

# Report Card On Performance and Progress

## U.S. War in Afghanistan

Location / Evaluation period: Afghanistan / October 7, 2001 – October 7, 2010

Achievement Grade Key					
A = Excellent Work		B= Good Work	C= Average Work	D= Below Average Work	F= Below Minimal Standard
<i>'But then, as you know, you cannot kill or capture your way out of a substantial insurgency. Clearly, politics are a huge part of that...' Gen. David Petraeus</i>					
Subject	Criteria	Comments			Grade
<b>Civics / Social Skills:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supports and understands legitimate democratic processes.</li> <li>Follows through with commitments.</li> <li>Is honest and reliable.</li> <li>Accepts responsibility.</li> </ul>	<p>U.S. support of an Afghan government that does not have the trust of the Afghan people and is engaged in wide spread corruption fails to win the hearts and minds of the Afghans.</p> <p>The U.S. and the military have lost Afghans' faith and trust because of increasing civilian deaths, unfulfilled promises to improve living conditions and corruption in the contracting processes.</p>			<b>F</b>
<b>Math</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understands the value of money.</li> <li>Allocates resources to achieve desired outcomes.</li> <li>Uses problem solving to identify effective ways to solve problems.</li> </ul>	<p>Even our generals recognize that success cannot come through military might. But the US military continues to spend close to \$100 million a day in Afghanistan, while the average spent by all donors on non-military aid is just \$7 million per day (7%). Adding to this inadequacy of reconstruction aid is pervasive corruption, subcontracting and profit-taking resulting in a failure to improve conditions for Afghans.</p>			<b>F</b>
<b>History</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recognizes recurring historical patterns.</li> <li>Learns from the past and from past mistakes.</li> <li>Applies lessons of history to current situations.</li> </ul>	<p>Afghanistan has been called the Graveyard of Empires because of the rugged geography and fierce resistance to foreign occupation. In recent times British forces (1839-42) were decimated. The ½ million Soviet forces (1979-89) could not subdue resistance and ultimately left demoralized and Soviet Union greatly weakened. No matter how many troops we deploy, the U.S. cannot win militarily in Afghanistan.</p>			<b>F</b>
<b>Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Values the health and life of U.S. troops and Afghan civilians.</li> <li>Provides needed physical and mental health care to active duty military and vets.</li> </ul>	<p>The U.N. reported that the number of Afghan civilians killed in the war jumped 25% in the first half of 2010 (reaching 1,271) compared with the first half of 2009. U.S. vet suicides are at epidemic proportions and over 1,300 U.S. troops have been killed in OEF/Afghanistan. Obstacles to access to health care continue to be reported by veterans. Thousands of troops are being sent to war despite suffering from PTSD, Traumatic Brain Injury and Military Sexual Trauma.</p>			<b>F</b>
<p><b>Recommendations:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>De-escalate troop levels in Afghanistan and reject the idea that there is a military solution to the region's problems.</b></li> <li><b>Immediately stop military activities that indiscriminately impact civilians such as air and drone strikes.</b></li> <li><b>Withdraw all U.S. troops and foreign forces from Afghanistan as soon as possible.</b></li> <li><b>Commit to negotiated diplomatic talks involving all major regional players, including major international peace-keeping bodies.</b></li> <li><b>Address the real needs of Afghans, which include economic development, education and clean water.</b></li> </ol>					