

Indian Forces
Strike Pakistan
After Massacre

Following an Attack on
Tourists in Kashmir

By SALMAN MASOOD
and MUJIB MASHAL

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — India said early Wednesday that it had conducted strikes on Pakistan, two weeks after an attack by armed militants killed more than two dozen civilians in Indian-administered Kashmir.

The Indian government said its forces had struck nine sites in Pakistan and on Pakistan's side of the disputed Kashmir region. Pakistani military officials said that five places had been hit, in Punjab Province and its part of Kashmir.

While India has struck Pakistan-administered Kashmir and areas close to it during previous periods of rising tensions in recent years, the attack on Wednesday on Punjab, in Pakistani territory outside the disputed region, represented an escalation.

Still, the Indian government said that its actions had been “focused, measured and nonescalatory in nature. No Pakistani military facilities have been targeted.”

In its own statement, the Pakistani government said the strikes “will not go unanswered” and that it would respond at “a time and place of its own choosing.” It added, “The temporary pleasure of India will be replaced by enduring grief.”

Pakistani military officials said they had begun a “measured but forceful” response. They did not share operational details but said that retaliation was underway.

At the White House, President Trump called the escalation between India and Pakistan “a shame.”

“We just heard about it,” he said of India's strikes. “They’ve been fighting for a long time. I just hope it ends very quickly.” Shortly after

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ERIN SCHAFF/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Antonio Austin’s Buy Here Pay Here in Lawton, Okla., is losing inventory and sales. “How much further down can we go?” he asked.

Squeeze of Tariffs Crosses Globe to a Dusty Used-Car Lot

By ELI SASLOW

LAWTON, Okla. — Antonio Austin spotted the car from 100 yards away — red dirt caked onto tinted windows, the front bumper gone, smoke billowing out from under the hood. “Damn, I hate this car,” he said. He had sold the 2012 Dodge Avenger almost a year earlier for a down payment of \$1,000, but lately it kept reappearing at his used-car dealership with problems that were becoming more complicated and expensive to fix.

He grabbed a service intake sheet from his desk, packed his lip with chewing tobacco and walked outside into the stiff prairie wind of southern Oklahoma. The last few weeks had been among the most difficult of his 25-year career, with his inventory falling near an

all-time low and his sales dropping even lower. He watched the Avenger clunk across the barren parking lot and stop in front of the service garage. The driver climbed out and banged her fist against the door.

“Can you believe this?” said Tailor Phillips, 28. “It died out on me again.”

“It might be nothing,” Antonio said, as he lifted the hood.

“How am I supposed to get to work?” she said. “Who’s going to pick up my son in an hour at day care?”

“Maybe it’s not as bad as it seems,” he said. “Let’s try not to panic just yet.”

He had been giving himself the same advice every day for the last month, as the earliest effects of President Trump’s auto tariffs cascaded down from new dealerships to used-car lots to foreign-made parts. Now the conse-

quences were landing hardest at the very bottom of the American car economy, at places like Antonio’s Buy Here Pay Here, in Lawton, on a commercial strip wedged between an Army airfield and a graveyard.

Antonio, 46, sold mostly to customers with bad credit and little savings — people who couldn’t afford to care that Antonio’s cars were often more than a decade old and pieced together with secondhand parts. “My sales pitch is to get you from Point A to Point B,” he said.

Most of his customers paid their loans in biweekly installments, delivering him envelopes of cash to avoid the \$5 credit card fee. Almost half were behind on their payments, and Antonio was barely keeping up with his own

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ODD ANDERSEN/A.P. — GETTY IMAGES

Germany’s new chancellor, Friedrich Merz, on Tuesday.

After a Stumble,
Merz Becomes
German Leader

By JIM TANKERSLEY
and CHRISTOPHER F. SCHUETZE

BERLIN — Friedrich Merz became Germany’s 10th postwar chancellor on Tuesday after a historic stumble that could complicate his efforts to revive the nation’s slumping economy, tighten its borders and rebuild its military, at a time when an isolated Europe is hungry for strong German leadership.

After 10 weeks as the nation’s leader-in-waiting following his party’s victory in February elections, Mr. Merz initially fell six votes short in the parliamentary vote for chancellor on Tuesday morning — a defeat without precedent in modern Germany’s history.

The votes were conducted on secret ballots, leaving the reasons for the failure murky; the parties in the new governing coalition held more than enough seats to elect him. But some lawmakers

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Canada Sends
Trump a Signal:
It’s Not for Sale

By MATINA STEVIS-GRIDNEFF
and TYLER PAGER

WASHINGTON — Prime Minister Mark Carney of Canada had one key goal in his high-stakes meeting with President Trump on Tuesday. He needed to say, in no uncertain terms, that Canada is not going to become the 51st U.S. state, while avoiding a public fight.

And he succeeded.

“As you know from real estate, there are some places that are not for sale,” Mr. Carney said solemnly. “It’s not for sale. It won’t be for sale, ever,” he added.

“Never say never,” Mr. Trump replied. But the moment’s potency had been defused, and Mr. Trump clearly was not interested in having a fight with Mr. Carney, whom he praised for his stunning electoral victory just a few days ago.

The relationship between the neighbors, allies and top trading partners has been at a historic low since Mr. Trump’s re-election because of his decision to impose tariffs on Canadian goods and his constant refrain that he wants to make Canada part of the United States.

Less than an hour before Mr. Carney arrived at the White House, Mr. Trump unloaded on Canada in a post on Truth Social, repeating his frequent criticisms that the country was too dependent on the United States.

“We don’t need ANYTHING they have, other than their friendship, which hopefully we will always maintain,” Mr. Trump wrote. “They, on the other hand, need

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Ready for the Ax to Fall

The prop house History for Hire has helped recreate the past with old cereal boxes, control panels, a guillotine and much more. But with fewer films shot in Los Angeles, its future seems dim. Page C1.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY JAKE MICHAELS FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Even the Richest Man in the World Cannot Escape His Neighbors

By KIRSTEN GRIND

AUSTIN, Texas — At first, residents of the upscale cul-de-sac in West Lake Hills, Texas, did not know who had moved into the 6,900-square-foot, six-bedroom mansion next door.

Then construction workers arrived to erect a 16-foot chain-link fence around the \$6 million property, which is one of four homes on

the leafy street. They also installed an outward-facing camera. Next, a fleet of cars — many of them Teslas — began parking on the street. Three times a day, a shift change signaled security personnel coming and going at the house. Once, the driver of a passing car shouted late at night that he was looking for a party at “E’s house.”

No one liked the commotion, or the traffic, or the keypad-activat-

Musk’s Texas Mansion
Provokes a Feud

ed gate opening and closing for workers and cars at all hours. So even when they learned through word of mouth that their new neighbor was Elon Musk, the world’s richest man, that did not

stop some of them from grousing to the City of West Lake Hills about his mansion.

The complaints have since escalated into an uproar over city ordinances, permits and exceptions known as variances — so much so that the matter of Mr. Musk’s house landed in a contentious Zoning and Planning Commission meeting last month. The debate is

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Some Russians are quietly resisting government-mandated efforts to indoctrinate children in schools. PAGE A6

Breaking Barriers in Syria

Hind Kabawat hopes her long experience as a conflict mediator can help the country emerge from war. PAGE A11

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Teenager in French Resistance

Odile de Vasselot deceived her mother so she could take part in World War II missions. Later, she founded a school for girls in Ivory Coast. She was 103.



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Support for the Latin Mass

In Detroit, traditionalist Catholics hope a new pontiff will reverse Pope Francis’ planned crackdown. PAGE A12

Fight for Control at Columbia

A review of the power wielded by the faculty-led senate could fundamentally alter the institution. PAGE A15

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A Backlog of Giant Turbines

Wait times for the hulking machines needed by gas-fired power plants have doubled in the past year. PAGE B1

India and U.K. Strike a Deal

The two countries signed a trade pact three years after the start of negotiations to strengthen alliances. PAGE B1

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Florida’s salary-cap squeeze helped Toronto, its second-round opponent, but 10 months later, the reigning champions are still thriving. PAGE B8

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Rethinking an Institution

Curators at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art explain how they’re filling the galleries in a \$720 million building set to open next year. PAGE C1

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Bringing Mom to the Kitchen

Restaurants are hard enough to run. Try doing it with your mother. But when family teams make it work, they do have some advantages. PAGE D3

OPINION A22-23

Margaret Renkl

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SPECIAL SECTION

Art Springs Forward

Despite economic uncertainty, museums and galleries — including Storm King Art Center, above — are pushing ahead with ambitious plans.

