

# In Afghanistan, the Americans Did Not Fight to Win

by Hugh Fitzgerald



There have been many attempts to analyze the reasons for the Taliban's sudden victory in Afghanistan, almost all of them focusing on the failure of will of the Afghan soldiers themselves. They were clearly not willing to fight and die in defense of a quasi-liberal and most imperfect democracy, characterized by mismanagement and corruption, but preferred to abandon their bases and their equipment, while the fanatical Muslims of the Taliban were everywhere ready to fight and die for Islam. But the failure of the Afghan soldiers to fight as the Taliban overran city after city may obscure the other failure: that of the Americans themselves, who did not fight to win. More on this can be found here: "When it comes to the Taliban, the US didn't play to win –

opinion,” by Dan Perry, [Jihad Watch](#).