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Dozens of Pakistani Soldiers Killed in Taliban Cross-Border Attacks

By John Glaser

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At least 200 [Taliban militants crossed into Chitral district of northwest Pakistan](#) Saturday and attacked seven checkpoints, killing more than two dozen soldiers and police, Pakistani officials said.

Pakistan has blamed Afghan and NATO forces for not doing enough to stop such cross-border attacks, while Afghan officials denied the militants came from their side of the border. Fighting was still ongoing Saturday afternoon, as Pakistan sent in reinforcements to drive the militants back across the border,

While the US and its two client states try to determine which side of the border the militants came from, little attention is paid to the lack recognition insurgents along the border region give to these national boundaries. All three states claiming dominion in Af-Pak and are perceived as illegitimate and threatening.

[Very similar attacks took place](#) earlier this summer, with similar disputes between the US, Afghan and Pakistani governments about whose fault it was. Pakistan blames the Afghan and NATO for not having strong enough control along the border region despite an occupation of well over 100,000. Afghanistan and NATO blame Pakistan for not taking enough of an interest

in the border area peppered with sanctuaries for Afghan insurgents, preoccupied with border disputes along their border with India.

Meanwhile, the US continues to ignore their war's role in [fueling the Afghan insurgency](#) and [radicalizing](#) the [population](#) in Afghanistan and in Pakistan's Northwest Frontier Province, thus perpetuating these kinds of incidents.