

ISAF REINTEGRATION 'SOLDIERS CARD'

A GUIDE FOR ISAF PERSONNEL WHEN APPROACHED BY AFGHANS SEEKING TO LEAVE THE INSURGENCY AND JOIN THE AFGHANISTAN PEACE AND REINTEGRATION PROGRAMME (APRP) (version 6 dated 12 Feb 2011)

1. Purpose; This Soldier's card provides guidance to ISAF personnel who encounter Afghan insurgents or go-betweens wanting to enter the formal programme of Reintegration.

2. General; Reintegration is the process that focuses on enabling local communities welcome former insurgents back to Afghan society. **The Afghan Peace and Reintegration Programme (APRP)** is a GIRoA led program conducted through all levels of governance that describes the process used to screen and support insurgents who want to leave the insurgency. Insurgents who agree to leave the insurgency can elect to be placed in a programme that provides assistance with immediate security, life support needs and job training as well as longer term support to the community into which the insurgent wants to reintegrate. ISAF is acting in support of GIRoA efforts. Provincial Governors are the means through which GIRoA implements APRP at the Provincial and District level. Governors are establishing Provincial Peace and Reconciliation Councils (PPRC) and District Administrators are establishing District Reintegration Councils (DRC) to implement APRP

3. Initial Contact; Initial contact with ISAF, GIRoA or the ANSF may be direct, or through a trusted third party (go-between) so that the insurgent can protect himself from any physical targeting. If the insurgent has no confidence in GIRoA or the ANSF, he may approach ISAF. If the initial contact is made with ISAF, the following actions are to be taken::

- (a) Notify the Chain of Comd immediately of a possible reintegration candidate. The authorized RC officer will notify local GIRoA officials of possible reintegration candidates.
- (b) The senior ranking ISAF Comd should conduct an initial contact interview with the reintegration candidate / go-between. The interview should seek to identify:
 - Name/contact details of insurgent/ go-between.
 - Why does the insurgent want to reintegrate?
 - If the insurgent has grievances, what are they?
 - Is this the first contact with ISAF/ GIRoA/ ANSF?
 - Do they seek any immediate assistance from ISAF?
 - If the person is a go-between, what relationship do they have with the insurgent?
 - How does the interviewee want to make next contact?
 - If the insurgent is a commander, how many other fighters may wish to reintegrate?
- (c) At the completion of the interview:
 - Confirm the details of the next contact.
 - Reassure the insurgent / go-between that ISAF will continue to assist him in reintegrating for as long as required.
 - Inform the insurgent / go-between that the decision to accept him into the formal reintegration process lies with GIRoA.

4. Follow Up Action.

- (a) At the end of the initial interview, the meeting must be reported IMMEDIATELY as an Incident to the Ops Room.
- (b) Relevant HQ or TF will coordinate how future contact is to be maintained with the insurgent / go-between. If the insurgent or go-between does not trust GIRoA or ANSF officials, then ISAF may need to build confidence and maintain contact with him.

5. Do Not:

- (a) Offer an ISAF guarantee of amnesty or immunity from GIRoA prosecution.
- (b) Tell insurgent /go-between whether the insurgent is on an ISAF or GIRoA Targeting List.
- (c) Offer money or development aid directly to insurgents to stop fighting.

6. SOP. RC Reintegration SOP will provide the detailed guidance required for TFs and units to support GIRoA Reintegration efforts.

7. Key Points;

- (a) Reintegration is an official GIRoA-led process and acknowledges the 'Honour and Dignity' of the reintegrating Insurgent.
- (b) If fighters are to be removed from the battlefield it is critical that reintegration is **NEVER** seen or profiled to them as an act of 'Surrender'. The terms 'Surrender' and 'Laying down of weapons' should **NEVER** be used in any conversation, discussion or reference.
- (c) 80% of Insurgents are not ideologically driven and fight within 20 miles of their village.
- (d) Reintegrating Insurgents will be allowed to keep a personal weapon (rifle)(once it is registered) for self defence in case of being targeted by those that remain in the insurgency.
- (e) No Amnesty or Immunity from prosecution is to be offered by ISAF or ANSF – that decision can only be taken by GIRoA
- (f) Support and development will be provided to communities to enable them to accept insurgents back; grievance resolution will play a key part in the reintegration process.
- (g) Support and development will benefit the wider community and members of those communities as well as reintegrating insurgents. It is important that APRP is seen to benefit and offer opportunities peaceful communities and not just reintegrating insurgents.
- (h) ISAF must actively support GIRoA reintegration efforts but this must be balanced. Remember that the aim is to connect the insurgents back to their communities. The community can then work with GIRoA.
- (i) There is usually a period of 'negotiation' between the initial contact and an insurgent group actually joining the Peace Process. This sort of delay is normal.
- (j) Reintegration removes Insurgents from the battlefield through peaceful means and breaks the cultural cycle of 'revenge'.
- (k) Insurgents who chose not to join their 'Afghan brothers' in the APRP ('The Peace Process') will continue to be targeted and defeated.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR SUPPORT CONTACT YOUR ISAF CHAIN OF COMMAND