

# Security Force Assistance (SFA) Bibliography

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### **Briefings About Advisor Training**

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## History of Advisors

The United States military has a rich history of military advisors. In Vietnam there were advisors attached to many of the South Vietnamese Army and Marine units. In Iraq there were SFODAs and MiTTs assigned throughout the country. In Afghanistan we have seen many different variations of advisor efforts.

### Vietnam

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### Soviet Union in Afghanistan

Pomper, Major Stephen D., "Don't Follow the Bear: The Soviet Attempt to Build Afghanistan's Military", *Military Review*, September-October 2005, pages 26-28. Posted on ndu.edu.

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### United States Advisory Effort in Afghanistan

Potter, Josh. *American Advisors: Security Force Assistance Model in the Long War*, (Joint Center for International Security Force Assistance, 2011).

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### **Advisor Selection**

The selection of advisors to deploy to Afghanistan has been one of the less than finer moments of the American military establishment. Within the Army, Human Resources Command (HRC) and Forces Command have both proven that they cannot shift from a “peacetime environment” to a “wartime environment”. They are trapped in their bureaucratic bubble and couldn’t break the code on filling important advisor assignments with rank and MOS appropriate personnel.

#### **2014**

Chase, Michael B., “Our Own Worst Enemy”, *Small Wars Journal*, August 16, 2014. In this article, Chase – a former ministry level advisor to the Afghan Ministry of Defense – comments that the U.S. military failed to send our ‘best and brightest’ to be advisors at the ministry level.

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**Papers, Reports, and Publications about Security Force Assistance**  
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**2014**

Aziz, Khalid, *Conditions for a Successful Transition in Afghanistan Post-2014*, Danish Institute for International Studies (DIIS), DISS Report 2014:04.  
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Ziems, Kristine. *The Rule of Law in Afghanistan: A Primer for Practitioners*, Touchpoint International Development Group, LLC, February 2014. Funded by the Department of State Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs Office of Afghanistan and Pakistan.  
<https://sites.google.com/site/touchpointidg/training-and-educational-services/afghanistan>

**2013**

Butler, Colonel William J., *Security Force Assistance: What Right Looks Like*, U.S. Army War College, Class of 2013. The author uses SFA in Romania and the subsequent

deployment of Romania forces to Afghanistan to provide a best practice on SFA.  
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Payne, Leslie Adrienne & Jan Osburg. *Leveraging Observations of Security Force Assistance in Afghanistan for Global Operations*, RAND Research Report prepared for the United States Army, 2013 based on research and interviews during January to April 2013. This report will be of interest to those involved in designing SFA policy and doctrine and those advising SFA operations in the field.  
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## 2012

Captain Colby K. Krug. *When Combat Advising = Company Command*. Paper by a SFAAT team leader describing the mission of advising an ANA kandak. October 2012. The paper can be accessed [here](#).

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## **Leader Development & Education for Sustained Peace Program (LDESP)**

3-Day Seminar and Distance Learning Program

[www.ldesp.org](http://www.ldesp.org)

A number of units deploying SFAATs to Afghanistan have taken advantage of a unique program offered by the "Leader Development & Education For Sustained Peace Program". This organization, a functional program of the Center for Civil-Military Relations located at Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) at Monterey, California, provides 3-day seminars at the unit's home station upon request and offers an online distance learning program for individuals. Funding for the seminars is provided by FORSCOM. The seminar provides informative briefings on Afghanistan concentrating on culture, history, geography, and politics.

LDESP Faculty. This is a collaborative educational program designed and facilitated by a pool of more than 300+ faculty - scholars from educational institutes, DoD, governmental agencies, and international organizations.

Three-Day Seminars at Unit Location. Units such as 173rd Bde and 4/1 AD have had SFAAT members participate in this seminar during pre-deployment training at home station prior to attending the Advisor Academy and the MRE/MRX at JRTC, JMRC, ATG, etc.

Distance Learning Program for Individuals. For those SFAAT members currently deployed there is a distance learning "Afghanistan Educational Program" as well. You can participate in this online training by registering on the LDESP website and then selecting the Afghan educational program. Units can also enroll individual members in an online unit program and appoint a unit member to monitor the progress of the unit members within that group. Content of the Distance Learning program includes Afghanistan overview, history, culture, language, geography, governance and politics, security, reconstruction, economy, UNAMA & NGOs, media, an extensive Afghan document library, and more.

To access the distance learning program you must first register on the website - a very easy process. As soon as you register you can start the online distance learning course and access the valuable and numerous publication library.

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Survival Evasion Resistance Escape (SERE) Level A Training in support of the Code of Conduct (CoC). SERE 100.1 computer-based training satisfies the level A requirement. Training can be found on Joint Knowledge Online (JKO) page <http://jko.jfcom.mil>, course number "J3T A-US022" or on AKO at [www.us.army.mil/suite/page/650428](http://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/650428).

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**Additional Documents and Websites**

Ronna APAN OCC-R Page for Regional Coordination Centers

<https://ronna.apan.org/OCCR/Pages/Home.aspx>

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**Suggestions on documents, publications, briefings, website links, other information to change, delete or add can be sent to the email below:**

**staff@afghanwarnews.info**