

# *Karzai Rejects U.S. Criticism of Prisoner Releases*

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Kabul, February 18 (RHC)-- Afghan President Hamid Karzai has rejected U.S. objections to his government's latest release of prisoners. A group of 65 inmates were freed from Bagram last week, a prison formerly run by the U.S. occupation.

The Barack Obama administration has lobbied intensely against the prisoners' release, accusing them of attacks on Afghan civilians and U.S. troops. At a news conference, Karzai said the U.S. shouldn't interfere in Afghan affairs.

In a statement, the U.S. military said the newly released prisoners pose a threat to Afghan civilians and foreign soldiers.

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