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The nukes in Pakistan

Dennis Coday | Nov. 10, 2009 NCR Today

A must read article by Seymour M. Hersh at The New Yorker: Defending the Arsenal
In an unstable Pakistan, can nuclear warheads be kept safe? [1]. Some highlights:

> "Current and former officials said in interviews in Washington and Pakistan that [the Obama] Administration has been negotiating highly sensitive understandings with the Pakistani military. These would allow specially trained American units to provide added security for the Pakistani arsenal in case of a crisis. ...
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> "High-level coöperation between Islamabad and Washington on the Pakistani nuclear arsenal began at least eight years ago. Former President Musharraf, when I interviewed him in London recently, acknowledged that his government had held extensive discussions with the Bush Administration after the September 11th attacks, and had given State Department nonproliferation experts insight into the command and control of the Pakistani arsenal and its on-site safety and security procedures.
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> "... At first, a former high-level Bush Administration official told me, [Pakistan] was reassuring ... But by the time the official left, at the beginning of George W. Bush?s second term, he had a much darker assessment: 'They don?t trust us and they will not tell you the truth.'
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> "The former high-level Bush Administration official was just as blunt. 'If a Pakistani general is talking to you about nuclear issues, and his lips are moving, he?s lying,' he said. 'The Pakistanis wouldn?t share their secrets with anybody, and certainly not with a country that, from their point of view, used them like a Dixie cup and then threw them away.' "

Source URL (retrieved on *12/28/2014 - 21:01*): http://ncronline.org/blogs/ncr-today/nukes-pakistan?splash=

Links:
[1] http://www.newyorker.com/reporting/2009/11/16/091116fa_fact_hersh?currentPage=all