



Thursday, September 25, 2008, 12:00pm-1:00pmEDT

CENSA National Security Teleconference Series

AFGHANISTAN - VIEWS FROM THE GROUND

Speakers: CPT Tim Culpepper and Mr. Bill Lynn

Moderator: Michael R. Fenzel, CENSA Chair

Date and Time: Thursday, September 25, 2008, 12:00pm-1:00pmEDT

Dial-in Number: 1-309-946-5100

Participant Access Code: 113370

Synopsis: Few conflicts in the world today are more complicated than the one NATO currently faces in Afghanistan. Some of the factors that make this conflict so complicated are the drug trafficking, the lack of infrastructure, the struggling economy, the developing Afghan Security Forces, the Taliban resilience, the influx of Foreign Fighters and jihadists, the problem of government corruption, the political and military situation in Pakistan, and, finally, the situation in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA). Of all these contributing factors, two stand out as having the most potential to derail efforts to stabilize the country. The first is the situation in the FATA, in Pakistan's border region, where traditional Taliban, as well as, Foreign Fighters and Al Qaeda enjoy sanctuary. The second is the problem of government corruption, and the corresponding, widespread, myth that "functional corruption" is permissible, even necessary, in a developing government. **CPT Tim Culpepper** will provide personal insights into the situation in the FATA, how the Taliban, Al Qaeda, and other jihadists use this area, and the resulting impact on the NATO mission in the eastern provinces of Afghanistan. **Mr. Bill Lynn** will follow with his thoughts on the corruption problem, showing why he believes corruption cannot be tolerated, and providing evidence supporting his view. In addition, he will show how the Leahy Amendment can be applied as part of the solution to the corruption problem..

Registration: The teleconference is open to all CENSA members and guests. To register, please contact James Kirkhope at james.kirkhope@censa.net, who will provide further technical details about calling-in. When registering, please indicate whether you are a CENSA member, your professional affiliation, and your call-in location.

Speaker Bios :

CPT Tim Culpepper is an Intelligence Officer with nine years of service in the United States Army. He has deployed to Kosovo, Iraq and Afghanistan. He has spent two of the last three years in Afghanistan, most recently as the primary Intelligence Officer for 1st Battalion, 503d Infantry (Airborne) in Paktika Province. CPT Culpepper has just returned, from a 15 month deployment, to his home base in Italy where he is now commanding the Vicenza Military Intelligence Detachment.

Mr. Bill Lynn is a 35 year veteran of the Law Enforcement profession. He ended a 28 year career with the FBI in November of 2006 to join a new program within the Department of the Army, accepting a position as an embedded Law Enforcement Professional (LEP). The embedded LEP is a Special Command Staff Member for US Army units, chartered to provide the Task Force Commander with a law enforcement perspective. His focus is to help in the fight against the Improvised Explosive Device (IED) networks, corruption, and to build the capacity of the Afghan National Security Forces. Bill just recently returned from an 18 month deployment to Paktika Province, Afghanistan, where he served as the LEP for 1st Battalion, 503d Infantry (Airborne).

Information: The National Security Teleconference Series is one of CENSA's flagship programs, developed to offer timely analysis of current topics related to international affairs, national defense, and U.S. foreign policy. Opinions expressed by speakers are personal and do not necessarily reflect the view of the organization. For questions or information related to the CENSA National Security Teleconference Series, please contact James Kirkhope at james.kirkhope@censa.net.

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