

**Country Weekly Report of
International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research**

PAKISTAN

Balochistan

Awaran:

On 21 July, nine militants of a banned Baloch separatist group, the Bloch Liberation Front (BLF), were killed in a clash with the paramilitary Frontier Corps (FC) personnel Awaran district. The clash erupted following an intelligence-led raid by the FC. The clash lasted for an extended duration with an exchange of fire between both groups. According to FC two of the militants killed were prominent leaders of the BLF. A large cache of weapons was also recovered retrieved from the location.¹

Dera Murad Jamali:

On 23 July, during a search operation FC killed one militant and arrested seven others in the Mangoli area of Dera Murad Jamali district. The militants arrested were identified as Ghulam Shabbir Gabol, Hamal Khan, Nawaz Ali, Raja Khan, Phatan Khan, Muhammad Nawaz Bugti and Dad Karim Bugti. They were taken in by the authorities for further investigations, and belonged to multiple banned Baloch separatist groups.²

¹ Nine 'militants' killed in Mashkay operation, *Dawn*, 21 July 2015. Available at: <http://www.dawn.com/news/1195388/nine-militants-killed-in-mashkay-operation>. [Accessed on: 27 July 2015].

² Two killed, seven arrested, *Dawn*, 23 July 2015. Available at: <http://www.dawn.com/news/1195792/two-killed-seven-arrested>. [Accessed on: 27 July 2015].

Jaffarabad:

On 24 July, three militants were arrested during a raid conducted by FC troops in Jaffarabad district. According to FC spokesperson the raid was carried out in a small village near Usta Mohammad. However, the group affiliations of the arrested militants were not revealed. A large cache of arms were also seized during the raid, which included an anti-aircraft gun, a rocket launcher, shells, AK-47 assault rifles and shotguns.³

Kech:

On 20 July, a prominent Balochi poet, Rehmatullah Shohaz was gunned down in an incident of target killing, near the Buleda area of Kech district. Shohaz was in a local market when he was attacked by militants on a motorcycle. The militants fled the location after the attack. Shohaz was one of the founding members of the Baloch National Movement (BNM), and was a close aide of the Baloch nationalist leader Ghulam Mohammad Baloch. In May 2009, Baloch was found dead in a locality near Turbat. The BNM is a nationalist political group that demands autonomy for the southern province of Balochistan.⁴

³ Three arrested, arms recovered, *Dawn*, 24 July 2015. Available at: <http://www.dawn.com/news/1196202/three-arrested-arms-recovered>. [Accessed on: 27 July 2015].

⁴ Baloch poet shot dead in Buleda, *Dawn*, 21 July 2015. Available at: <http://www.dawn.com/news/1195387/baloch-poet-shot-dead-in-buleda>. [Accessed on: 27 July 2015].