

A Hard Slog after Initial Success: The Military Situation in Afghanistan



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9/11: An Almost Perfect Operation.

In a Few Hours:

- 2,974 Americans and civilians of 90 other nations;
- Fatalities include 410 Emergency Workers, and 55 US Military;
- Both Twin Towers destroyed and other buildings destroyed/damaged;
- Major damage to Pentagon;



- Attack on White House or Capitol prevented by UA 93 passengers;
- All four commercial airliners hijacked;
- Bonus effect: 246 passengers KIA when all four airliners destroyed;
- 19 Hijackers killed. (US flight schools used to train terrorists from 1996);



- *Immediate* feedback and damage assessment by US Media;
- *Immediate* impact on US, world views, and especially Islamic countries; and
- In one day, US vulnerabilities were manifest and open to exploitation.



President Obama's New Strategy Address

“...al Qaeda and its allies-- the terrorists who planned and supported the 9/11 attacks-- are in Pakistan and Afghanistan. Multiple intelligence estimates have warned that al Qaeda is actively planning attacks on the U.S. homeland from its safe haven in Pakistan. And if the Afghan Government falls to the Taliban-- or allows al Qaeda to go unchallenged-- that country will again be a base for terrorists who want to kill as many of our people as they possibly can.”

(Goal) “...So I want the American people to understand we have a clear and focused goal: to disrupt, dismantle, and defeat al Qaeda in Pakistan and Afghanistan, and prevent their return to either country in future.” ... “To achieve our goals we need a stronger, smarter and comprehensive strategy. To focus on the greatest threat to our people, American must no longer deny resources to Afghanistan because of the war in Iraq...we have to marshal international support...and recognize a fundamental connection between the future of Afghanistan and Pakistan...”

New Strategy Advanced by President Obama on 27 March: Major Points

1. Bolster Security in Pakistan to fight Taliban and al Qaeda;
2. Surge US Military (136,000 in Iraq-out of cities by 1 July, all out by 2011);
3. Increase size of ANA/ANP;



4. Reconciliation;
5. Civilian Surge;
6. Afghan Government Reforms; and
7. International and Regional Cooperation.



Diverse Forces in Afghanistan

- NATO (ISAF)
- US (OEF)
- ANA and ANP
- AP3 (Afghan Public Protection Program)
- War Lord's Militias
- Private Security Firms
- Taliban/ al Qaeda

NATO

- NATO has about 58,000 military in the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF);
- Troops provided from 28 Countries of NATO and 14 other nations;
- CG ISAF was Gen. David McKiernan, also CG of OEF forces;



- On May 11, The US Sec. of Defense, Robert Gates, saying he seeks “*fresh thinking*” and “*fresh eyes*” on Afghanistan, recommended that President Obama replaced McKiernan with Lt. Gen. Stanley A. McChrystal.

- Gates also recommended that Lt. Gen. David M. Rodriguez, a former head of U.S. forces in eastern Afghanistan, serve as McChrystal’s deputy. Gates praised McChrystal and Rodriguez for their “*unique skill set in counterinsurgency.*”



- McChrystal's and Rodriguez's selections mark the continued ascendancy of officers who have pressed for the use of counterinsurgency tactics, in Iraq and Afghanistan, that are markedly different from the Army's traditional doctrine.



- *“We have a new strategy, a new mission and a new ambassador. I believe that new military leadership is also needed”* said Gates.

- Gen. David H. Petraeus, the top commander in the region, has pressed to broaden the military’s mission in Afghanistan and Iraq beyond killing the enemy to protecting the population, overseeing reconstruction projects and rebuilding local governance.



- Petraeus played a key role in the Obama administration's strategic review of the Afghanistan conflict and was involved in the decision to remove McKiernan, which Petraeus said in a statement he *“fully supports.”*



- Five Regional Commands, in ISAF each by a different country;
- Mission: T&E, Mentor ANA/Reconstruction and Stability Ops, OMLTs, PRTS; and
- NATO committed to an additional 5,000 personnel, most in non-combat roles.



and Afghan National Army strength & laydown

Troop Contributing Nations (TCN): The ISAF mission consists of the following 42 nations (the troop numbers are based on broad contribution and do not reflect the exact numbers on the ground at any one time).

	Albania	140		Finland	110		Lithuania	200		Spain	780
	Australia	1090		France	2780		Luxembourg	9		Sweden	290
	Austria	2		Georgia	1		Netherlands	1770		The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*	170
	Azerbaijan	90		Germany	3465		New Zealand	150		Turkey	660
	Belgium	450		Greece	140		Norway	490		Ukraine	10
	Bosnia and Herzegovina	2		Hungary	370		Poland	1590		United Arab Emirates	25
	Bulgaria	820		Iceland	8		Portugal	30		United Kingdom	8300
	Canada	2830		Ireland	7		Romania	860		United States	26215
	Croatia	280		Italy	2350		Singapore	20			
	Czech Republic	580		Jordan	7		Slovakia	230			
	Denmark	700		Latvia	160		Slovenia	70			
	Estonia	140								Total (rounded)	58390

* Turkey recognises the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name

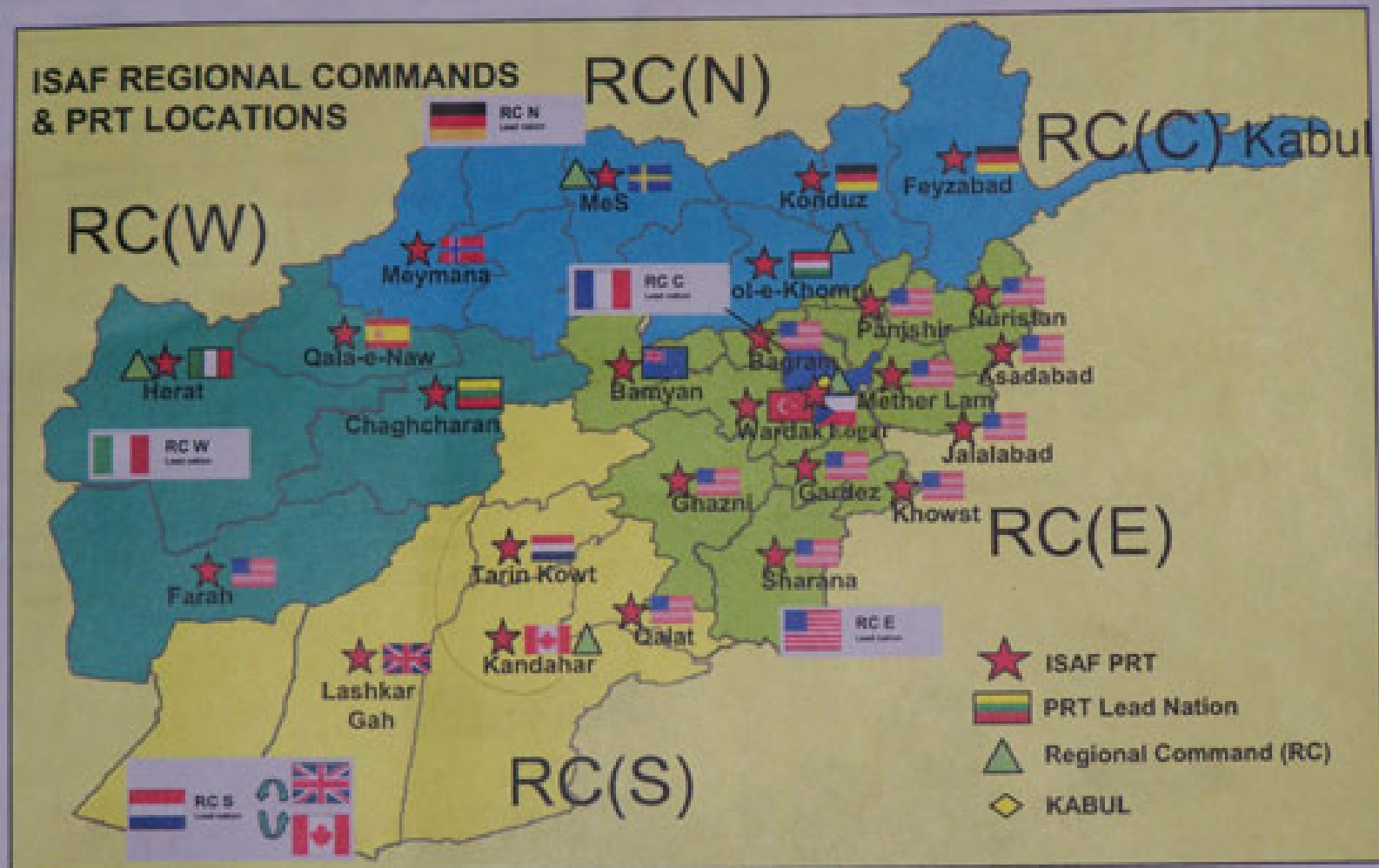
II. The Afghan National Army (ANA): Facts and Figures

In September 2008, the Joint Commission and Monitoring Board, co-chaired by the Afghan government and the United Nations, agreed to increase the total strength of the ANA to 122,000 personnel with a 12,000 man training margin. As of April 2009, the ANA has an actual strength of approximately 82,780 personnel. This represents 62% of the 134,000 approved strength which is scheduled to be reached by the end of 2011.

Operationally, the ANA is currently fielding 5 Corps Headquarters, a Capital Division responsible for the security of the Kabul area, and an ANA Air Corps providing the essential air support to the ANA brigades deployed throughout Afghanistan.

- ISAF AOR (Afghanistan) and major coalition units
- 26 Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRTs)

indicative.



Regional Command Capital: (appx ISAF strength 5,830)

- HQ ISAF in Kabul (Composite)
- HQ RC(C) in Kabul (FRA)
- KAIA (POL)

Regional Command North: (appx ISAF strength 4,730)

- HQ RC(N) in MAZAR-E-SHARIF (DEU)
- Forward Support Base MAZAR-E-SHARIF (DEU)
- PRT MAZAR-E-SHARIF (SWE)

US Ground Forces in Afghanistan

- 26,000 in NATO's ISAF total of 58,000;
- 21,000 arriving, (Marines and STRYKER Bde., Support and Trainers);
- Total this year to 68,000. 10,000 requested for 2010;



- FY 2010 budget provides \$65B for operations (\$61B for Iraq);
- Missions of OEF: Same as ISAF plus Counter Terror Ops, T&E for ANP;
- Strategy: Clear, Hold, Build, esp., in South and East.



Afghan National Army (ANA)

- 68,000 in ANA. Planned to 134,000 by 2011. Annual cost will be \$2B. Now \$1.7B;
- By late 2008 ANA more than doubled. 52,000 ANA now deployed with ISAF units;
- Between January 2007 and October 2008 ANA lost 505 KIA. (Police 1214, ISAF 464);



- Recruits trained at Kabul Military Center (capacity 5,000):10-16 week Basic Course;
- Multi-ethnic units, deploy to Corps/Brigades after 6 weeks unit training;
- ISAF furnishes OMLTs (Operational Mentor and Liaison Teams);



- US provides similar ETTs (Embedded Training Teams);
- 4,000 82d Abn Bde Trainers to provide more ETTs;
- Pay: Privates \$120/mo; 2/Lt-- \$170;
- Equipment: Soviet-bloc, but are slowly switching to NATO compatible systems;



- Recent polls show ANA to be the most respected Afghan institution.





1,800+ prospective cadets assemble for the Afghan College Entrance Exam for the Afghan National Army Academy, Kabul, Afghanistan. Approximately 300 will be chosen. The exam is 80 % of their final admissions score.



Mixed Team On Patrol

strength which is scheduled to be reached by the end of 2011.

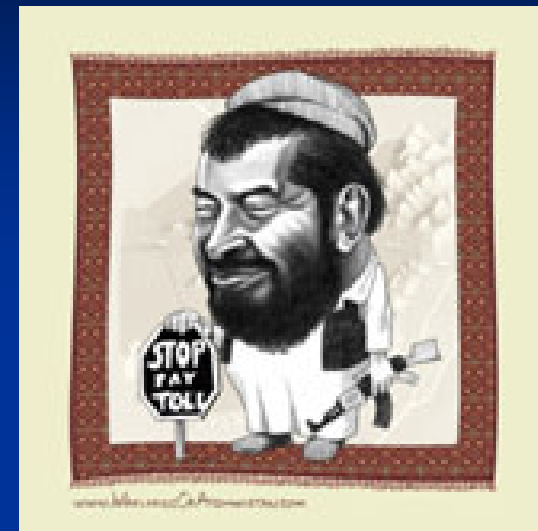
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Now, over 90% of ISAF operations are conducted in conjunction with the ANA.



Some War Lords of Afghanistan

- Gul Shirzai: (Pashtun and Barakzais) Governor of Kandahar, later Nangahar. Relieved of former position after 3 years—allegedly gained \$300M in opium trade and business contracts
Shortly after made Governor of Nangahar and cleaned out Taliban, slashed opium and built roads;



- Ahmed Masud: Lion of the Panjishir Valley. Probably the best of the Warlords. Instrumental in attacks against Soviets, and w/ Northern Alliance. Assassinated under Osama's orders days before 9/11;



- Ismail Khan: Sometime Emir of Herat. Fought Soviets 13 years. Ran Herat as personal fiefdom—deposed in 2004. Once captured by Mullah Omer—but guards freed him as a holy man;



- Mohammed Fahim: Made Defence Minister 2002, Karzai's running mate now. But in Civil War captured, and allegedly beat Karzai—marked for death but escaped. Strongest against the Soviets;



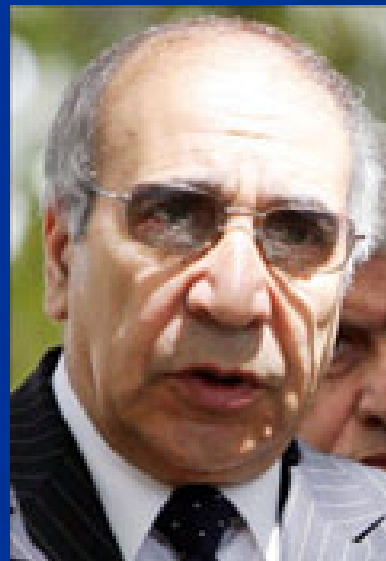
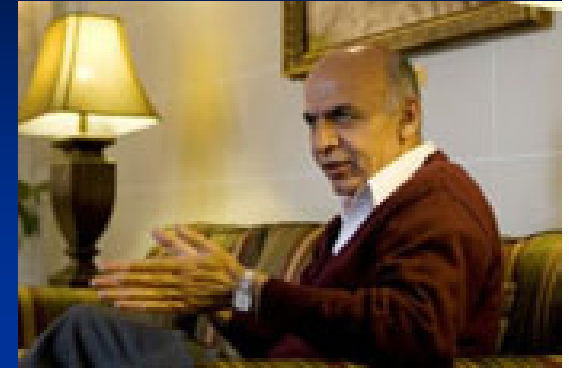
- Rashid Dostum: Wrestler of Northern Alliance. Uzbek fights w/AK-47 on horseback. 2001 dismounted to slay an AT gunner from Taliban. But in Kunduz, when 100's of Taliban were cornered and the CIA wanted to call in air he walked in and had them surrender. Ran for President in 2004 (10% of vote). Is COS of ANA;



- On 4 May Fahim was selected by Karzai (Tajik) to be his 1st VP running mate (despite corrupt allegations: running armed militias, covering drug traffickers and criminals) and mass civilian deaths in the civil war. Karzai asked the 2nd VP Karim Kalili (Hazara) to stay on;
- Thought to be a running mate, Shirzai dropped out this month after meeting w/ Karzai;



- Foreign Minister Abdullah and two former finance ministers, Ashraf Ghani and Anwar Ahady announced their candidacy—as did former Int Minister Ahmed Ali Jalali;



- Zalmay Khalilzad (US born) rumored to seek election as well, but he, Jalali and others would have to give up US citizenship to run.



Logistics in Afghanistan: An Uphill Battle

- Pakistan Connection Vital: 75% of supplies for US/NATO flow through the country;
- 130 contract drivers have been killed trucking supplies through Pakistan;
- Troop increases require over 100 containers a day, a 50% increase, that must flow through Pakistan. These deliver non-lethal military supplies;



- US routinely stockpiles 60-90 days of supplies in event LOCs disrupted;
- An airbase in Uzbekistan was closed to US in 2005 in a dispute over Human Rights;
- A second base (Manas) in Kyrgyzstan may be shut down outside Bishkek;
- Russians promised \$2B in loans to Kyrgyzstan, and other aid;



- US provides the Kyrgyz \$63M yearly in rent and \$90M in aid;
- All lethal, sensitive material is flown into Afghanistan by air, as are all personnel;
- One goal is to secure use of Russian rail system negotiations continue.



- A second is to route material thru Tajik and Turkmen areas into Termez, Uzbekistan;



- Both countries agreed to passage of non-lethal US military cargo via their rail and road nets.

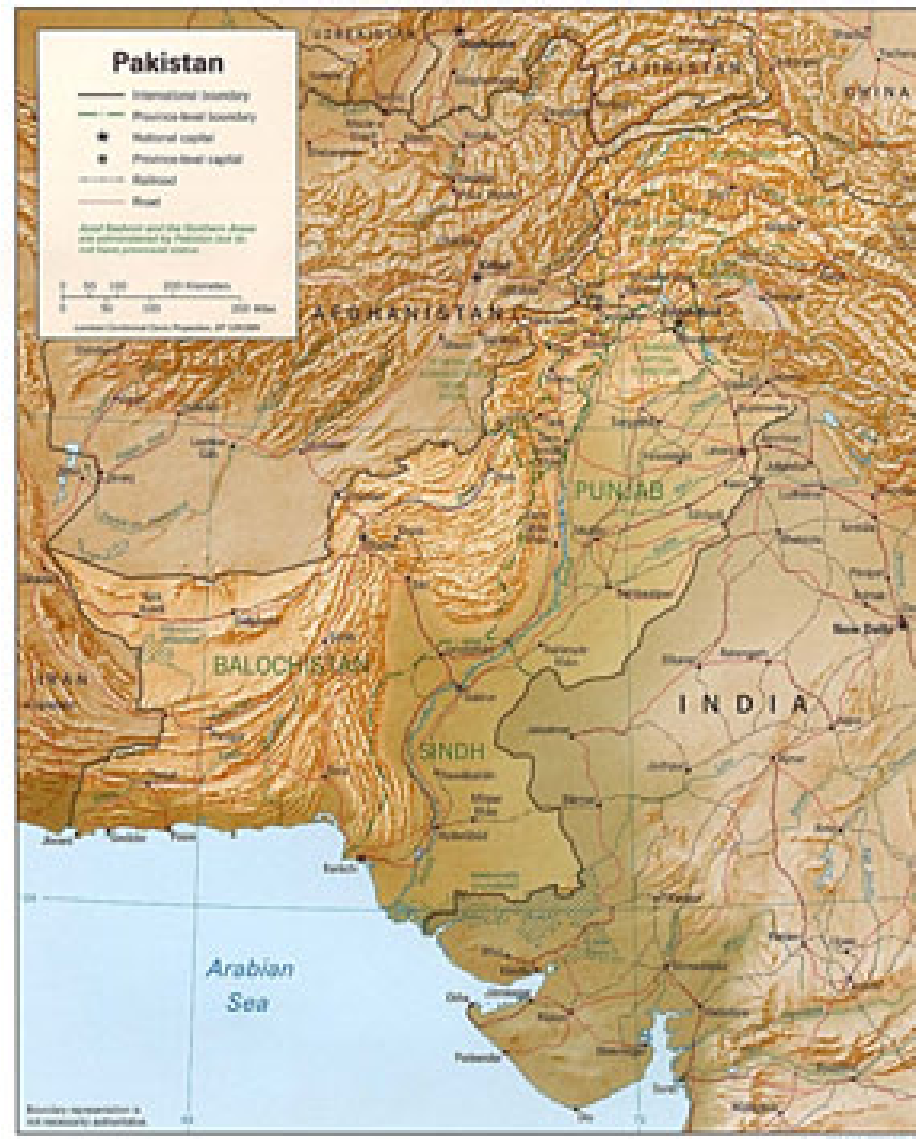




Pakistan: Taliban's Second Front

- Military Aid restraints against Pakistan in 1990 for 12 years (Pressler Amendment);
- 1,500 miles of border with Afghanistan;
- Two Abortive GoP military actions in Swat Valley, 3d in progress;





- 15,000 Pakistani troops to counter about 4,000 Taliban: Swat, Buner, and Dir;
- (Late April Taliban broke peace accord, moving into two provinces.);
- Since 2001 Pakistan received \$10B in assistance (military and economic);
- Over past decade, Pakistan provided \$15B from US.



- President Zadari claims that his 700,000 man military sufficient to defeat Taliban;
- Pakistan nuclear arsenal considered secure by Pakistan officials;
- April, Tokyo Donor Conference: US-\$7.5B pa for 5 years and \$3B Mil E&T;



- Added emergency funds for Counter Insurgency (\$400M);
- 2008: Terrorist attacks killed 2,293, almost twice that of 2007.



What They Carry: Troop Loads in Afghanistan

■ Body Armor and Helmet	35lbs	
■ Weapon (Rifle)	7	
■ Ammunition	15	
■ Water	4	Sub Total 61 lbs

■ Food (3 days)	10	
■ Water	4	
■ Sleeping Bag	6	
■ Clothing	3	
■ Added Ammunition,		
■ Flares, Grenades, etc.	32	
■ Radio	1.5 to 20	Sub Total 56 to 75

		Total 117 to 136



US



British