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Afghan Soldier Shoots Five US Soldiers

By John Glaser

July 4, 2012

Another Afghan soldier has [shot and wounded five US soldiers](#) in eastern Afghanistan on Tuesday, in the latest sign that the training mission in Afghanistan is an utter failure.

The attack took place at a NATI base in Wardak province, east of Kabul. The NATO officials called these “green-on-blue” attacks, where Afghans in the police or army attack their supposedly allied international forces. More than 20 foreign personnel have been killed in such shootings in Afghanistan this year.

One of the central aspects of the US mission in Afghanistan is to build up a government and corresponding security forces in order to fight off a return to the Taliban after US forces are drawn down after more than eleven years of war. But Afghan forces are either openly hostile to NATO forces, or they’re too incompetent to operation alone.

The bulwark against a return to Taliban rule, we are told by the Obama administration, is continuing to support, arm, and train the Afghan security forces. But as a former US official told Dexter Filkins in a recent [New Yorker](#) piece, “several hundred soldiers in the Afghan Army are thought to be agents for the Taliban or for Pakistan.”

He “said that the killers of some of the twenty-two coalition soldiers who died this year while training Afghan forces had been planted in the Army by the Taliban or by Inter-Services Intelligence, Pakistan’s main intelligence branch.” Those that aren’t Taliban are weak and ineffectual.

“I cannot count on the Army or the police here,” Abdul Nashir said. “The police and most of the soldiers are cowards. They cannot fight.”