Grid Coordinates (MGRS): 41RQQ308936

City: Pashmul

District: Zharay

Province: Kandahar

Report Basis: ASC ATS3-333

Unit: ATS-3

Tasker: RFAI-RCS-079-20110720

*This report contains raw, unevaluated atmospheric information, which may reflect the bias/motivation of the ASC that provided it. Atmospherics represent the perceptions, opinions and sentiments of the local populace, which may differ from factual accounts and/or historic reality. It is not intended to be used as a standalone document.*

**1. BLUF:** The villagers in Ashoque are scared of new ALP officer Mahmud Jan who they claim was a Taliban fighter in Panjwa’i.

**2. ATMOSPHERIC VALUE:** Non-Supportive-GIRoA.

**3. DETAILS**: On 15 Feb 13 while walking through the bazaar, ASC-333 overheard two Pashtun men, 27 and 30 years old, discussing the fact that GIRoA hired a Taliban member as an ALP officer.

The 27-year-old man said, “Ashoque villagers are worried and scared about a new ALP officer by the name of Mahmud Jan. He used to be member of the Taliban in Panjwa’i Village, but now he is working at the newly built ALP station here, he got the job about a month ago.”

The 30-year-old man replied, “Our government needs to be aware of who they are hiring, we do not like to see Taliban members coming here and joining the ALP, it scares people. Our government needs to stop this practice.”

**4. COMMENTS:** The villagers in Ashoque are scared of new ALP officer Mahmud Jan who they claim was a Taliban fighter in Panjwa’i.The villagers feel that GIRoA is not doing a good job in screening its candidates for the ALP. The villagers seem concerned even scared that Mahmud is now an ALP officer.