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SERIAL: (U)

/***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****/

BODY

COUNTRY: (U) PAKISTAN (PK); **AFGHANISTAN** (AF).

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SUBJECT: (b)(2) - TALIBAN LEADERSHIP, PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS (U)

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~-- RELEASABLE AS, CA, UK.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

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SUMMARY: (U) - BIOGRAPHICAL DATA ON PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS.

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3. (U) PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS

A. MULLAH MOHAMMAD HASSAN ((RAHMANI))

GOVERNOR OF KANDAHAR AND

GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF SOUTHERN ZONE (PROVINCES OF ZABUL, KANDAHAR, URUZGAN, FARAH AND HELMAND)

ETHNICITY ACHAKZAI PASHTUN

BORN IN URUZGAN IN 1953, RAHMANI RECEIVED HIS PRIMARY EDUCATION IN THE PROVINCE BEFORE MOVING TO PAKISTAN FOR HIGHER STUDIES AT RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS OF HAQQANI DARUL ULOOM AKORA KHATTAK (NWFP) AND FAROOQIA (KARACHI). LEFT HIS STUDIES INCOMPLETE TO FIGHT AGAINST COMMUNIST REGIME IN KANDAHAR FOLLOWING THE EMERGENCE OF THE TALIBAN ON THE AFGHAN SCENE IN 1994. ACQUAINTANCE WITH MULLAH MOHAMMAD OMAR TOOK PLACE DURING THE ANTI-SOVIET JIHAD. ONE OF THE FOUNDING MEMBERS OF THE TALIBAN MOVEMENT AND CONSIDERED VERY CLOSE TO MULLAH OMAR.

B. MAULAWI ABDUL ((KABIR))

GOVERNOR OF NANGARHAR AND

GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF EASTERN ZONE (PROVINCES OF KUNAR, NANGARHAR AND LAGHMAN)

FINANCIAL DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

ETHNICITY ZADRAN PASHTUN

AGE 32, KABIR COMES FROM KHOST PROVINCE. BORN IN BAGHLAN, BUT FAMILY WAS ORIGINALLY FROM PAKTIA. HIS FAMILY LATER SETTLED IN THE NORTH AND LIVED IN THE ZADRAN VILLAGE OF NAHRIN DISTRICT IN BAGLAN PROVINCE. GRADUATING FROM PRIMARY SCHOOL IN HIS AREA, HE LEFT FOR PAKISTAN IN 1982 TO CONTINUE EDUCATED IN MADRASSAHS. GRADUATED FROM DARUL ULOOM-I-HAQQANIA AT AKORA KHATTAK

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IN N.W.F.P. SERVED AS A GROUP COMMANDER OF COMMANDER JALALUDDIN ((HAQQANI)) OF PAKTIA (NOW MINISTER OF FRONTIER AND TRIBAL AFFAIRS) DURING THE SOVIET OCCUPATION. WOUNDED DURING FIGHTING WHEN KHOST FELL TO THE MUJAHIDEEN IN 1989. KABIR TAUGHT AT HAQQANI'S MADRASSAHS IN THE PAKISTANI BORDER TOWN OF MIRANSHAH BEFORE THE EMERGENCE OF THE TALIBAN IN 1994. LOST A BROTHER DURING THE TALIBAN MARCH ON KABUL. SERVED AS DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR OF HESSARAK DISTRICT (IN NANGARHAR PROVINCE) AND GOVERNOR OF LOGAR PRIOR TO THE FALL OF KABUL TO THE TALIBAN IN SEPTEMBER 1996. FOLLOWING THE FALL OF KABUL, APPOINTED GOVERNOR OF NANGARHAR AND GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF EASTERN ZONE (PROVINCES OF KUNAR, NANGARHAR AND LAGHMAN). REPUTATION FOR CORRUPTION AND FOR RULING WITH AN IRON FIST. CONTROLLING THE NEXUS OF THE SMUGGLING ROUTE IN THE EASTERN ZONE, HE HAS BEEN ABLE TO LAUNDER A GREAT DEAL OF MONEY. ALTHOUGH OUTWARDLY LOYAL TO MULLAH OMAR, HE IS ALSO KEEN ON PLAYING AN INDIVIDUAL ROLE. ONE OF THE FEW TALIBAN TO TAKE INITIATIVES WITHOUT PRIOR CLEARANCE FROM HIGHER AUTHORITIES. SPEAKS OUT AGAINST PAKISTAN, YET WELL-LIKED BY PAKISTANI CONTACTS. MAINTAINS CONTACTS WITH PIR ((GAILANI)).

C. MULLAH NOORULLAH ((NOORI))

GOVERNOR OF BALKH AND
GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF NORTHERN ZONE (PROVINCES OF
BALKH, FARYAB, SAR-I-JOWZJAN, SAMANGAN AND
KUNDUZ AND BAGHLAN)
ETHNICITY TOKHI PASHTUN

NOORI IS CONSIDERED A STRONG MILITARY AND CIVIL MAN IN THE NORTHERN ZONE. PREVIOUSLY SERVED AS GOVERNOR OF LAGHMAM BEFORE HIS APPOINTMENT AS GOVERNOR OF BALKH AND GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF NORTHERN ZONE LAST YEAR.

D. MULLAH KHAIRULLAH ((KHIRKHWAH))

GOVERNOR OF HERAT AND
GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF NORTHWESTERN ZONE (PROVINCES
OF FARAH, HERAT, BADGHIS, NIMROZ AND GHOR)
ETHNICITY POPALZAI PASHTUN

KHIRKHWAH COMES FROM A BARAKZAI/ACHAKZAI PASHTUN FAMILY OF SHAHR-I-SAFA IN ZABUL PROVINCE. HE HAS RECEIVED HIS EDUCATION BOTH IN PESHAWAR AND QUETTA. A CORE TALIB AND ONE OF THE FIRST TO HOLD POST WHEN THE

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TALIBAN TOOK SPIN BOLDAK. PREVIOUSLY SERVED AS GOVERNOR OF LAGHAM BEFORE BEING ASSIGNED TO HERAT. ALTHOUGH NOT ORIGINALLY FROM HERAT, HE IS WELL-ACCEPTED BY HIS CONSTITUENTS FOR HIS RELATIVELY MODERATE POLICIES. WHEN THE HOSPITAL IN HERAT WAS ATTACKED, HE VEERED FROM THE POLICY OF THE COMMITTEE OF VICE AND VIRTUE AND SIDED WITH THE DOCTORS. HE IS A GOOD DIPLOMAT AND A STRONG MILITARY MAN IN THE NORTHWESTERN ZONE.

E. MAULAWI MOHAMMAD ((SHAFIQ AKHUND))

GOVERNOR OF PAKTIA

GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF SOUTHERN ZONE (PROVINCES OF PAKTIA, KHOST AND PAKTIKA)

ETHNICITY HOTAK PASHTUN

LITTLE IS KNOWN ABOUT SHAFIQ AKHUND BECAUSE THE TALIBAN HAVE LITTLE CONTROL OVER HIS REGION. IN THE SOUTHERN ZONE, TRIBAL LEADERS AND SENIOR COMMANDERS ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN POLITICAL LEDERS. IN PAKTIA, FOR EXAMPLE, COMMANDER HAQQANI IS SHAFIQ AKHUND'S SUPERIOR.

F. MAULAWI ZIA-UR-RAHMAN ((MADANI))

GOVERNOR OF LOGAR

ETHNICITY TAJIK

MADANI COMES FROM A TAJIK FAMILY OF TAKHAR PROVINCE. REGARDED AS CLEVER. ALTHOUGH MADANI IS A NON-PASHTUN, THE PROVINCE HE GOVERNS IS PREDOMINATELY PASHTUN.

G. HAJI MOHAMMAD ((OMAR KHAN))

GOVERNOR OF KUNDUZ

ETHNICITY YOUSAFZAI PASHTUN

OMAR KHAN COMES FROM A PASHTUN FAMILY OF KUNDUZ PROVINCE. NOT A REAL TALIB, BUT COOPERATES WITH THE TALIBAN IN OPPOSITION TO ASSASSINATED NORTHERN ALLIANCE COMMANDER, AHMAD SHAH ((MASOOD)). RAN A SHOP IN PESHAWAR DURING THE DAYS OF ANTI-SOVIET JIHAD, THEREFORE, NOT A FIGHTER HIMSELF. OMAR KHAN'S BROTHER, THE LATE ((ARIF KHAN)), PLAYED KEY ROLE IN INVITING THE TALIBAN TO THE PROVINCE. OMAR KHAN WAS APPOINTED TO HIS CURRENT POSITION FOLLOWING THE ASSASSINATION OF HIS ARIF KHAN IN PESHAWAR LAST YEAR. REGION HE GOVERNS HAS A SIGNIFICANT MINORITY OF TRANSPLANTED PASHTUNS.

H. QARI ((AHMADULLAH))

MINISTER OF INTELLIGENCE AND GOVERNOR OF TAKHAR PROVINCE

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ETHNICITY KHUGYANI PASHTUN
RESIDENT OF GHAZNI

AGE 33, AHMADULLAH COMES FROM GHAZNI PROVINCE. ALTHOUGH TOO YOUNG TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ANTI-SOVIET JIHAD, HIS BROTHER ((MAJROOH)) WAS A SENIOR HAKKAT FIGURE, WHO LOST BOTH LEGS. MAJROOH CARRIES NO OFFICIAL TITLE, BUT IS SAID BY SOME TO BE MORE IMPORTANT THAN AHMADULLAH IN THE TALIBAN MOVEMENT. AHMADULLAH IS CONSIDERED INTELLIGENT AND EFFECTIVE, AND CLOSE TO MULLAH OMAR. HIS PERSONAL DEALINGS HAVE DEMONSTRATED HIS ABILITY TO COMPROMISE AND WIN FRIENDS AMONG NON-PASHTUNS. FORMERLY SERVED AS THE MINISTER OF INTERIOR. AS GOVERNOR OF THE TAKHAR PROVINCE, AHMADULLAH HAS EXERTED FRONTLINE COMMAND OF TALIBAN OFFENSIVES AGAINST THE NORTHERN ALLIANCE. KNOWS MANY MEMBERS OF THE NORTHERN ALLIANCE PERSONALLY.

I. MAULAWI ((AHMED JAN))

MINISTER OF WATER AND POWER
GOVERNOR OF ZABUL

ETHNICITY ISHAQZAI PASHTUN
RESIDENT OF KANDAHAR

AGE 35, AHMED JAN IS NOT PARTICULARLY IDEOLOGICAL. APPROACHABLE AND HAS HAD PLENTY OF DEALINGS WITH FOREIGNERS. HAS A CAR SALES ROOM IN PESHAWAR AND HAS SPECULATED PERSONALLY IN MINING, PARTICULARLY WITH THE HELP OF FORMER TALIBAN AMBASSADOR TO PAKISTAN ((ZAEFF)). AHMED JAN WAS A KEY FIGURE DURING THE MINE EXPLOITATION SCANDAL, AND WORKED WITH MULLAH OMAR DIRECTLY TO CONTROL RECEIPTS. AHMED JAN HAS CLOSE TIES WITH HAJI BARI, A LEADING TRADER IN ISLAMABAD, AND IS, HIMSELF, A TRADER AND MONEYSMAKER.

J. MULLAH ABDUL MANAN ((HANAFI))

GOVERNOR OF BADGHIS

ETHNICITY ACHAKZAI PASHTUN

HANAFI GOVERNS A NON-PASHTUN DISTRICT.

K. MULLAH ((JABBAR AKHUND))

GOVERNOR OF BAGHLAN

ETHNICITY HOTAK PASHTOON

NO FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE.

L. MOHAMMAD ((ISLAM MUHAMMADI))

GOVERNOR OF BAMIYAN

ETHNICITY TAJIK/TATAR

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ISLAM MUHAMMADI IS ORIGINALLY FROM SAMANGAN. DUE TO HIS MODERATE PLATFORM, HIS INFLUENCE IN THE TALIBAN REGIME IS SLIDING.

M. MAULAWI ((SAID MUHAMMAD))

GOVERNOR OF FARAH

ETHNICITY ALIZAI PASHTUN

SAID MUHAMMAD IS OF MINOR SIGNIFICANCE.

N. MAULAWI SYED ((JANAN AGHA))

GOVERNOR OF FARYAB

ETHNICITY SYED PASHTUN

JANAN AGHA IS OF MINOR SIGNIFICANCE. DISTRICT HE GOVERNS IS NON-PASHTUN.

O. MAULAWI ((DOST MUHAMMAD))

GOVERNOR OF GHAZNI

ETHNICITY POPALZAI PASHTUN

NO FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE.

P. MULLAH ((WALI JAN))

GOVERNOR OF GHOWR

ETHNICITY ALIZAI PASHTUN

WALI JAN IS OF MINOR SIGNIFICANCE.

Q. MULLAH ((ABDUL BARI))

GOVERNOR OF HELMAND

ETHNICITY ALIKOZAI PASHTUN

NO FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE.

R. MULLAH ABDUR ((REHMAN AKHUND))

GOVERNOR OF JOWZJAN

ETHNICITY NOORZAI PASHTUN

REHMAN AKHUND GOVERNS A NON-PASHTUN DISTRICT.

S. MULLAH ABDUR ((RAOOF AKHUND))

GOVERNOR OF KHOST

ETHNICITY YOUSAFZAI PASHTUN

NO FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE.

T. MULLAH ABDUL HADI ((AKHUNDZADA))

GOVERNOR OF KUNAR

ETHNICITY SAFI PASHTUN

NO FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE.

U. MULLAH MUHAMMAD ((ISHAQ AKHUND))

GOVERNOR OF LANGHMAN

ETHNICITY ANDAR PASHTUN

ISHAQ AKHUND IS OF MINOR SIGNIFICANCE.

V. MAULAWI ABDUR ((RASOOL AKHUND))

GOVERNOR OF NIMROZ

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ETHNICITY NOORZAI PASHTUN
NO FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE.
W. MULLAH ABDUR RAOOF ((KHUDDAM))

GOVERNOR OF PAKTIKA

ETHNICITY NOORZAI PASHTUN
KHUDDAM IS OF MINOR SIGNIFICANCE.

X. MAULAWI ((HANAFI))

GOVERNOR OF SAMANGAN

ETHNICITY NOORZAI PASHTUN
HANAFI GOVERNS A NON-PASHTUN DISTRICT.

Y. MULLAH ABDUL ((MANAN))

GOVERNOR OF SAR-E-PUL

ETHNICITY ALIZAI PASHTUN
MANAN GOVERNS A NON-PASHTUN DISTRICT.

Z. MAULAWI ((ABDUL HAKEEM)) HAQQANI

GOVERNOR OF URUZGAN

ETHNICITY ANDAR PASHTUN
NO FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE.

AA. MAULAWI ((SHAMS-UD-DIN))

GOVERNOR OF WARDAK

ETHNICITY TAJIK
SHAMS-UD-DIN IS OF MINOR SIGNIFICANCE.

BB. MUHAMMAD ((AZAMI))

GOVERNOR OF PARWAN

ETHNICITY TAJIK

AZAMI IS A MEMBER OF THE NORTHERN ALLIANCE. REGION
HE GOVERNS IS NON-PUSHTUN.

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