 19, 2001: Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee addresses the Indian Parliament stating, "We'll think through everything before making any decision. . . Decisions on war or peace are not taken in haste."

December 20, 2001: Pakistan reportedly moves its Hatf-I and Hatf-II missiles to the Punjab.

December 24, 2001: India reportedly moves its Prithvi missiles to the northern Punjab within range of Islamabad.

December 25, 2001: Two Indian soldiers and one civilian are reported killed in gunfire across the LoC. Pakistan cancels all military leaves and orders its troops to report for duty.

December 26, 2001: Sixteen Pakistani soldiers are reported killed in heavy firing across the LoC in Poonch. The US places the Lashkar-e-Taiba and the Jaish-e-Muhammad on the State Department's list of designated foreign terrorist organizations. Making the announcement, Secretary of State Powell says that the two groups are responsible for "numerous terrorist attacks in India and Pakistan."

December 27, 2001: Pakistan reportedly places its airports on high alert and installs anti-aircraft guns. Pakistan's navy is reported to begin aerial monitoring of the coastline. Indian Defense Minister George Fernandes describes the situation as "grave" and notes that his country's force deployments will be completed in two days.

December 28, 2001: India bans overflight facilities to Pakistan and reduces the strength of its High Commission by half. Pakistan responds in kind. Pakistani intelligence reports that 95% of the Indian air force is in offensive position. Eighteen Indian soldiers are killed when anti-tank mines they are positioning along the border in Rajasthan accidentally explode.

December 29, 2001: *The Hindu* reports that the Indian army is preparing to launch a massive military exercise known as Operation Chivalry to test its readiness to defend against a nuclear attack. Pakistani officials are notified before the exercise begins. President Bush telephones Vajpayee and Musharraf urging them to exercise restraint. Bush asks Pakistan to "take additional strong and decisive measures to eliminate the extremists who seek to harm India, undermine Pakistan, and provoke war."

December 31, 2001: US Intelligence is reported to predict that war between India and Pakistan will start within days. India asks Pakistan to hand over twenty wanted terrorists based in Pakistan.

January 1, 2002: India and Pakistan exchange lists of nuclear facilities in accordance with the agreement on the Prohibition of Attack Against Nuclear Installations and Facilities.

January 3, 2002: One policeman is killed and more than twenty others are injured in a grenade attack near the Kashmir state assembly building. Six Pakistani soldiers are reportedly killed by Indian fire along the LoC. Press reports suggest that Musharraf has shifted ISI personnel assigned Kashmir.

January 6, 2002: India shoots down a Pakistani Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) over Poonch.

January 7, 2002: Vajpayee suggests he would be amenable to reopening dialogue with Pakistan at a SAARC meeting in Kathmandu, Nepal.

January 9, 2002: Musharraf constitutes a National Kashmir Committee.

January 12, 2002: Musharraf makes a televised public address in which states, “We are weary and sick of this Kalashnikov culture” and vows, “No organizations will be able to carry out terrorism under the pretext of Kashmir... Whoever is involved with such acts in the future will be dealt with strongly whether they come from inside or outside of the country.”

January 13, 2002: More than 800 militants are arrested in a 24 hour period. The Indian government states that it will suspend judgment of its neighbor before embarking on a military de-escalation or initiating the resumption of dialogue.

January 14, 2002: Press reports indicate that US intelligence has detected new missile launch sites in Pakistan.

January 16, 2002: Secretary of State Powell visits Islamabad on the first stage of a South Asian tour intended to temper hostilities and restart dialogue between India and Pakistan.

January 23, 2002: Musharraf states in an interview that he would be amenable to denuclearizing South Asia and would sign a no-war pact with India, but adds that Pakistan will not reciprocate India’s pledge for a no-first use of nuclear weapons.

January 24, 2002: India rejects Musharraf’s no-war proposition and demands that infiltration into Kashmir and proxy war be ended outright.

January 25, 2002: India successfully tests an Agni II intermediate-range missile after notifying Pakistan of the flight test. Pakistan refers to the test as a “direct threat.”

January 29, 2002: Pakistan offers talks on a phased plan to withdraw troops to their peacetime locations. India rejects the offer, stating that tensions can only be diffused after Pakistan takes steps to reduce infiltrations in Kashmir.

February 6, 2002: India allows Pakistani citizens stranded in Jammu and Kashmir because of travel restriction to return home.

February 11, 2002: India démarches Pakistan, reiterating its demand that Pakistan hand over twenty terrorists.

February 16, 2002: Musharraf rules out handing over individuals whom India claims are terrorists.

February 19, 2002: Pakistani fire hits an Indian aircraft it reports strayed into Pakistani airspace. The plane lands successfully in India.

February 25, 2002: India's parliament resumes for the first time since the suicide attack of December 13, 2001.

March 5, 2002: India successfully test-fires a surface to air missile, the Akash.

March 17, 2002: A Christian Church is bombed in Islamabad, killing five people including a US Embassy officer and her daughter.

March 20, 2002: Pakistan reports that it is conducting military exercises near the Kashmiri border.

March 23, 2002: Musharraf speaks at Pakistan's National Day festivities, promising an "unforgettable lesson" if India challenges Pakistan.

March 30, 2002: Two militants open fire at the Raghunath temple in Jammu, killing seven people and leaving eighteen injured.

April 6, 2002: The German newspaper *Der Spiegel* publishes an interview with Musharraf in which he claims that "as a last resort the atom bomb is also possible."

May 14, 2002: Three militants attack a bus and an Indian army camp in Kaluchak in Indian-controlled Kashmir. More than 30 people are killed and 47 injured, many of them the wives and children of Indian soldiers.

May 16, 2002: Pakistan reportedly puts its armed forces on highest alert.

May 18, 2002: India expels the Pakistani High Commissioner. The Indian Parliament adopts a unanimous resolution condemning the Jammu attack and pledging the nation's commitment to ending "senseless acts of terrorism."

May 19, 2002: Indian Army is reported to have centralized command of its paramilitary forces, including the border security and central reserve police forces. The coast guard is reportedly placed under control of the Indian navy.

May 21, 2002: Senior leader of the All Party Hurriyat Conference and president-founder of the Jammu and Kashmir People's Conference Abdul Gani Lone is assassinated by militants. India reportedly clears its grounded squadron of MIG-21s for operational flying and prepares to fly an Army brigade from Gujarat to its operational sector in Rajasthan. India's Eastern fleet ships are reportedly redeployed west toward the Pakistani border. Pakistan reportedly deploys its medium range Shaheen missiles.

May 16-26, 2002: India and Pakistan exchange intense fire across the LoC in Kashmir.

May 22, 2002: While addressing Indian troops in Jammu, Vajpayee calls the army to prepare for a “decisive fight” and states that “a new chapter of victory and triumph will be written in the history books soon.” Pakistani Railways Minister and former ISI chief Javed Ashraf Qazi states that “if it ever comes to the annihilation of Pakistan, then we will use the [nuclear option] against the enemy.”

May 25, 2002: India issues a two week deadline for Pakistan to stop infiltrations into Kashmir and begin to dismantle terrorist training camps.

May 25- 28, 2002: Pakistan conducts a series of missile test firings, testing the Gauri (Hatf v), the Ghaznavi (Hatf III), and the Abdali (Hatf-II).

May 26, 2002: Vajpayee states in a nationally televised speech, “The international community should understand that there is a limit to India’s tolerance. . . How can, and how long can, we tolerate terrorist activities in our country?”

May 27, 2002: Musharraf makes a national address in which he states that Pakistan will not initiate a war over Kashmir, but will respond if attacked by India.

May 28, 2002: Pakistan is reported to deploy all of its Mirage ground-attack fighters and Chinese-made A5Cs to its border with India.

May 29, 2002: Pakistan’s ambassador to the UN defends his country’s refusal to adopt a no first use posture, asking “How can Pakistan, a weaker power, be expected to rule out all means of deterrence?”

May 30, 2002: Pakistan reportedly confirms the movement of troops from its Afghan to its Indian border.

June 2, 2002: The highest ranking civil servant in India’s Defense Ministry states that his country’s nuclear weapons are in place for prompt use.

June 5, 2002: The US and UK upgrade travel warnings for the region, urging their nationals to leave India and Pakistan. President Bush phones Musharraf and Vajpayee, urging them to reduce tensions.

June 6, 2002: US Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage arrives in Pakistan.

June 7, 2002: In New Delhi, Armitage reports that Musharraf has pledged to permanently stop cross-border terrorism.

June 8, 2002: Pakistan reportedly claims to have shot down an Indian UAV near the border.

June 10, 2002: The Indian Ministry of External Affairs lifts the ban on the use of Indian airspace by Pakistani aircraft.

June 11, 2002: Indian warships reportedly begin redeployment toward Mumbai. US Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld arrives in New Delhi.

June 14, 2002: Pakistan is reported to begin redeploying its warships.

Mid-June, 2002: Indian intelligence agencies report in the press that Musharraf has instructed his Tenth Corps to stop infiltration across the LoC.

June 19, 2002: India reports that shelling by Pakistani troops in Kashmir has dropped by 90%. Indian Defense Minister George Fernandes notes a considerable decline in cross-border infiltration.

July 13, 2002: Twenty-five people are killed by militants near Jammu.

July 22, 2002: The US lifts travel restrictions on India.

July 27, 2002: Secretary of State Powell visits New Delhi and calls for de-escalation in Kashmir.

August 7, 2002: Pakistan signs the International Convention on the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings, and the OIC Convention on Combating International Terrorism.

September 16, 2002: Despite an increase in infiltrations across the LoC in August and September, the first phase of the Kashmir assembly elections are held.

October 10, 2002: Kashmir assembly elections conclude. Kashmiris vote the long-dominant National Conference Party out of office.

