



PHOTOGRAPHS BY NICOLE BENGIVENO/THE NEW YORK TIMES
Flooded from Hurricane Sandy, which struck a year ago, left waterlines at Pasanella & Son Vintners, top, in the South Street Sea-
port; in the temperature gauge of a home in Broad Channel, Queens; and at Meade's restaurant, above right, also at the seaport.

Turning Hurricane Sandy's Scars Into Badges of Survival

irked. She regards it as "disaster
tourism."

As he sees it, Hurricane Sandy,
despite its effrontery, had not
conquered his wine store; he had
conquered it. This was his narra-
tive of the storm.

In fact, he had a plaque made
with the inscription, "The East
River Came to Here, 29 October
2012." He styled it after one on a
building in Florence, Italy, that
noted the height of the horrid
flood of the Arno River in 1966.
He was not entirely happy with
how it came out, though, and has
not mounted it yet.

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By N. R. KLEINFELD

It was a foul, filthy thing that
marred the aesthetics, something
to scrub off or paint over, some-
thing to just get rid of. It stood for
what once was: a sour reminder
of the thundering water, unimagin-
able wreckage and exponential
wounds.

U.S. Disrupts Afghans' Tack On Militants Dispute Over Courting of Pakistan Taliban

By MATTHEW ROSENBERG

KABUL, Afghanistan — A bun-
gled attempt by the Afghan gov-
ernment to cultivate a shadowy
alliance with Islamist militants
escalated into the latest flash-
point in the troubled relationship
between Afghanistan and the
United States, according to new
accounts by officials from both
countries.

The disrupted plan involved
work with the Pakistan Taliban,
allies of Al Qaeda, in order to find
a trump card in a baroque re-
gional power game that is likely
to intensify after the American
withdrawal next year, the offi-
cials said. And what started the
hard feelings was that the Ameri-
cans caught them red-handed.

Tipped off to the scheme, Unit-
ed States Special Forces raided
an Afghan convoy that was ush-
ering a senior Pakistan Taliban
militant, Latif Mehsud, to Kabul
for secret talks last month, and
now have Mr. Mehsud in custody.
Publicly, the Afghan govern-
ment has described Mr. Mehsud
as an insurgent peace emissary.

But, according to Afghan offi-
cials, the ultimate plan was to
take revenge on the Pakistani
military. In the murky of intrigue
and paranoia that dominates the
relationship between Pakistan
and Afghanistan, the Pakistanis
have long had the upper hand. A
favorite complaint of Afghan offi-
cials is how Pakistani military in-
telligence has sheltered and nur-
tured the Taliban and supported
their insurgency against the Af-
ghan government.

Now, not content to be merely
the target of a proxy war, the Af-
ghan government decided to re-
cruit some proxies of their own
Taliban in its fight against Paki-
stan's security forces, according
to Afghan officials. And they
were beginning to make progress
over the past year, they say, be-
fore the American raid exposed

OBAMA MAY BAN SPYING ON HEADS OF ALLIED STATES OFFICIALS OUTLINE PLAN

Response to Furor Over
Monitoring Phone of
German Leader

By MARK LANDLER
and DAVID E. SANGER

WASHINGTON — President
Obama is poised to order the Na-
tional Security Agency to stop
eavesdropping on the leaders of
American allies, administration
and Congressional officials said
Monday, responding to a deep-
ening diplomatic crisis over re-
ports that the agency had for
years targeted the cellphone of
many.

The White House informed a
leading Democratic lawmaker,
Senator Dianne Feinstein of Cal-
ifornia, of its plans, which grew
out of a broader internal review
of intelligence-gathering meth-
ods, prompted by the leak of
N.S.A. documents by a former
contractor, Edward J. Snowden.
In a statement on Monday,
Senator Feinstein, chairwoman
of the Senate Intelligence Com-
mittee, said, "I do not believe the
United States should be collect-
ing phone calls, or emails of
friendly presidents and prime
ministers." Ms. Feinstein, who
has been a stalwart defender of
the administration's surveillance
policies, said her committee
would begin a "major review of
all intelligence collection pro-
grams."

The White House said Monday
evening that no final decision had
been made on the monitoring of
friendly foreign leaders. But the
disclosure that it is moving to
prohibit it marks a landmark
shift for the N.S.A., which has had
nearly unfettered powers to col-
lect data on tens of millions of
people around the world, from or-
dinary citizens to heads of state,
including the leaders of Brazil
and Mexico.