Grid Coordinates (MGRS): 41SQS700128

City: Tarin Kot

District: Tarin Kot

Province: Uruzgan

Report Basis: ASC ATS2-232

Unit: ATS-2

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:** Locals wonder why America will not put enough pressure on Pakistan to stop supporting the Taliban. They also feel America wants the war in Afghanistan to continue.

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

**3. DETAILS:** On 18 Feb 13, while at the bazaar in Tarin Kot, ASC ATS2-232 overheard two Pashtun males, of the ages 27 and 40, talk about America supporting Pakistan by supplying them with weapons and foreign aids.

A 45-year-old man said, “I wonder why America is not putting pressure on Pakistan to stop supporting the Taliban and close all the madrassas in Pakistan. If the Americans are able to force the Taliban out of Pakistan they will come to Afghanistan where it will be easy for them to kill them; because over here we will not grant safe heaven to them.”

A 38-year-old man said, “America is aware that Pakistan is supporting the Taliban, the truth is they do not want to end the war in Afghanistan; it is easy for them to kill all the Taliban but they did not. We are talking about a super power, with all the weapons they have do you mean to tell me they could not have gotten rid of the Taliban in a year? America is helping Pakistan to be strong military wise by supplying them with weapons and aids so that the war can continue. ”

**4. COMMENTS:** According to this report, locals seem to have divergent opinions as to why America is not putting enough pressure on Pakistan to stop supporting the Taliban. One of them feels it is within the means of America to end this war if they want to; instead they are supporting Pakistan by supplying them with military equipment and foreign aid to prolong the war.