



The Warrior Dispatch

July Greeting from the Commander

We are halfway through July and I would like to commend everyone at the PRT for the work that they have been doing. In addition to the missions and training, we have had several social activities; fireworks and ice cream on the 4th of July, a PRT steak fry, and movie nights.

We have also hit another milestone in our deployment as the PDSS has come and gone. The PDSS allows the next Commander and Sergeant Major to come and spend time with us to better understand what we do and be able to take that information home and focus the pre-mobilization training at Camp Atterbury.

The following soldiers have been recognized for outstanding performance this month:

MAJ Freyer, SSG Houlton, SGT Rosa, SGT Yohe, SPC Sustaita, and SPC Sanchez.

Thanks for going the extra mile and keep up the great work!

LTC Roberts—Warrior 6



LTC David Roberts
PRT Khost Commander

Information from the SGM



SGM Michael Stafford
PRT Khost Sergeant Major

Hello again PRT families and supporters. Independence Day has come and gone already; can you believe it? The staff at the dining facility did a n ice job with a few decorations and a great meal. They worked hard to follow the traditional theme of a cookout with hotdogs and hamburgers. Every service member that I seen had a smile on their face and appeared to enjoy their meal. There were a few fireworks here during the evening courtesy of our Security Forces. They worked in conjunction with the local EOD team to get rid of some old ammunition. It was a little bit different from what most of us are use to as the grand finial opened the celebration and was followed by a few much smaller bursts.

During the past few weeks we have received a large amount of care packages from many of you and others back in the states. Our normal storage area that we use for the overflow is currently busting at the seams and we have started an annex in another building. We really appreciate your heart felt gifts.

The dog days of summer are upon us as it has really warmed up recently. The temperatures are slightly about the 100 degree mark daily, but that is not much different than what some of you are experiencing. This has limited some of our outdoor activities during our off time.

Thank you for what you do and for the sacrifices that each of you make while your loved one is away from home.

SGM Stafford—Warrior 7



Internet links



<http://www.army.mil/>



<http://www.navy.mil/>



<http://www.defense.gov/>



<http://www.state.gov/>



<http://www.usaid.gov/>

4th of July at FOB Salerno



FOB Salerno, 4th of July, "Controlled DET" fireworks. A supply of old US and probably found UXO is destroyed in an impressive display. Not quite like a fireworks show at home, but was a nice touch for the 4th. Photo was made from the top of Ft. Awesome, "radar hill" is silhouetted by the light show. After the show, ice cream was served under Ft. Awesome.
(U.S. Army photo by MSG Williamson)



In honor of July 4th, elements of the Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) team and PRT Khost Security Forces provided FOB Salerno with a fireworks display.
(U.S. Army photo by Major Jonathan Freyer)



[1st Battalion \(Airborne\)
143rd Infantry Regiment](#)



[Civil Affairs Command](#)



[Indiana National Guard](#)



We're on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/PRTKhost>



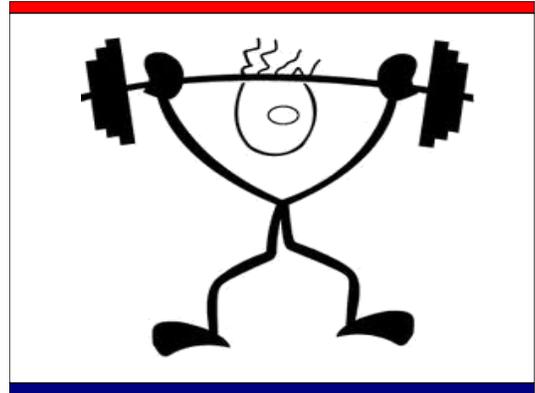
Healthy Competition: MSG Stevens

Have you ever been issued a challenge that you thought was so ridiculous that you couldn't believe the challenger was initiating it? I'm not referring to any training in the military or civilian world that would challenge you as a person, there is a variety of physically, mentally and emotionally exhausting training venues to select from if that's your wish. I'm referring to a challenge between friends. A dare if you will. A bet of sorts. Someone who says "I'll bet I can (X) better than you can, at this time", and the next thing you know, the smack-talking has reached epic proportions. You trade little quips throughout the day. You trade funny material on the subject. Everyone on the team knows about the challenge, and everyone is picking who they think will pull it off in the end.

Competition in a unit, or on a team, or within an organization tends to be very healthy. It gives focus to you and your team's efforts. You can see yourself crossing the finish line first. You constantly gain motivation as you reach your smaller objective, which helps you meet your larger goals and finally the big dance. Even those of us who wouldn't normally attempt to be involved in competition get caught up in the games.

The thing about a competition is that there has to be a winner and a loser of the challenge. Someone will finish first, in my case well ahead of the other one, I'm sure, and the loser will wish he had never thrown down the gauntlet in the first place. There is good news though, that both of us are re-doubling our efforts and working toward exceeding our goals. I see my competitor in the gym on a nightly basis and always speed up the treadmill just a bit, or jump rope faster, ten more lunges, 10 more pushups, etc. I know that whether I actually win, or in the unlikely event, that I sprain an ankle and actually place a close second, I have made severe improvement in my physical fitness levels and my dietary consumption. For me, it doesn't matter whether I win or lose this game, I'm glad I came to play.

- MSG Sharla Stevens



"I come not to challenge anyone, just me. Be better today than yesterday. Winning is not my motivation, it is not what drives me. My motivation comes from within. To be the best person I can be, inside and out."

- Larissa Reis

Personal Trainer
and IFBB Figure Pro

Khost PRT Civil Affairs Organization

The achievements of an organization are the results of the combined effort of each individual.

- [Vince Lombardi](#)

In the last newsletter I discussed the importance of Civil Affairs (CA) in PRT Khost. In this newsletter I will address the organization of the CA team. Our CA team is made up of 9 soldiers – 4 officers and 5 non commissioned officers. We are split more or less equally into two functional areas which are a Civil Military Operations Center (CMOC) and a Civil Affairs Team (CAT-A). Both of these elements conduct civil-military operations but serve different functions.

A **civil-military operations center** or CMOC is a center usually established by a military force for coordinating civil-military operations in an area of operations. It serves as a central location for information on civilian related activities in the area or maintains the status of the infrastructure or institutions. Our CMOC does most of the planning and maintains situational awareness of all the CA operations being conducted by the PRT.

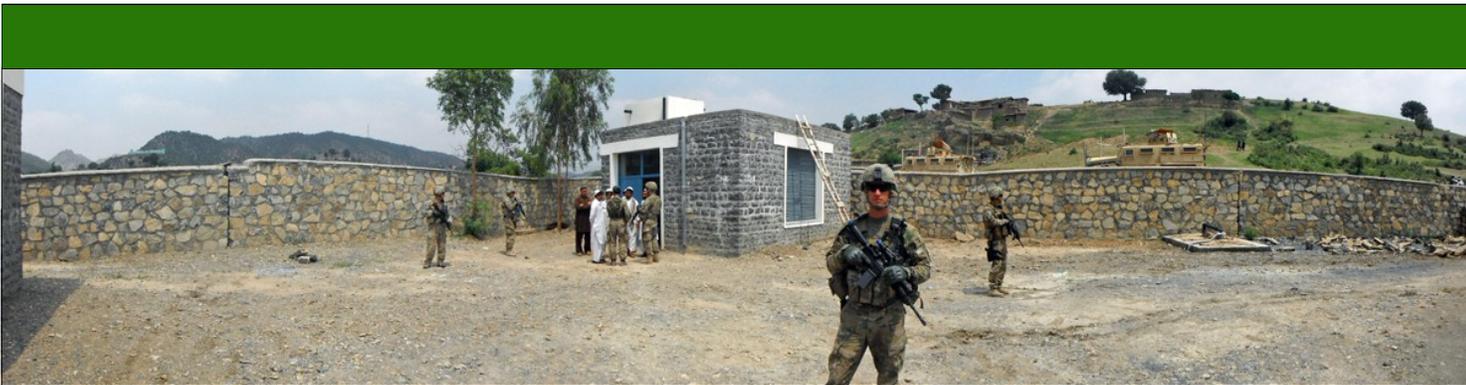
CAT-A Civil Affairs teams routinely go out and meet with local officials, conduct assessments and determine the need for critical infrastructure projects such as roads, schools, power plants, clinics, sewer lines, etc., and may check up on the status of the project after construction by a local company has begun. Our CAT A has been focused on assessing governance in the districts of Khost Province. I refer to our CAT team as a "traveling road show" since they are typically out of the office and are in the Khost districts.

Overall the CA is hitting on all cylinders and is doing some great work. We are at about the half way point of our time here in Khost Province and I am proud of this team and what they are accomplishing.



LTC James Blashford
PRT Khost Civil Affairs





SGT Roy Yohe—U.S. Army



YNCS Craig Myers—U.S. Navy

Elements of the PRT Security Force (SECFOR) monitor their assigned sectors during a recent mission in eastern Afghanistan. (U.S. Army photos by MAJ Jonathan Freyer)



CPT Jason Fernandez—U.S. Army



Typical scene out the rear window of our "Cougar" while on a mission II. This view shows some of the normal construction of building in the Khost province. The homes are surrounded with the high brick and mud walls for protection. This same photo could have probably been made 150 years ago. (U.S. Army photo by MSG Williamson)



Typical scene out the rear window of our "Cougar" while on a mission I. On the right is an ANP/ANA post (Afghan National Police/Afghan National Army). It is protected with HESCO barriers, sand bags and concertina wire. A farm tractor and wagon is in the right foreground. Two of our Cougars are following on the left. (U.S. Army photo by MSG Williamson)



MISSION PICTURES

from Afghanistan

Why I joined the Army?



SPC Jonathan An
PRT Khost Security Force

My reason for joining the Army was for college and to utilize the ROTC program. I wanted to become a member in the Simultaneous Membership Program (SMP) through the National Guard because it offered a better benefits plan than the ROTC scholarship alone. I felt it was a great chance to gain enlisted experience before becoming an officer. Upon completing One Station Unit Training (OSUT) and returning to ROTC for one semester my outlook had changed and I felt the need to do more than serve. I felt that I had to earn my experiences instead and what better way than to deploy. Despite my initial intentions of joining, they have now become all about earning valuable experience and serving as an enlisted soldier in order to become a more competent officer.



Japanese Air Attack on Midway, 4 June 1942

At 0430 in the morning of 4 June 1942, while 240 miles northwest of Midway, Vice Admiral Chuichi Nagumo's four carriers began launching 108 planes to attack the U.S. base there. Unknown to the Japanese, three U.S. carriers were steaming 215 miles to the east. The two opposing fleets sent out search planes, the Americans to locate an enemy they knew was there and the Japanese as a matter of operational prudence. Seaplanes from Midway were also patrolling along the expected enemy course. One of these spotted, and reported, the Japanese carrier striking force at about 0530.

That seaplane also reported the incoming Japanese planes, and radar confirmed the approaching attack shortly thereafter. Midway launched its own planes. Navy, Marine and Army bombers headed off to attack the Japanese fleet. Midway's Marine Corps Fighting Squadron 221 (VMF-221) intercepted the enemy formation at about 0615. However, the Marines were immediately engaged by an overwhelming force of Japanese "Zero" fighters and were able to shoot down only a few of the enemy bombers, while suffering great losses themselves. This action convincingly demonstrated the inferiority of the Americans' [Brewster F2A-3 "Buffalo"](#) fighter, and the marginal capabilities of the somewhat better [Grumman F4F "Wildcat"](#), when confronted by the fast and nimble "Zero". Among the Marine losses was VMF-221's commanding officer, [Major Floyd B. Parks](#).

The Japanese planes hit Midway's two inhabited islands at 0630. Twenty minutes of bombing and strafing knocked out some facilities on Eastern Island, but did not disable the airfield there. Sand Island's oil tanks, seaplane hangar and other buildings were set afire or otherwise damaged. As the Japanese flew back toward their carriers the attack commander, [Lieutenant Joichi Tomonaga](#), radioed ahead that another air strike was required to adequately soften up Midway's defenses for invasion.

This page presents views of the air attack on Midway, including the fighter action that immediately preceded it. For photographs of damage caused by that attack, [Damage on Midway from the 4 June 1942 Air Attack](#)

Artwork of the air attack and its results can be accessed at [The Battle of Midway](#) and images of other aspects of the Battle of Midway can be viewed at [Battle of Midway, Overview and Special Image Selection](#)



ADT Question of the Month:



What do you miss most about your kids? What do you NOT miss about your kids?

What I miss most is the long leisurely walks along the beach, skipping rocks, and hanging at the beach.

What I don't miss is DRAMA DRAMA DRAMA :D LOL

- SFC Diane Wellborn,
mother of a 17 year old daughter.

What I miss most is playing with my kids and being silly with them. I love that I can make them laugh and giggle at my silliness. I also miss that my kids are so unique and entertaining. I love my little people.

What do you NOT miss about your kids? No comment.

- CPT Scott Godby,
father of an 11 year old daughter and 8 year old son.

What I miss most is playing baseball, soccer, basketball with my kids.

I don't miss, XXX is being mean!

- MAJ Gregory D. Motz,
father of a daughter and a son.

I miss saying to my daughter Christina, Good Morning! Love You! Have a Good-Day!

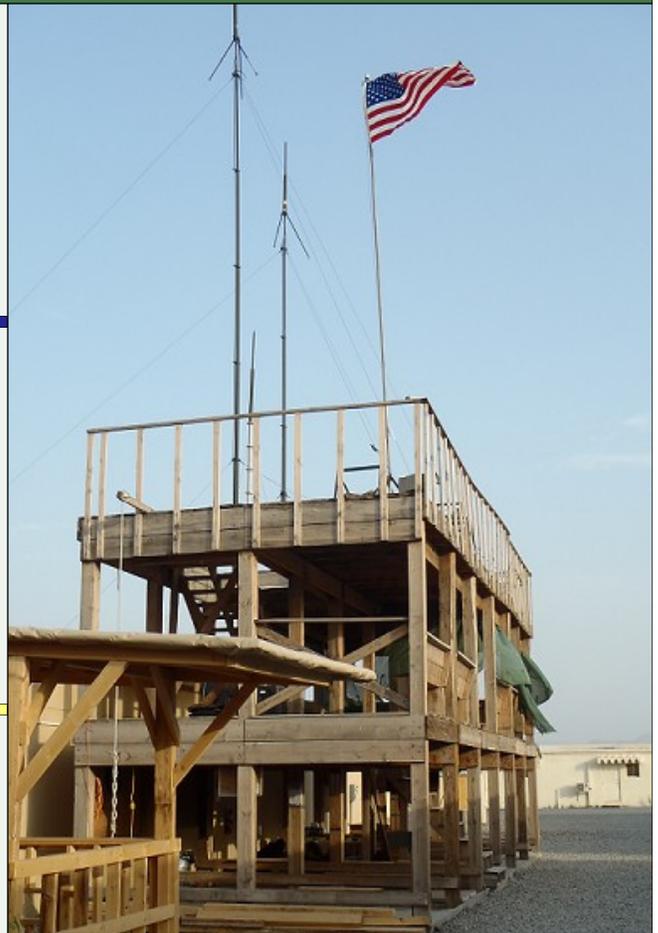
What I don't miss is when she says something like, "Hay Dad, I need \$10 (or \$20) for the field trip next week".

- MSG Brian K. Williamson,
father of an 18 year old daughter.

I most miss having coffee with my kids in the morning. They have hot chocolate. It is a good time to talk with them for a few minutes before we start our day.

I do not miss putting them to bed at night. They do not like to stay in bed!

- 1LT Kristoffer Paris,
father of Conor (7) and Lilli (5)



FT. Awesome, on the 4th of July, the Stars and Stripes flying high. In the right foreground is part of the new, "Lava Lamp Lounge". (U.S. Army photo by MSG Williamson)



LTC David Roberts, (center) meeting with the Khost Province Director of Agriculture, Irrigation and Land (DAIL) Hafizullah in his office July 2, 2012. Our Cultural Advisor and translator Nick, (left) makes the LTC's point to DAIL Hafizullah. The PRT meets often with local government officials. (U.S. Army photo by MSG Williamson)

“Thank-You!”

Indiana Members of the Provisional Reconstruction Team, Khost, Afghanistan, were pleased to be on the receiving end of Joe Hilty's, "Lemonade 4 Soldiers" campaign, Monday, (July 2). Hilty, of Portland, IN, is 11 years old and has been sending packages to soldiers overseas for quite some time now. The four boxes were jam-packed with goodies for the troops. As each box was opened it was obvious that an experienced hand had both been shopping and packing the boxes. The boxes included candy, snacks, personal hygiene items, magazines and games. Joe included a nice introductory letter about himself, his "Lemonade 4 Soldiers" campaign and a self-addressed envelope with paper so a receiving soldier could write back.

No need for a stamp, soldiers in the combat zones get free first class postage.

Joe, the PRT members say "Thank-You!" and expect a few letters from Afghanistan soon!



June 25, 2012 - The downpour stops, the dusty air is cleaned, and a rainbow graces the sky over the Area of Operation (AO). (U.S. Army Photograph by SFC Diane Wellborn)



Soldiers pictured (from L to R); MSG Sharla Stevens, who was happy to get a resupply of chewing gum of various kinds; CPT Scott Godby; LTC David Roberts, Commander of the PRT, who quickly snatched the gun and hunting magazines; MAJ Gregory Motz who was pleased to get a supply of beef jerky; MSG Brian K. Williamson, of Portland, who quickly called "DIBS" on the peanuts; and SGM Michael Stafford. Photo was taken in the new, "Lava Lamp Lounge". (U.S. Army photo by SGT Erick Crawford)





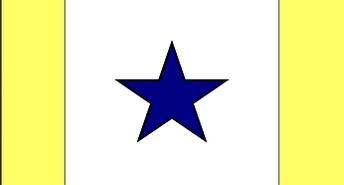
SGT Roy Yohe patrolling in Shamal District.
(U.S. AID photo by Dr. Mehmed Ali)



PRT Khost visited an Afghanistan Army outpost in Khost Province in order to discuss local issues and concerns with two tribal elders. (U.S. Army photo by Major Jonathan Freyer)



SFC Diane Wellborn examines fresh produce in the Shamal bazaar.
(U.S. AID photo by Dr. Mehmed Ali)



MAJ Jonathan Freyer engages with the Shamal District Governor and other leaders at the district center.
(U.S. AID photo by Dr. Mehmed Ali)



Elements of the PRT Khost Security Force (SECFOR) provide security during a recent mission to a local school in eastern Afghanistan. (U.S. Army photo by Major Jonathan Freyer)



MISSION PICTURES

from Afghanistan



MAJ Corey Shea waits for the start of the PRT Khost mission briefing at FOB Salerno in eastern Afghanistan. (U.S. Army photo by Major Jonathan Freyer)



Elements from the PRT Security Force and Civil Affairs team prepare for another mission by filling up their coolers with ice. (U.S. Army photo by Major Jonathan Freyer)



U.S. Army SGT Ryan Manos watches as U.S. Navy LTJG Vincent Bartholdi wears a turban presented to him by a local Afghan contractor after he concluded the final inspection of a local school. (U.S. Army photo by Major Jonathan Freyer)

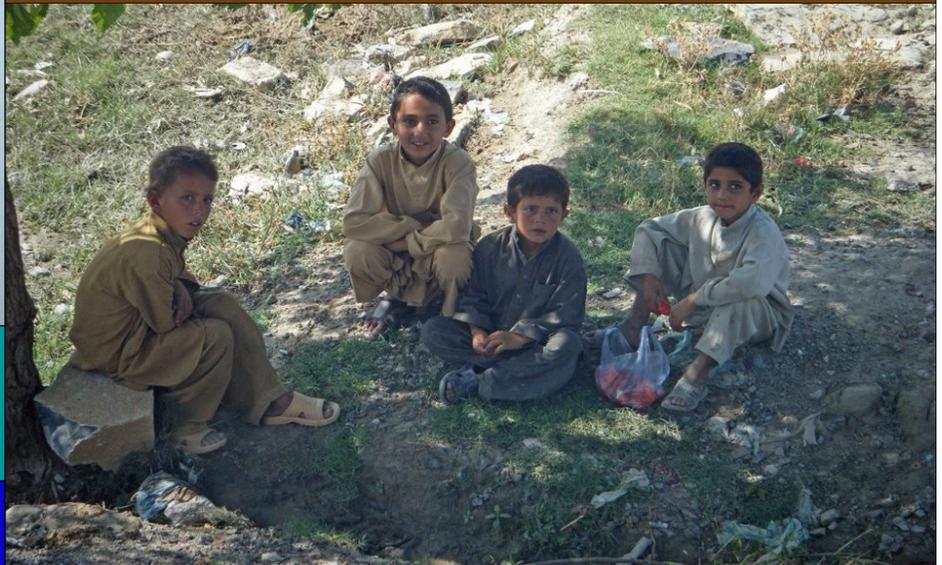




U.S. Navy Senior Chief Craig Myers raises the American flag over the PRT Khost compound at FOB Salerno on July 4, 2012. (U.S. Army photo by Major Jonathan Freyer)



Provincial Governor Abdul Jabbar Naeemi (LEFT) discusses with PRT team members Ed Bestic (2nd from LEFT) and Jordan Winkler (Right) as part of their farewell ceremony. PRT Khost Commander LTC David Roberts looks on. (U.S. AID photo by Dr. Mehmed Ali)



Local Afghan children sit on the side of the road as our convoy drives by their village. (U.S. Army photo by Major Jonathan Freyer)



Members of the PRT visit local shopkeepers at the Shamal bazaar. (U.S. Army photo by SGT Erick Crawford)



SGT Erick Crawford listens to the leadership of the Shamal district governorate. (U.S. AID photo by Dr. Mehmed Ali)



SSG JJ Houlton (LEFT) and 1LT William Payne on patrol in the Shamal bazaar. (U.S. AID photo by Dr. Mehmed Ali)



MISSION PICTURES

from Afghanistan



Members of the PRT examining local market conditions in Khost Province. (U.S. AID photo by Dr. Mehmed Ali)



SGT Ryan Manos teaching a little English dialogue to a local Afghan child. (U.S. AID photo by Dr. Mehmed Ali)



Elements of PRT Khost prepare for an early morning mission to visit one of the local district centers in eastern Afghanistan. (U.S. Army photo by Major Jonathan Freyer)



Dr. Husn Banu Ghazanfar daughter of Abdul Ghafar was born in Balkh on 1st February 1957 (Dalwa 1336 of the local calendar) she graduated from Sultan Razia High School in Mazar-e-sharif and obtained her BA and Master's degree on Literature and Sociology from Stawarpool Qafqaz in 1362 (of the local calendar). Right after she obtained her Master's degree she became the scientific cadre of the Literature Faculty of Kabul University.

After two years of service as a lecturer in the literature faculty of Kabul University, she went to Petersburg to obtain her Doctrine on Philology. She obtained her doctrine and returned to the country.

In 1382, she was appointed as the Head of the Literature Faculty and was working in this post until she was appointed as the Minister for the Ministry of Women's

Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. In addition to the above-mentioned posts, she has worked as a member of the High Council of the Ministry of Higher Education, member of Speranto International Association of Women, member of the International Association of Turk Zaban and member of the Board of Directors of Hakim Naser Khesro Balkhi Association. She is fluent in Dari, Pashto, Uzbek and Russian and she knows a little Turkish and English. Her scientific articles and essays have been published in the national and international newspapers. She is a poet and writes excellent works of literature. The books she has written are: The Human Fate, Predations in the 21st Century, The Secrets of Beauty and Attraction and she has translated the book titled Self Realization.

After the event of 27 April 1978, the Women's General Council was formed as a social-political organization, which was led by Dr. Anahita Ratebzad; this organization was supported by the government. Women's Central Association, which had 360 members, became a second division of this council. Women's General Council had social and political activities among women. This council established its branches in the capital and provinces. The ladies who were leading Women's General Council were: Feroza Marjan, Masooma Esmati Wadak, Soraya, Belqis Tabesh, Jamila Nahid, Guljan, Shaha Sherzad, Tahera Dardmal and Fawzia Nekzad. The activities of Women's Association were mostly vocational training such as cloth sewing, carpet weaving, typing, flower making, beauty parlor, internal decoration, needlework, etc, which were limited to Kabul city.

In 1991 when Mujahedin came to power in Kabul, the Women's Grand Organization was restored, and first led by Mahbooba Hoquqmal and then by Qudria Yazdanparast.

In 1994, parallel to Women's General Organization, Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs restored Women's Association in its organizational structure, which continued its activities until October 1996.

In October 1996 Taliban entered Kabul, and women and girls were forbidden to go to school or work. Taliban incorporated Women's Grand Organization with Women's Association, and hired men instead of women. Taliban regime fell down in 2001. Ministry of Women's Affairs was established according to agreements of Bonn Conference and became part of the executive of the Interim Administration. The male and female employees of Women's Grand Organization and Women's Association were recruited and re-employed. MoWA transformed its strategy from charity activities to policy making.

The first minister of Women's Affairs was Sima Samar who served in this post from 2001 to early 2003. Dr. Habiba Surabi from 2003 to 2004 and Dr. Massoda Jalal from October 2004 to July 2006 served as Ministers of Women's Affairs respectively. In July 2006, Dr. Husn Banu Ghazanfar received vote of confidence from the Parliament to become Minister of Women's Affairs. The ladies who served as deputy ministers in policy and vocational affairs were Shafiq Yarqin, Soraya Sobhran, Mazari Safa, and deputy ministers in financial and administrative affairs were Tajwar Kakar, Najiba Sharif and Maliha Sahak.

This Ministry has 9 central department and 34 provincial departments.



OFFICE OF THE
PRESIDENT
ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN

<http://president.gov.af/en>



Ministry of
Public Health
Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

<http://moph.gov.af/en>



Ministry of Education
Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

<http://moe.gov.af/en>



Ministry of Women's Affairs
Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

<http://mowa.gov.af/en>



MINISTRY OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS
ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN

<http://mfa.gov.af/en>

Links to other Afghan Government Ministries:

Ministry of Communication

<http://mcit.gov.af/en>

Ministry of Commerce and Industries

<http://moci.gov.af/en>

Ministry of Finance

<http://mof.gov.af/en>

Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development

<http://mrrd.gov.af/en>

Ministry of Justice

<http://moj.gov.af/en>

The Embassy of Afghanistan— Washington D.C.

<http://www.embassyofafghanistan.org/>