



ANP secure Towr Kham border

OSC-A Public Affairs

KABUL, Afghanistan – The Afghanistan National Police made the Towr Kham Border Crossing Point fully operational recently with 100 percent immigration identification and commerce checks. Temporary barriers to separate and guide traffic were added and the administrative offices and the evidence storage facility were redesigned.

Within the ANP, the responsibility for securing international borders from threat of criminal and terrorist acts rest with the Afghan Border Police. Working with Afghan customs officials, the ABP also bears responsibility for ensuring compliance with the laws that will generate the needed revenue to support Afghanistan's redevelopment.

The ABP's goal is to help Afghanistan develop a stable rule of law and control of their borders, and the overall performance of the ABP assigned to the Towr Kham BCP has improved dramatically. Significant achievements include notable increases in pedestrian and vehicle



Courtesy photo

An Afghan Border Police officer checks travelers passing through the Towr Kham border recently.

contacts, evidentiary seizures, detentions and arrests, and a growing cooperative spirit between ABP and customs officials.

Major Qahar, Towr Kham ABP BCP commander, said, "Every person in Afghanistan just wants to have security and right now we have security for the first time. This is a very important improvement. We have started to generate income for the government of Afghanistan. Now the government should start to use this money to help the people and improve the overall situation for Afghanistan."

The ABP officers at the BCP are

given advanced job-specific training related to the skills necessary for conducting pedestrian stops and searches, interviewing, document checks, arrests, vehicle checkpoints and searches, illicit trafficking interdiction and tactical training. More than 200 1st Brigade ABP personnel have benefited from this training curriculum. In addition, the commanders will complete a one-week leadership development course, and officers are currently attending the field training officer course.

In addition, numerous interim standard operating procedures have

been implemented. ABP personnel have specific job duties and responsibilities more in line with the democratic, community-oriented model of policing. Perhaps most significant however is the new emphasis placed on the abatement of corruption.

The ABP is making a priority of ending the practice of illegal tariff collection or “reshwat” (bribes). Furthermore, the ABP reporting and documentation of activities and logistic support are developing toward increased accountability.

“We estimate there is an 80 to 100 percent increase in revenue at customs because we have stopped the illegal trade that was free flowing through the Towr Kham Gate. All of the border crossing in Afghanistan should implement what we are doing at Towr Kham,” Qahar said.

The dedicated efforts of the ABP

offer the key to realizing the secure, prosperous nation that the people of Afghanistan deserve. “I am completely satisfied with the entire project at Towr Kham and will continue to work with the mentors and do it in good faith and honestly for Afghans,” Qahar said. 

Two Afghan border guards stand in front of a pile of smuggled goods seized from the Towr Kham border (top). Travelers pass through the Towr Kham border (bottom).



Courtesy photos