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INDIA-PAKISTAN: Border Clash Erupts

Indian and Pakistani forces recently clashed in the remote and rugged area of northern Kashmir, according to [REDACTED] the Indian Ministry of Defense. Each side claims to have inflicted heavy casualties. The long-dormant New Delhi-Islamabad "hotline" has been activated in an attempt to ease tensions. [REDACTED]

Comment: Border incidents between the two countries are frequent but usually occur farther to the south and at lower altitudes. Indian forces apparently moved into the disputed area earlier this year and may intend to remain. Their action, together with the scheduled publication this week of an Indian Government "white paper" that alleges Pakistan helped Sikh extremists in Punjab, could undercut bilateral efforts by military officers to ease tensions along the border and could also slow negotiations for the normalization of relations. [REDACTED]