Grid Coordinates (MGRS): 42SUA02755405

City: Qalat

District: Qalat

Province: Zabul

Report Basis: ASC ATS4-402

Unit: ATS-4

Tasker: N/A

*This report contains raw unevaluated atmospheric information, which may reflect the bias/motivation of the ASC that provided it. Atmospherics represents 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:** Local Afghans discuss Taliban’s preparations for the upcoming fighting season. They ask ISAF and GIRoA to take measures to prevent the fighting.

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

**3. DETAILS:** On 19 Feb 13 while at a restaurant in Qalat District, ASC-419 overheard two Pashtun males talking about the Taliban moving into Afghanistan from Pakistan.

A 40-year-old man said, “When the Taliban come to Afghanistan, they get their weapons from a Pakistani police station just across the border. For about the last two weeks the Taliban have started coming from Pakistan in to Afghanistan by motorcycle after picking up their weapons at the same police station in Pakistan.”

Another 40-year-old man said, “Yes I know that. The Taliban keep their weapons in a Pakistani police station just across the border and when they come back to Afghanistan, they pick their weapons up from the same police station. The Taliban are getting ready for the summer fighting season. We want the government and ISAF to stop the Taliban before the Taliban can get organized.”

**4. COMMENTS:** These men in a restaurant in Qalat discuss the way some Taliban bring their weapons across the Afghan border from Pakistan, apparently using a Pakistani police station near to border to store their weapons in the “off season”. The men are hoping ISAF and ANSF can stop the insurgents before the summer fighting season begins.