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Military Leadership Profile

PAKISTAN Lieutenant General *EHSAN* ul Haq June 2002



(U) NAME: Lieutenant General Ehsan ul Haq, Pakistan Army.

(U) POSITION: Director General (DG), Interservice Intelligence Directorate (ISID), since 6 October 2001.

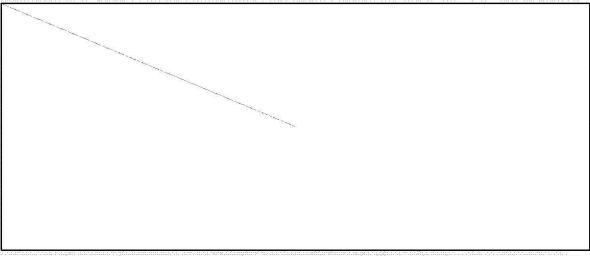
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SIGNIFICANCE: Lt Gen Ehsan moved into this key post in an unexpected officer shuffle by President Pervez Musharraf. Ehsan, who holds moderate Islamic views, replaces the more

conservative Gen Mahmud Ahmed, who retired when he was passed over in the recent round of promotions to full general. Considered a fast-track officer trusted by Musharraf, Ehsan is considered the President's protege. The two officers appear to have a strong relationship.

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The general is an air defense officer. He appears to be keenly aware of "big picture" issues and has voiced his opinions to US officials over the years. Eshan has stated that the goal of Pakistan's policy of engagement was to eventually moderate Taliban behavior. Given recent events, he believes that individuals, not the general population, must be targeted and that the United States must avoid the appearance of invading or occupying Afghanistan.



Before the October 1999 coup, Ehsan was one of the few military officers who regularly plied the dinner party and seminar circuit in Islamabad. Musharraf has used Lt Gen Ehsan's social connections to politicians and opinionmakers to solicit advice from prominent commentators on how to "spin" government decisions and to interview prospective civilian members of the government.

Ehsan appears to be a strong supporter of democracy, advocating that Pakistan needs a legitimate civilian democratic government, not a quasidemocracy or democracy "in name only" like that in some other countries. He sees the current period of military rule as an opportunity to weed out corrupt politicians and put the necessary checks and balances and accountability procedures in place that eventually will attract honest politicians to the government.

Eshan appears to be open with US officials. He speaks fondly of his 1989 training at Fort

Lee, VA.

CAREER: An air defense officer, Ehsan was commissioned in the Pakistan Army on 16 April 1968. He is a graduate of the Pakistan Command and Staff College at Quetta and the prestigious Armed Forces War Course at the Pakistan National Defence College in Islamabad. Ehsan received air defense training in Saudi Arabia and China and participated in the Leadership Executive Development Course at the US Army Logistics Management College at Fort Lee, VA, in 1989. Other details of his career are sketchy. He commanded an antiaircraft regiment, an air defense brigade, the 117th Infantry Brigade, and the 3d Air Defence Division. He came to the DGMI post from the 16th Infantry Division, where he was general officer commanding. Ehsan's staff assignments include service with an infantry brigade and division, two tours in the Military Operations Directorate General at Army General headquarters in Rawalpindi, and as deputy military secretary at Army General headquarters. He was promoted to lieutenant general in April 2001, just before the 11th Corps command in May.

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