

270700ZAUG10

AR (s): SCTY

Subject: IF ISAF LEAVES, CIVIL WAR WILL FOLLOW IN GARDEZ DISTRICT, PAKTYA PROVINCE

Grid Coordinates (MGRS): Vicinity 42SWC21001700

FCR(s): 6.2.1; 6.3.3; 6.4.1; 6.6.3

Report Source(s): ATE2-250

Originator(s): Gary Laing (MA); Wameq Aseel (AA)

Unit: ATE-2

Tasker: N/A

(U//FOUO) *This AP-A report is based on information provided by an AP-A Afghan sub-contractor (ASC). This information is provided as raw, unevaluated atmospheric information and is subject to the possible bias and motivations of the Advisor or the person reporting the information. It is not intended to be used as the basis for a stand-alone document.*

1. **(U//FOUO) BLUF:** If ISAF leaves there will be civil war, even AAF groups are fighting among each other. But the ANA needs assistance if they are going to defend Afghanistan. But the Americans give support to Pakistan even though they support the Taliban and Al Qaeda.
2. **(U//FOUO) ATMOSPHERIC VALUE:** Negative, lack of faith in the ability of ANSF to maintain security once ISAF departs.
3. **(U//FOUO) SOURCE:** ATE2-250 is an administrator.
4. **(U//FOUO) DETAILS:** On 23 Aug 10, the ASC heard three men talking at a taxi stand in Gardez City, Gardez District and Paktya Province. At least one was a taxi driver; their ages were 30, 35, and 40. They said the following:
 - **If ISAF leaves there will be civil war:** If ISAF leaves there will be fighting all over Afghanistan. The driver said that he heard that the Taliban and Hekmatyar's groups are already fighting with each other. They do not get along together. The driver said, if that is true then once ISAF departs, there will be civil war in Afghanistan. He also heard that last month there was a big clash between Taliban and Hekmatyar troops.
 - **The passenger responds:** The foreigners do not want to take over Afghanistan. But they should help strengthen the ANA and other security forces to be able to defend Afghanistan.
 - **The eldest man responds:** He agreed that the Americans don't want to control Afghanistan. He heard news from America that the US gives a lot of assistance to Pakistan including aircraft. But everyone knows that Pakistan is supporting the Taliban and Al Qaeda. And that Pakistan is crossing the Afghan borders and doing attacks in Afghanistan.
5. **(U//FOUO) COMMENTS:** The group is not convinced that peace will last after ISAF departs. They see divisions between the AAF groups, a weak ANA, and Pakistan interference as challenges to peace and security.