Grid Coordinates (MGRS): 41RQR58601540

City: Maranjan

District: Arghandab

Province: Kandahar

Report Basis: ASC ATS6-601

Unit: ATS-6

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:** Residents say that ISAF, specifically Americans, are not to be trusted because they are only in Afghanistan to achieve their own goals. They complain that Americans fight the Taliban and conversely try make peace with them.

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

**3. DETAILS:** On 17 Feb 13, while in the village of Maranjan, ASC ATS6-601 overheard two Pashtun males discussing lack of trust for the Americans.

The 35-year-old man stated, “The Americans are not to be trusted. They are here to practice their war skills. They use their airplanes, guns, and their technology on Afghans. The Americans have their personal mission in Afghanistan.”

The 30-year-old man stated, “It is obvious. On one hand they fight the Taliban and on the other they make peace with them. What kind of war is this? Americans are gaining military experience in Afghanistan.”

**4. COMMENTS:** Two men say ISAF, specifically Americans, are not to be trusted as they are only in Afghanistan for their own agenda and to flex their military muscles. One man says this is demonstrated by the fighting with insurgents and efforts to make peace with them at the same time. Past reporting shows a belief that ISAF is in Afghanistan for ulterior motives and that some ISAF pay off Taliban.