

RELEASE IN FULL

From: Verveer, Melanne S <VerveerMS@state.gov>
Sent: Saturday, June 2, 2012 12:40 PM
To: H
Subject: Fw: ALP Training and Support

Fyi

From: Nichols, Brian A
Sent: Saturday, June 02, 2012 12:14 PM
To: Verveer, Melanne S
Cc: Brownfield, William R
Subject: RE: ALP Training and Support

Melanne,

State/INL does not participate in the Afghan Local Police (ALP) program. However, the U.S. does train the ALP via ISAF and the Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force Afghanistan. They are trained by U.S. Special Forces, who mentor them afterwards.

The ALP was established in 2010 in rural areas of Kunduz (where the rape in the NY Times story took place) with limited or no Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) presence. Sponsored by local elders, validated by district-level councils, and vetted by the Ministry of Interior (MOI) and National Directorate of Security, ALP personnel are defensive in nature, cannot patrol outside their home districts, and fall under the command of the Provincial and District Chief of Police.

To date, approximately 725 ALP have been deployed to cover portions of the Municipality of Kunduz (225) and three districts: Chahar Dara (100), Imam Sahib (300), and Dasht-e Archi (100). Some villagers have complained that local militias and criminal gangs have been incorporated wholesale into the force. In addition to the ALP in Kunduz, locally hired guards under the Critical Infrastructure Protection program (CIP), funded by U.S. military CERP funds, are also present in Kunduz. As with ALP, CIP guards were locally vetted and biometrically enrolled. Beyond that there are various regular police and border guards patrolling in Kunduz so it is hard for average Afghan's to know exactly who is who.

I generally take a dim view of these types of local police or village self defense force training efforts. They are often subverted by local power brokers and lack professionalism—see Malaysia, Vietnam, Peru, and Colombia—though they can be effective in rooting out insurgents. The ALP have come in for criticism regarding their respect for human rights and lax vetting from various quarters. INL only does very narrowly targeted training for vetted units that work with DEA, FBI, and other U.S. law enforcement or specialized activities like training to deal with violence against women.

Best,

Brian

-----Original Message-----

From: Verveer, Melanne S

Sent: Saturday, June 02, 2012 10:27 AM

To: Nichols, Brian A

Subject:

So US doesn't do training for Afghan police trainees?