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UN-PAKISTAN: Narcotics Control Effort Threatened

[REDACTED]
Pakistani officials consider the UN-funded rural development project in the poppy growing area of Buner to be a failure. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] little development work has been done and that most of the \$4 million spent on the project so far has gone for administrative overhead. Growers are threatening to renew poppy cultivation unless the project is carried out faster and project officials stop spending money on nond developmental activities. Pakistan, particularly Buner subdistrict, is a major source of heroin consumed in the US. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Depressed opium prices in Pakistan have made US-funded crop substitution programs more welcome, at least in areas where the government has control or influence. The US rural development project in the neighboring Gadoon subdistrict will become more hazardous to carry out, however, if the hostility of the poppy growers in Buner spreads to the cultivators in Gadoon. [REDACTED]

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