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## Gunmen kill US consulate employee in Pakistan

2/10/2014

Unidentified assailants have shot and killed a Pakistani employee of the US consulate in the northwestern city of Peshawar, officials have said.

Senior police official Najibur Rehman said on Monday that two gunmen riding a motorcycle killed Faisal Saeed outside his residence in the city, AFP reported.

A US Embassy spokeswoman in Islamabad confirmed the report in a statement.

Rehman said that Saeed, 30, was a former employee of the US consulate in Peshawar, but the US Embassy spokeswoman said he was a staff member.

No group has yet claimed responsibility for the killing, although similar incidents are usually blamed on Taliban militants.

Peshawar and several other northwestern towns have experienced a fresh spate of violence and militancy over the past few months. Militant attacks and bomb explosions have killed many people across the troubled region over the past few months.

Pakistan has been gripped by deadly violence since 2001, after Islamabad joined the so-called US war on terror. According to Pakistani authorities, more than 40,000 people have lost their lives in the conflict.