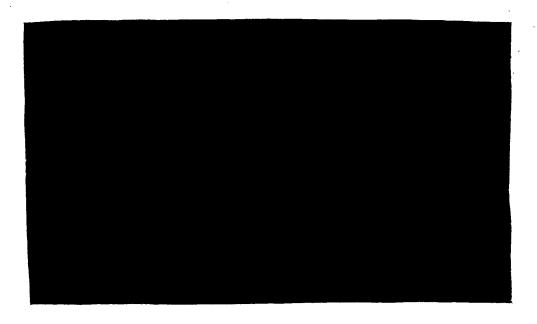
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PAKISTAN: Provincial Violence curbed

Local cease-fires in most of Kurram Agency bordering Afghanistan have ended the weeklong tribal and sectarian fighting

Comment: The violence in Kurram is the most recent in a series of similar disturbances in the North-West Frontier Province since last November. Taken together, these outbreaks constitute the most serious period of tribal and sectarian unrest in the province since Pakistan became independent. The influx of refugees from Afghanistan and the availability of larger and more modern weapons have aggravated historic rivalries in the area and provide Moscow with new opportunities to put pressure on Islamabad.



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