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## **Obama's new order won't end Afghan occupation: Joshaker**

## 2/26/2014

## The United States will not withdraw its troops from Afghanistan despite President Barack Obama's recent order to Pentagon to begin planning for a full troop withdrawal, an analyst says.

"Most people in the US want us to get our troops out of Afghanistan. Our longest war is very unpopular," Joe Iosbaker, a Leader of the United National Antiwar Coalition, told Press TV on Wednesday.

He made the comments one day after President Obama warned Afghan President Hamid Karzai of not signing a Bilateral Security Agreement (BSA).

Obama also ordered the Pentagon to begin planning for a full US troop withdrawal from the country if the deal is not signed.

"People might have been heartened by this news thinking that the US occupation is finally ending, but nothing could be further from the truth," Iosbaker said.

"What is happening? The US intends to keep over 10,000 troops plus 5,000 NATO troops in Afghanistan without an ending. The White House insists that the Afghan government sign an agreement to this effect called a Bilateral Security Agreement as unpopular as this would be in the US. It's unacceptable for the Afghan people," he explained.

The US and Afghanistan are still at odds on some of the terms of the agreement, including immunity for American troops and their attacks on Afghan villages and homes.

"Only a complete traitor to the Afghan people would accept continued immunity for the occupying armies. So now the US is abandoning their old puppet Karzai. White House spokesman says they're hoping the new president would be an eager puppet amenable to his orders. If they did that, history and the Afghan people will condemn that man for treason as well," the analyst said.