



THE ENDURING LEDGER

Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan

July 2009



ELECTION SECURITY

THE LINEUP

- 3 GENERAL McCHRISTAL
GUIDANCE
- 4 CG MESSAGE:
SECURING AFGHANISTAN'S
FUTURE
- 5 CSM MESSAGE:
COMMITMENT TO ELECTIONS
- 6 KABUL SECURITY
ACCELERATION GRADS
- 7 IEC ROLE IN THE ELECTIONS
- 8 GUIDE TO AFGHAN ELECTIONS
- 9 OCCs
- 10 CORPS & ARSIC MISSION MAP
- 12 COMBAT MEDICS
- 13 UNAMA
- 14 FOCUS ON: HHC
- 15 MI-17 SIMULATOR & KACTC
- 16 ISAF ELECTION REHEARSAL
- 17 MoI CPX
- 18 EUPOL UPDATE
- 19 WARRIOR OF THE MONTH
& ANP MEDEVAC

EDITORIAL STAFF

CSTC-A COMMANDING GENERAL
MG RICHARD P. FORMICA

COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR
CSM ARTHUR L. COLEMAN, JR.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS DIRECTOR
NAVY LT KENT P. LABORDE

NCOIC
PETTY OFFICER 1ST CLASS
CLIFF P. WILLIAMS

LAYOUT AND DESIGN
PETTY OFFICER 2ND CLASS
PAUL R. DILLARD

GRAPHICS
AIR FORCE STAFF SERGEANT
JEFF R. FITZMORRIS

CONTRIBUTOR
PETTY OFFICER 2ND CLASS
EDWARD N. VASQUEZ

Cover Illustration by Air Force Staff Sergeant Jeff Fitzmorris.

Afghan National Army and Afghan National Police are acting in cooperation to provide security for the upcoming elections while the Independent Election Committee is the lead civilian agency in the elections themselves. The people of Afghanistan will have their second set of national elections on August 20.

Back photo official US Military Photo.



The Enduring Ledger is a monthly publication of the Department of Defense and Combined Security Transition Command - Afghanistan (CSTC-A). This publication is released monthly by the CSTC-A Public Affairs Office, Camp Eggers, Kabul, Afghanistan. In accordance with DoD Instruction 5120.4, this DoD magazine is authorized publication for members of the U.S. military overseas. Contents of The Enduring Ledger are not necessarily the official view of, or endorsed by the U.S. government or DoD.

COMISAF Guidance

Commander's Initial Guidance

To the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Civilians of ISAF.

The situation in Afghanistan is serious. The outcome is important—and not yet decided. Our actions this year will be critical. We must, and will, succeed.

Success will be defined by the Afghan people's freedom to choose their future—freedom from coercion, extremists, malign foreign influence, or abusive government actions.

The outcome will be determined by our ability to understand and act with precision, the values we display, our unity of purpose, and our resolve.

The challenges to Afghanistan are complex and interrelated. Solutions will not be simple. The ongoing insurgency must be met with a counterinsurgency campaign adapted to the unique conditions in each area that:

-Protects the Afghan people, allowing them to choose a future they can be proud of.

-Provides a secure environment allowing good government and economic development to undercut the causes of the insurgency.

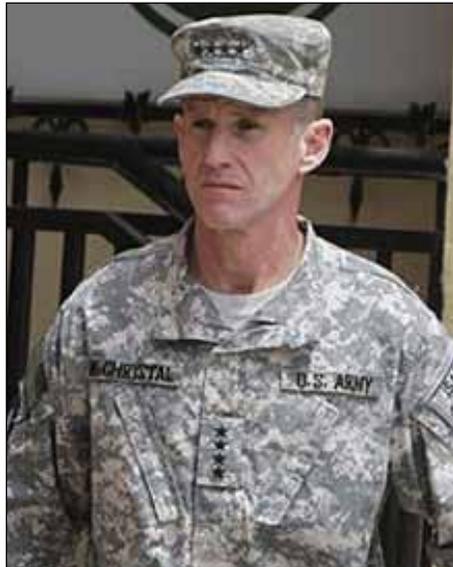
This effort will be long and difficult there is no single secret for success. As imperatives we must:

Protect and Partner with the People.

We are fighting for the Afghan people—not against them. Our focus on their welfare will build the trust and support necessary for success.

Conduct a comprehensive Counterinsurgency Campaign.

Insurgencies fail when root causes disappear. Security is essential, but I believe our ultimate success lies in partnering with the Afghan Government, partner nations, NGO's and others to build the foundations of good government and economic development.



General Stanley A. McChrystal, Commander, U.S. Forces, Afghanistan/International Security Assistance Force, Afghanistan

Understand the Environment.

We must understand in detail the situation, however complex, and be able explain it to others. Our ability to act

effectively demands a real appreciation for the positive and negative impact of everything we do, or fail to do. Understanding is a prerequisite for success.

Ensure Values Underpin Our Effort.

We must demonstrate through our words and actions our commitment to fair play, our respect and sensitivity for the cultures and traditions of others, and an understanding that the rule of law and humanity don't end when fighting starts. Both our goals and conduct must be admired.

Listen Closely- Speak Clearly.

We must listen to understand and speak clearly to be understood. Communicating our intentions and accurately reflecting our actions to all audiences is a critical responsibility and necessity.

Continued on page 12



Photo by Specialist Matthew Thompson

Army Staff Sergeant David Fisher, a sniper with Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 3rd Squadron, 71st Cavalry Regiment, hands out blankets, clothing and food to a nomadic family outside Forward Operating Base Altimur in Afghanistan's Logar province.

Securing Afghanistan's Future

By MG Richard P. Formica
CSTC-A Commanding General

On 20 August 2009, Afghans will go to the polls for presidential and provincial elections for the second time since 2004. Afghan National Security Forces – the Afghan National Army (ANA) and the Afghan National Police (ANP) along with the National Directorate of Security (NDS) – will secure those elections. And by doing so, the ANSF are securing Afghanistan's future.

Securing the elections is no small task. This has been a focused effort for some time at every level from the Ministries to the Kandaks and police districts. Between the requirements for the election security and the daily demands of counterinsurgency operations, the ANSF are spread thin.

The Afghan National Security Forces are responsible for maintaining security in the country. To organize for this enormous task of election security, responsibilities have been shared among the ANP, the ANA, NDS and the Coalition forces.

These responsibilities extend to securing the candidates, the International Election Commission at the polling centers, international observers, and election materials as well.

The responsibilities of election

security are portrayed in the form of concentric rings. The ANP have the inner ring. They are responsible for securing the polling sites (candidates, voters, and polling site staff) and maintaining the community police presence. The ANA has the second ring. It is responsible for area security, conducting presence patrols, maintaining freedom of movement, and assisting the ANP when they need help.

The Coalition has the last two rings. In the third ring, Coalition forces provide aerial support and ISR that can rapidly respond to trouble spots and reinforce the ANA and the ANP. There may well be some patrolling and distant

“Both the ANA and the ANP are committed to their responsibility to secure these elections.”

presence as a sign of reassurance and responsiveness. In the outer ring, the coalition provides quick reaction forces and in-extremis support in addition to enablers – logistics support, transportation, MEDEVAC, ISR, and others.



Official U.S. military Photo

An Afghan National Army(ANA) soldier talks with a village elder during a routine patrol. The ANA is responsible for area security, presence patrols assistance.



MG Formica

NMCC and NPCC. To meet the election timeline, we've had to accelerate the establishment of these OCCs.

Great progress has been made in a few short months with 24 of 34 OCCs operational. Others have some manning, equipping, and communications shortfalls that, except in 3 to 4 of the most remote provinces, we expect to be resolved in the next two weeks.

Even with this approach – securing the election will be challenging. There are simply not enough forces to meet all of the required tasks. We are growing the ANP to improve its capacity to meet the demands of election security. Kabul will grow by 4,800 policemen. Recruiting, vetting, and training for that growth is well underway and on track.

Additionally, the ANP is growing by up to 10K in 14 key provinces, with 9 of those provinces in the south and east. Recruiting, vetting, and training for this growth is underway, but we cannot yet determine if they will be able to reach that growth objective.

Nonetheless, both the ANA and the ANP are committed to their responsibility to secure these elections. They've participated in national, regional, and local rehearsals, command post exercises, and other training events. They know what's at stake here and they are striving to meet their responsibilities. The ANSF are securing the future of Afghanistan. And we in CSTC-A, along with all of the Coalition partners are committed to helping them – because we are one team together – Yak Team Wahed!

Command and control of the security forces and good coordination among ANA, ANP, and NDS will be vital to success. Operational coordination centers (OCCs) are being established in each of the 5 regions and in the 34 districts to facilitate this coordination and to provide links to the

Commitment and support for Afghan elections



CSM Coleman

By CSM Arthur L. Coleman Jr.
CSTC-A Command Sergeant Major

First of all, I would like to say congratulations and welcome to all of our newly arrived Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Civilians. For those of you arriving to this command for the first time, this truly is a very exciting time to be part of the Combined Security Transition Command

– Afghanistan (CSTC-A).

As we begin to move into the middle of the summer, I would like for all of you to take care of each other, enforce the buddy system and make sure that you are focused on the mission at hand. In mid-August the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan will hold its second free

election. This will be a historical event that will require this command's 100 percent commitment and support.

The Afghan National Police have done a superb job in the area of security as well as protection. There are some areas where mentors can assist in, such as in counseling and mentorship. Counseling is a leader responsibility and goes hand in hand with mentoring. It is a type of communication that leaders use to empower their Policemen and their Soldiers. It is the primary tool in developing future leaders and here in CSTC-A. Our mission is not only to teach, coach and mentor, but also to develop leaders within the Afghan National Army and the Afghan National Police. I would also like to take this time to thank all those who participated in the opening of the first Afghan National Army Sergeants Major and First Sergeants course as well as the Police and Border Patrol.

Again take care of each other, use the buddy system, and continue to support our counterparts as you always have, and I believe always will.

CSM Areas of Emphasis:

Use the Buddy System

Perform After Action Reviews

Maintain Battle Focus



Photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Paul Dillard

CSTC-A Command Sergeant Major Arthur L. Coleman Jr. congratulates an honor graduate at a recent Kabul Security Acceleration Graduation. The program is designed to provide Kabul with an increase in available police to secure the city during the upcoming elections.

Acceleration training on pace for elections

Story and photos by Petty Officer 2nd Class Paul Dillard
CSTC-A Public Affairs

With the challenges of securing Kabul during the upcoming presidential elections, the Kabul Security Acceleration Program has been implemented by the Afghan Ministry of Interior (MoI). The plan calls for 4,800 additional patrolmen, NCOs and officers to be trained in support of the Kabul security plan.

“The training for the 4,800 new Kabul Police includes various types of skills,” stated Colonel Bradley K. Nelson, Afghan National Police (ANP) force integration officer at Combined Security Transition Command - Afghanistan (CSTC-A). “The focus is primarily on operational skills with some basic constitution and law classes. They will have first aid training, weapons training and there is a tactical portion as well.”

In order to ensure the new Kabul Police Officers will be ready in time for the elections, training is divided into two phases. The first phase incorporates three weeks of training prior to the election. After the election, police officers will receive an additional five weeks of training.

Nearly 2,000 Police Officers



Officers of the Afghan National Police take their oath to Afghanistan during a recent graduation ceremony at Kabul Central Training Center. The police are part of the Kabul Security Acceleration Program.

in seven classes have graduated from the Kabul Accelerated Security Program. The first class graduated June 7th at the Kabul Central Training Center.

Afghan Minister of Interior Mohammed Haneef Atmar requested the program in February, and the recruiting efforts started in April.

“We had the challenge of figuring out how we’re going to train 4,800 raw recruits and get them on the streets in time for the elections. We started looking at our training sites.

We had two sites dedicated to Operation Jumpstart, which is for Kabul Province, that had a training capacity of about 500 and 300,” said CSTC-A mentor Army Major Stan Manes. “We converted those sites to Kabul Security Acceleration, and then realized we needed another 1,500 to 1,800 training capacity. We converted two fire stations and one of the Police district stations here in the city to make up the extra capacity,” Major Manes added.

The initial three-week program of instruction is separated into three one-week blocks which focus on police, tactical and weapons training. CSTC-A Police Mentor Teams are acting as mentors for the Afghan instructors for the weapons and tactical training. The European Union Afghanistan mission is aiding in the police training.

“After elections we’ll send them back for an additional five weeks of training,” said Manes. “Now these guys will go to the first operational reserve kandak, which is structured similarly to

Afghan Border Police units.”

During the elections, the new officers will be incorporated in the Kabul Security Plan as part of the “Ring of Steel,” a concept which provides maximum protection for the city, particularly for those areas where there are concentrations of potential targets.

The primary components of the plan are checkpoints at key locations throughout the city and a Mobile Support Unit (MSU). The intelligence-driven MSU will deploy mobile patrols to threatened areas.

“Snap”(quick implementation) checkpoints, supplementation of existing checkpoints and a quick reaction force round out additional security measures.

During the first graduation ceremony in June, Colonel Abdul Jalil Samaed, administration chief of Kabul City Police Center, noted “Compared to three weeks ago, these police look fresher and happier. They understand discipline and the uniform and how to salute others, and really appreciate the training they’ve been given.”



Lieutenant General Abdul Rahman, chief of police for Kabul province and the city of Kabul, speaks at a recent Afghan National Police graduation.

Independent Election Committee helps plan elections

Staff Report, photos courtesy of IEC

CSTC-A Public Affairs

On Aug 20 2009, millions of Afghans will go to the polls to elect their president and provincial council representatives. These elections are the second set of democratic elections the country has seen since the fall of the Taliban in 2002. They will reinforce Afghanistan's ongoing democratic transition to give the people of Afghanistan influence over decisions that affect their lives.

Since the fall of the Taliban, Afghans have been leading their own electoral process. A key component to the success of this process is the Independent Election Commission (IEC).

The Independent Election Commission is the exclusive electoral authority responsible for the planning and conduct of all elections including the elections for president and provincial councils. In order to ensure its neutrality and non-partisan nature, the IEC operates as an independent body, exercising its functions without regard to any improper influence, direct or indirect, from any source.

The primary objective of the IEC is to prepare and manage the presidential and provincial elections, which are both transparent and credible, and meet international standards for democratic elections. Additionally, the IEC focuses on institutional-building to ensure the country is capable of organizing future periodic elections.

The IEC consists of two components: The Board of Commissioners and the IEC Secretariat.

The Board of Commissioners is made up of seven electoral commissioners appointed by the President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. The board is an oversight body, responsible for the overall policy making and supervision of elections. It is responsible for the preparation, organization and the adoption of all necessary measures to ensure the credibility of elections. This includes overseeing the work of its operational/technical branch, the IEC Secretariat and making an overall assessment of the electoral process.

IEC Secretariat conducts the planning and execution of electoral operations,

including candidate registration, polling and counting. It is headed by the Chief Electoral Officer and two Deputy Chief Electoral Officers. At the national headquarters in Kabul, the IEC Secretariat has nine departments: legal, field operations, training and capacity building, communication and information technology services, planning and procedures, logistics, administration and finance, public outreach and external relations.

Along with the IEC, a number of safeguards have been put into place to protect the integrity of the 2009 elections and help level the playing field for those competing for office while increasing public confidence in the elections.

One such safeguard was the establishment of the Electoral Complaints Commission (ECC). The ECC is the independent body established under Afghan law to adjudicate all challenges and complaints related to the electoral process. The ECC can only hear complaints related to violations of the election law. The ECC has the authority to impose sanctions if an offense has been deemed to have been committed.



Afghans cast ballots during the 2004 Afghanistan elections.

With periods of heightened political activities such as elections creating a higher risk for political violence, having the strong presence of the Afghan National Security Forces is another safeguard which will be utilized to help protect the integrity of the elections.

The Afghan National Police must both ensure electoral security and maintenance of public order and uphold the basic rights necessary for a free election. This amounts to a considerable task which is likely to draw on the majority of their officers: providing security for polling centers; protecting election staff, voters, observers and safeguarding the storage and transportation of sensitive materials.



An Afghan man poses with his registration card for Afghan provincial and presidential elections. The August 2009 elections will be the second time presidential elections have been held in Afghanistan.

Aghans to make mark in election

Servicemembers in Afghanistan will witness a historic moment, the second democratic presidential elections Aug. 20. Afghans will choose their national leader for the next five years by leaving their mark on a simple piece of paper.

Although the process is different from voting in North America and Europe, the same basic principles apply. Registered voters will be exercising their democratic right to choose the leader of their nation. The process will be repeated throughout the day at 7,000 polling stations throughout the country. It is important to understand how voting takes place in Afghanistan, and what happens on Election Day.

When entering the polling site, voters present registration cards for verification. Voters are then directed to the identification and inking officer who checks the registration card. Voters' fingers are inked and registration cards are marked.

The numbers on the registration cards are recorded on a list of voters. Following this, the voters are directed to the ballot issuer who gives them one presidential ballot. The ballot issuer stamps the ballots, identifying them as official.



Photos by U.S. Army Private First Class Mary Simms
A Joint Electoral Management Body employee marks the thumb cuticle of an Afghan voter with indelible ink to prevent voter fraud at a polling center in the village of Raban. Afghanistan's first democratic presidential election took place Oct. 9th, 2004.

The voters move on to the polling booth next where they mark an X on their ballots next to the name of their selected candidates. Ballots are considered invalid if the voters' intentions are not clear or if there is any information that could lead to a voter being identified. After marking their preference, the ballots are folded so only the blank back side of the ballots are visible.

At the ballot boxes, the controller ensures that the ballots are stamped and the voters have no more than one ballot each, for each election. Voters place the presidential and provincial council ballots into the appropriate boxes and exit the station.

After the votes are cast

Ballot counting is done by the election officials at the polling stations in the presence of party and candidate agents as well as observers.

At the start of counting, the ballot box seals are broken and the ballots are removed from the boxes.

Once counting is complete, the results are posted on the wall of the polling station for public display.

Continued on page 16

To vote in the 2009 elections voters must be

- An Afghan citizen
- At least 18 years old on Election Day
- Registered as a voter in Afghanistan
- Able to present a valid voter registration card issued in Afghanistan



A Joint Electoral Management Body employee explains how to properly fill out a ballot at a polling center in the village of Raban, near Bagram Air Field during the 2004 Afghan presidential election.

OCCs take shape in time for elections

Story by Petty Officer Paul Dillard

CSTC-A Public Affairs

Operations Coordination Centers (OCCs) have begun to conduct 24-hour operations in many regions and provinces, and new centers are continuing to activate in a bid to be ready for the August Afghan elections.

These centers provide Afghan National Security Force (ANSF) units the resources, coordination and leadership necessary to jointly provide the people of Afghanistan the security they need and desire. They will be a vital component in the election security plan being implemented for the elections.

OCCs are established at the regional and provincial level. The Regional Operations Coordination Center (OCC-R) functions as a regional operations center that enables the ANSF, including the National Directorate of Security (NDS), the Afghan National Army (ANA), the Afghan National Police (ANP) and the Afghan Border Police (ABP) to synchronize and monitor the security of the country. It receives requests for assistance from respective Provincial Operations Coordination Centers (OCC-P) in its region, conducts rapid mission analyses and determines the appropriate response force. It then alerts, deploys and provides command and control of those forces while maintaining a communications link with the National Police Command Center (NPCC) and the National Military Command Center (NMCC). Each center is under the command of the ANA and reports directly to the provincial brigade or the regional corps headquarters, although close ties are maintained with the NMCC and NPCC.

The OCCs are being established in three groups, which are arranged by population density, with focus on developing each in sequence. Group one, which includes a dozen provinces, has already been established and is conducting continuous operations. Group two has nearly completed their preparations with over half of their centers operating around the clock, while group three is scheduled to be active by the end of July. In total, 35 centers are



Photo by Jaime DeLeon

Afghan National Army Major Gherat Yousazia uses a radio in the new Operation Coordination Center-Province before the ribbon cutting ceremony on June 14 in Mayden Shar, Wardak Province.

in various stages of operations with the Regional centers around the country.

“An OCC is the only place I know of in Afghanistan where the Police, the Army and the NDS sit side-by-side working together everyday. It will be able to improve the ability of the ANSF organizations to coordinate with each other,” said Major Army Kevin T. Hamm, Senior Mentor for OCC-Kabul.

During the elections, representatives from the Independent Election Committee will be attached to OCCs to provide oversight, guidance and expertise. The normal compliment to an OCC contains 15 ANA members, 15 ANP members, 7 NDS members, 2-4

International Security Assistance Force mentors and 2-4 Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan mentors. Border areas also include representatives from the ABP.

The OCC staffs are composed of operations, intelligence, air, logistics and personnel sections. The OCC is capable of producing a response plan to either enemy activity or with non-governmental organizations and the local populace to respond to natural disasters or humanitarian crises.

The OCCs are being tested through a series of exercises conducted by both the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Defense as well as ISAF.

Afghan National Security Forces In Action

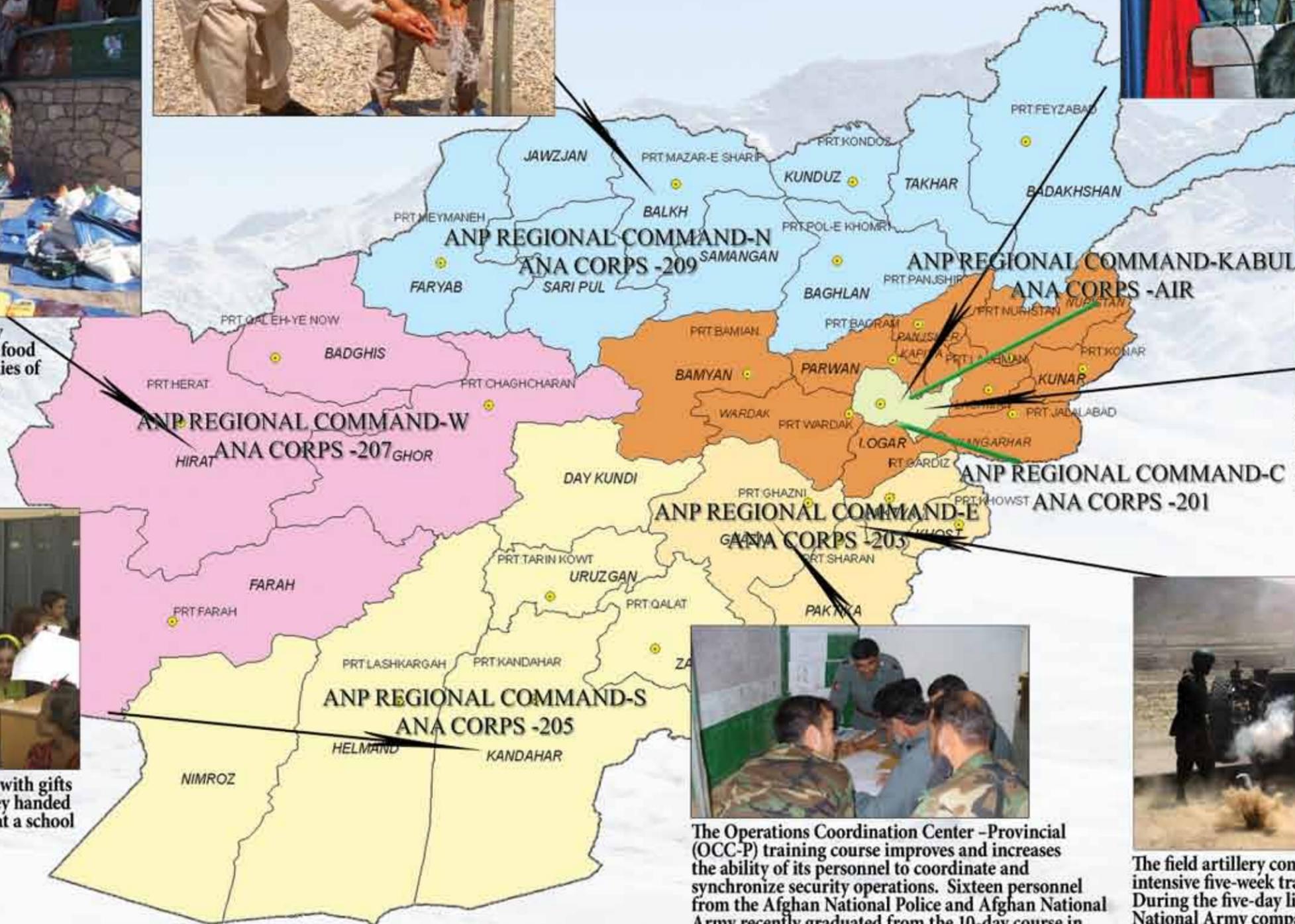
A new deep well is providing clean, safe drinking water for the citizens of Char Bolak District in Balkh Province. The well was installed by, and will be maintained and fueled by the Afghan National Police.



Election security was at the top of the list of the items Deputy Minister Mangal discussed during one of the weekly Ministry of Interior press conferences. He highlighted recruiting, training and preparation for the coming elections.



Soldiers from the Afghan National Army (ANA) 207th Corps delivered 1,500kg of food and 42 bottles of cooking oil to the families of martyred soldiers in Shaydaye. The ANA soldiers distributed rice, beans, flour and cooking oil to families of soldiers who have been killed by insurgents.



A class of 273 patrolmen from the Kabul Security Acceleration (KSA) training program of the Afghan National Police recently graduated and are ready to provide security to the people of Kabul.



Commandos of the 205th Corps arrived with gifts and messages of hope and security as they handed out school supplies and toys to children at a school in Kandahar Province.



The Operations Coordination Center - Provincial (OCC-P) training course improves and increases the ability of its personnel to coordinate and synchronize security operations. Sixteen personnel from the Afghan National Police and Afghan National Army recently graduated from the 10-day course in Logar Province.



The field artillery company of the 203rd Corps concluded an intensive five-week training program with a live-fire exercise. During the five-day live-fire exercise, the Afghan National Army company shot 322 rounds of high explosive artillery shells safely and on target.

Combat medics graduate ANP Central Training Center

Story and photo by
Chief Petty Officer Troy W. Murphy

CSTC-A, Command Surgeon Office

KABUL, Afghanistan – The Kabul Afghan National Police (ANP) Central Training Center (CTC) marked the successful graduation of its tenth Trauma Assistance Personnel (TAP) course recently during a formal graduation ceremony attended by the CTC Commanding Officer General Ahgai.

The TAP course is an eight-week “Combat Medic” style course created as a means to provide first line medical care and designed to teach select members of the ANP vital skills required to perform emergency care in a mass trauma environment. For many participants, the course provides a solid foundation upon which they learn basic human anatomy and physiology, fundamentals of trauma care and personnel evacuation techniques.

“This program is one of the best programs here at the CTC,” said Colonel Hashim, Deputy Commander and Head of CTC Training. “Our instructors’ knowledge is very good. They have worked very hard to learn the lessons from our American mentors. I am happy that our instructors have learned so much and are teaching other police officers such an important job that will help all Afghan people.”

Since its inception in February

2008, TAP has trained over 220 police officers who support units of the Afghan National Civil Order Police (ANCOP), Border Patrol, Counter Narcotic Units and the President’s Personal Security Unit. Sergeant Mohammed Dawood has been the lead instructor for the TAP course for over a year. In his tenure, he has witnessed first hand the transformation of the program from a mentorship team primarily managed by U.S. military, to the current ANP instructor core.

“It is good for me and my country to have this program. It is good to be a TAP instructor here in Kabul.”

“I’m proud of the progress the ANP

TAP instructors have made over the past year. Their willingness to lead the course and ability to learn from one another with regards to teaching techniques demonstrates the spirit and determination of the Afghan people during this critical time in their history,” said Hospital Corpsman First Class Jackie Dority, a Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan Command Surgeon TAP mentor.

Plans are currently in motion to export the program to six Regional Training Centers, which will enable the ANP to train over 800 TAP officers annually, with Kabul’s TAP program providing the lead for the entire country.



Students from the Afghan Border Police practice proper litter carrying at the Trauma Assistance Personnel course at the Kabul CTC. The course teaches emergency medical care to Police Officers from all branches of the ANP.

COMISAF Guidance

Continued from page 3

Act as One Team.

We are an alliance of nations with different histories, cultures, and national objectives — united in our support of Afghanistan. We must be unified in purpose, forthright in communication and committed to each other.

Constantly Adapt.

This war is unique, and our ability to respond to even subtle changes in conditions will be decisive. I ask you to challenge conventional wisdom and abandon practices that are ingrained into many military cultures. And I ask you to push me to do the same.

Act with Courage and Resolve.

Hard fighting, difficult decisions, and inevitable losses will mark the days ahead. Each of us, from our most junior personnel and senior leaders, must display physical, mental, and moral courage. Our partners must trust our commitment; enemies must not question our resolve.

You have my thanks for all that you have done and will do. I promise to be the best partner I am able to be.

Stanley A. McChrystal
General, U.S. Army
Commander,
U.S. Forces-Afghanistan/
International Security Assistance
Force, Afghanistan



Photo by Lieutenant Junior Grade James Dietle
Navy Commander Murray Tynch meets with local elders in Asadabad, Afghanistan, at the Kunar province governor’s compound to show them evidence collected with Afghan forces from a grenade attack on Asadabad the previous day.

UNAMA works to support fair elections

Staff Report

CSTC-A Public Affairs

Afghanistan's 2009 elections are its second series of elections since 2004.

Unlike the 2004 elections these are Afghan-led. United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) is a pivotal organization in the upcoming Afghan presidential elections.

"The environment in which the elections are taking place is a challenging one from many perspectives," said Adrian Edwards, UNAMA's Director of Strategic Communications.

"We have to deal with logistical issues, an undeveloped infrastructure and security. Candidate nomination was held successfully, and among the provincial council candidates were 342 women - 84 more than in 2005. Opposition leaders have strongly underlined the importance of a level playing field during the campaign period, and currently we continue to watch for signs of irregularities, intervening as needed."

UNAMA has been working with the electoral authorities, candidates, media, government, and politicians to help resolve political issues that arise over the course of the election cycle. These have included controversies surrounding the election date itself, the constitutional issues surrounding the extension of the president's term beyond May 20, and issues surrounding voter registration. "The controversies that dominated the political debate in



Photo courtesy of UNAMA
A worker for the Karzai election campaign puts up a poster for his candidate. Afghan presidential elections take place Aug. 20.



Photo courtesy of UNAMA

An Afghan woman casts her ballot during the 2004 Afghan elections. Voters will be streaming to the polls in August for the provincial and presidential elections.

early 2009 have been resolved," said Edwards.

UNAMA is a political mission directed and supported by the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations. As an "integrated" mission, UNAMA has two main areas of operation: development and humanitarian issues and political affairs. The mission currently has some 1,500 staff and nearly 80 percent are Afghans.

On March 23 the UNAMA had its mandate renewed by UN Security Council resolution 1868. The annual resolution in March every year by the Security Council forms the mandate for the UN Mission in Afghanistan and defines the priorities of the mission.

The 2009 resolution recognizes the key role played by the UN in coordinating international efforts in Afghanistan and in supporting the upcoming elections. These efforts

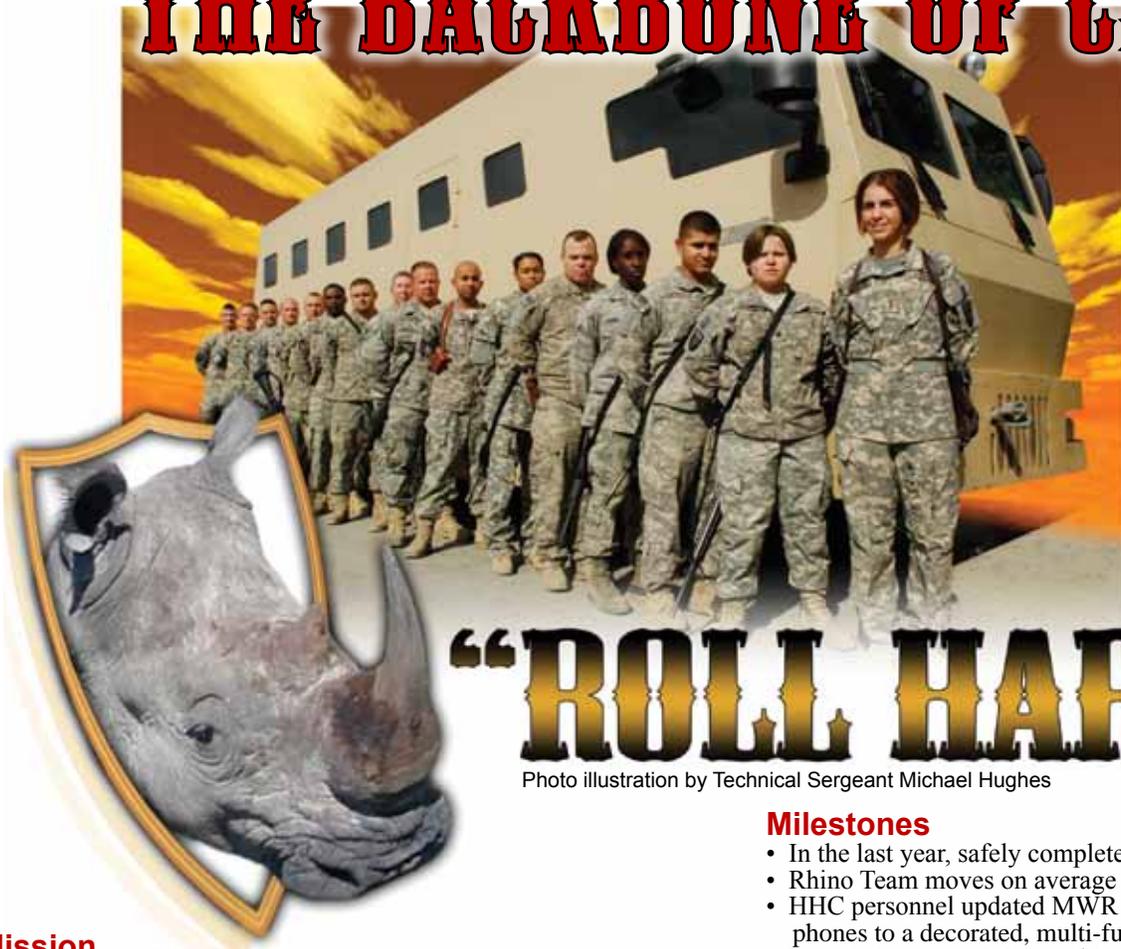
include supporting the government to improve governance and fight corruption, as well as facilitating the delivery of humanitarian assistance.

The resolution was unanimously adopted by the 15-member Security Council and extends UNAMA's mandate until March 2010.

Although much of the focus is on the upcoming elections, UNAMA's mission is very broad. Its key role is to promote peace and stability in Afghanistan by leading the efforts of the international community. Together with the Government of Afghanistan, the mission supports the rebuilding of the country and the strengthening of the foundations of peace and a constitutional democracy while strengthening cooperation with the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) and providing political outreach through a strengthened and expanded presence throughout the country.

Headquarters & Headquarters Company

THE BACKBONE OF CSTC-A



“ROLL HARD”

Photo illustration by Technical Sergeant Michael Hughes

Mission

Provides administrative, logistic support and command and control for CSTC-A operations.

Commanding Officer

Army Captain Yong H. Kim

Senior Non-Commissioned Officer

Army First Sergeant Jonathan E. Palmer

Personnel

Headquarters & Headquarters Company (HHC) contains a 24 member team of individual augmentees, divided into 5 divisions:

COMMAND OFFICE: Provides morale, health, welfare, training, standards, discipline and duty rosters. Hosts weekly drivers training and biweekly newcomer's brief. Manages the Leave and the Rest and Recuperation Programs. Processes Red Cross messages and emergency leave.

CONVOY TEAM (“Rhino Team”): Responsible for safe movement of personnel to/from Kabul.

PROPERTY BOOK: Manages directorate level sub-hand receipts and provides oversight of operational supply.

OPERATIONAL SUPPLY: Responsible for procurement and issue of all expendable and durable property.

LIAISON OFFICER: Responsible for tracking, reception, equipment issue, storage, lodging, ground and air transportation for all inbound/outbound personnel.

Milestones

- In the last year, safely completed more than 250 convoys.
- Rhino Team moves on average 100 personnel weekly.
- HHC personnel updated MWR Call Center from a few phones to a decorated, multi-functional morale center
- Provided accountability of \$114 million installation and theater provided equipment scattered across seven FOBs

“We are behind the behind-the-scene guys. We support the guys who support the Afghan National Army and Afghan National Police.”

— Captain Barry J. McManus, former Commander
CSTC-A HHC



Airman 1st Class Ashley Jackson, inventories HHC supply alongside fellow supply clerk Mohammad Fahim at Camp Eggers.

Photo by U.S. Air Force Staff Sergeant Thomas Dow

Afghan National Police now equipped with Mi-17 simulator

Staff Report

CSTC-A Public Affairs

KABUL INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT -- Recently an Mi-17 helicopter synthetic flight training system, or simulator, was dedicated to the Afghanistan Ministry of Interior.

The Mi-17 helicopter is a Russian-designed, medium weight, single rotor helicopter used for carrying cargo, passenger transport, and other tactical applications currently in production at two factories in Kazan and Ulan-Ude.

“This is a great day for Afghanistan and for aviation in Afghanistan,” said Army Brigadier General Anne MacDonald, Assistant Commanding General for Police Development. “This allows the pilots to really hone their flight skills as well as giving them an opportunity to do it in a safe environment.”

The \$4.5 million simulator will be used for training pilots for the Ministry of Interior’s counter narcotics force and the Afghan National Army Air Corps.

“Now we are flying in the provinces searching for narcotics,” said Mohamad Bilal, an Air Interdiction Unit pilot. “We

can arrest the smugglers and stop the trafficking of drugs.”

The training applications of this simulator make it a welcome addition to the counter narcotic efforts in Afghanistan.

“The simulator is a special piece of equipment because of the emergency

situations we face in the air,” said Abdul Fahmi Ramin, Air Interdiction Unit Commander. “Conditions like fire, high altitude, night and dust are very dangerous. We can’t practice these emergencies in flight, but we can practice in the simulator.”



Photo by Mike Haller

Afghan National Police of the Air Interdiction Unit exit from an Mi-17 helicopter during a training exercise. The Mi-17 is a medium weight helicopter used by the Afghan National Security Forces for cargo and personnel transport.

KACTC training the next generation of high tech Afghans

Story by Air Force Lieutenant Colonel William Shedd

CSTC-A CAPTF

The Kabul Air Corps Training Center (KACTC) and its sister school the Kabul English Language Training Center (KELTC) are expanding their influence in the future development of

Afghan National Army Air Corps (ANAAC). Established in January, 2008, KACTC now has 14 technology-focused courses with more courses in development. To date, KACTC has had over 900 course completions with Air Corps Soldiers, NCOs and officers gaining skills from

a wide variety of training opportunities. Training includes classes in Air Corps orientation, computer skills, aircraft maintenance, aircraft loading, fire protection, Dari literacy and other critical Air Corps fields.

The KACTC Director Shah, a former AN-32 pilot, and his deputy, Hassan, work tirelessly to provide the best possible training for ANAAC personnel.

“The vision for KACTC is to be the initial training school for the Air Corps as a part of a larger Air University concept,” said Mr. Shah.

Daily operations are conducted by 13 Afghan instructors and a few Air Force mentors who instruct 200 students daily at four separate locations in the airport. The main KACTC

facility primarily offers introductory courses, with more advanced courses located closer to the operational corps. KELTC provides English training for up to 80 students with maintenance training and a computer lab rounding out its training program.

“It’s the small things that we do today that will pay huge dividends down the road,” says Army Captain Azzaam Rahmaan, the KACTC operations officer mentor.

It takes more than six months to build a lesson plan, translate the course and prep it for instruction. US mentor Army Master Sergeant Christopher McWilliams says he “feels a great sense of accomplishment by seeing the direct impact on [his] students.”



Photo by Air Force Lieutenant Colonel William Shedd
Shah, the Director of KACTC, leads a symposium lecture at the Kabul Air Corps Training Center.

ISAF holds national election security rehearsal

Staff Report

ISAF Public Affairs

Recently the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) held a national election security rehearsal in the gymnasium of Kabul International Airport (KIA) North.

The rehearsal was designed to be a joint forum in which both Afghan and international commanders and planners of national and regional agencies could go step-by-step through plans, procedures and responses to an event in a joint forum.

HQ ISAF facilitators assisted with the overall planning and hosting, however, the rehearsal was an Afghan National Security Forces-led event. The Afghan Ministry of Defense (MoD) wanted to have the rehearsal and discussions prior to the National Election. Australian Brigadier General Damian Cantwell, Chief Election Task Force HQ ISAF, said ISAF wanted to do all it



Photo by U.S. Air Force Master Sergeant Chris Haylett

Abdul Rahim Wardak, Afghanistan Minister of Defense gives a brief on the process for the upcoming Afghanistan elections.

could to meet MoD's needs. The MoD is the lead agency responsible for the execution of security during the elections.

In addition to HQ ISAF, representatives from each regional command, the Ministry of Interior (MOI), and the Independent Election Commission (IEC) of Afghanistan took part in the security rehearsal. The rehearsal provided a venue

to discuss concerns and issues prior to Election Day. Fictitious, but possible scenarios that could happen on Election Day were presented during the rehearsal. Mass casualties, insurgent ambushes, and routine management and transportation of time-sensitive ballot material were some of the issues discussed.

"It's not to suggest that

any of the scenarios offered up are specific to a particular region or might happen in the light they were presented, but rather used as medium for discussion and interaction between the teams and all the leaders that were present," said Cantwell.

Regional rehearsals are being prepared over the next few weeks. Afghanistan elections are scheduled to take place August 20, 2009.



Afghan men wait in line at the polling center in the village of Raban, north of Bagram Air Field on Oct. 9th, 2004 during Afghanistan's first democratic presidential elections.

Elections

Continued from page 8

A copy of the results for each election will also be placed in the sealed ballot boxes and taken away.

At the national tally center the results from each polling station are added together using computers under the supervision of election officials and in the presence of observers.

If there is evidence of tampering or fraud, the matter is investigated. If necessary the ballots are stored at the provincial council office and can be examined or recounted.

-Information from this story provided by the Afghan Independent Election Commission

Exercise prepares police for election security

Story and photos by Mike Haller
CSTC-A Public Affairs

For many police forces, training exercises are simple, routine ways to either develop new methods and procedures of policing, or to introduce new techniques into the daily operations of the force. During the recent Afghan National Police (ANP) Command Post Exercise the intent and value of the event was of the highest importance, and each of the officers and patrolmen taking part knew it.

The ANP completed their first-ever Command Post Exercise in preparation for the up-coming presidential election. The event was completely run by the ANP's Training Department and Operations Division which staged much of the event through the National Police Command Center (NPCC).

Though the exercise had their full attention, the NPCC is normally responsible for collecting and disseminating information on crime-fighting, terrorism, insurgent activities, counter-IED, counter-narcotics, emergency fire and medical responses throughout the country. The NPCC coordinates with the Regional Police Commands and Operations Coordination Centers (OCCs) at regional and provincial levels. Additionally, the NPCC routinely coordinates ANP responses to natural or man-caused disasters and routine police community relations activities.



Brigadier General Mohammed Yasin, ANP Director of Planning, takes careful notes during the recent ANP command post exercise.



ANP officers work in the control center during the recent ANP command post exercise. They practice coordinating responses during possible election emergencies.

To fulfill developing mission requirements, the NPCC team engages a broad range of resource agencies and units including the Afghan National Army, the National Directorate of Security, Afghan Border Police, counter-narcotics agencies, counter-terrorism units, coalition forces and the International Security Assistance Force.

“This exercise prepared us to have a strategy for all of Afghanistan to improve security,” said Brigadier General Mohammed Yasin, ANP Director of Planning. “We now have a tactical plan and we must also prepare for a physical presence in the provinces. There’s definitely going to be more physical presence in Kabul and other provinces with the recent authorization of nearly 15,000 additional Afghan National Police officers and patrolmen.”

The primary focus of the exercise centered on ANP command and control procedures and communication effectiveness between the NPCC and regional, provincial and district levels, to include coordination efforts through the OCCs across the country.

The exercise threw more than 20 different scenarios into the mix. Each simulation was carefully navigated. These ran the gamut from polling center workers making complaints to the district police chiefs to phone systems

suddenly becoming inoperable. Each situation presented the exercise players with new tensions and challenges.

“We found some mistakes and then worked to fix them quickly,” said General Yasin. “(In the actual election) ... we will have both Army and Police Forces – Afghan National Security Forces – working together to provide the best security for the election.”

The results were positive – participants at all levels were enthusiastic and communication within the police chain of command was excellent.

“The people of Afghanistan should be very secure in knowing that the Afghan National Police are doing their best everyday,” said Major John Brady, CSTC-A mentor at the NPCC.

After Action Reviews were completed to capture issues, lessons learned and process improvements. Among the highlights: increasing awareness of phone numbers, improving the phone system, clarifying interactions between the ANP and the ANA through the OCCs and improving training of teams.

“I think that they understand the future of the country is in their hands and it’s nice to be able to have the power to vote,” said Brady. “When I turned 18 and I had my first time to vote, it was exciting.”



EUPOL Trains ANP for Elections Security

Stories by Andrea Angeli and Aziz Basam
EUPOL Press Office

EUPOL Mission Statement

“EUPOL Afghanistan shall significantly contribute to the establishment under Afghan ownership of sustainable and effective civilian policing arrangements, which will ensure appropriate interaction with the wider criminal justice system, in keeping with the policy advice and institution-building work of the Community, Member States and other international actors. Further, the Mission will support the reform process towards a trusted and efficient police service, which works in accordance with international standards, within the framework of the rule of law, and respects human rights.”



Photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Paul Dillard
From left to right: EUPOL Head of Mission Kai Vittrup, CSTC-A Commanding General Major General Richard P. Formica and Afghan Minister of Interior Mohammad H.E. Atmar at a recent ANP graduation at Kabul Central Training Center.

Fake document detection training successful at KIA

Police ability to detect fake travel documents significantly increased because of EUPOL and German Police Project Team (GPPT) training in this area, said Kabul International Airport Commander General Muhammad Asif Jabarkhail.

At a press conference held recently in Kabul, General Jabarkhail disclosed 42 cases of fake documents and 12 cases of drug smuggling discovered in recent weeks at the International Airport. The forged documents included passports and visas.

The senior Afghan security chief noted that in some cases criminals attempted to smuggle drugs out of the country by hiding them in their stomachs.

General Jabarkhail thanked European experts for organizing training for the Afghan Border Police (ABP) and for planning additional training in detection of fake documents. He also thanked the German government for donating equipment used to detect fake documents.

The airport commander said the training and equipment received enables his officers to develop their own skills and knowledge to carry out their tasks competently.

“...the work we have done today will be the bedrock of the Afghan National Police CID structures in the future.”

Detective Chief Inspector Andy Carter
Acting EUPOL CID lead mentor

EUPOL mentors enhance ANP anti-crime department

European Police Mission (EUPOL) Criminal Investigation Department (CID) mentors are working to train their Afghan counterparts. Criminal investigation is the core part of police work, and the Ministry of Interior seeks ways to expand its investigative capability.

Recently EUPOL CID mentors met with Lieutenant General Jamil Junbish, head of the Criminal and Investigation Department at the MoI. General Junbish and his anti-crime team discussed the structure of the entire department with EUPOL and agreed for the need to organize crime scene investigation under the anti-crime chain of command.

The full day of discussions addressed counter-terrorism, major crime

investigation provisions and judicial purview arrangements, and forensic evidence collection and management. The possibility of recruiting Afghan scientists to support MOI forensic investigations is being considered as a result.

“It was a great experience to work with such a committed and professional team under the leadership of Lieutenant General Junbish. The work we have done today will be the bedrock of the Afghan National Police CID structures in the future,” said Detective Chief Inspector Andy Carter, Acting EUPOL CID lead mentor.

Additional workshops are set to take place in the coming weeks to discuss more ways to enhance ANP anti-crime department capabilities.

July Warrior of the Month



Acorn Principle” by Jim Cathcart has helped me reconnect with myself.

BEST PART OF THE DEPLOYMENT: I enjoy Afghan culture on rules of polite behavior and emphasis on correct behavior. Greetings by Afghans are very different than those by Americans. Afghans want to know all about you and your family where Americans get right to business. So, the first time when an Afghan asked how my family was doing I was surprised and a little defensive because it doesn’t happen often back home in the States. I laugh about it now.

LIFE AFTER CAMPEGGERS: I plan to spend more time with my family. My family loves to spend a day at public attractions like the zoo, aquarium, museum or a park for a family cook out. This gives us all time to relax, have fun, and enjoy each others company. It is always neat to see my youngest son, who is three, get excited about seeing an animal at the zoo or aquarium.

HIGHER EDUCATION: I received a bachelor’s degree in political science before entering the Air Force. I was taught that one can never have enough education. More education equates to more opportunities. Since entering the Air Force I have been awarded two associate degrees; one in avionics technology and the other in human resources. My future educational goal is to receive a master’s degree in public administration. Making a career in the public sector will get me out of bed in the morning because I think it a challenging and rewarding career.

BACKGROUND: Tech. Sergeant Hunter is the Combined Air Power Transition Force Manpower staff NCOIC. Tech. Sergeant Hunter is the sole manpower craftsman responsible for all manning issues relating to the 438 AEW, to include 156 coalition force military members, 55 linguists, and 185 contractors.

DEPLOYMENT GOALS: Since being deployed I have had more time to devote to myself. I have had time to read, eat better, and work out more. Reading has really helped me mentally and spiritually. A few books that I have read are helping me achieve my deployment goals. “Financial Peace” by Dave Ramsey has helped me create a financial plan to become debt free by reassessing my wants vs. my needs. The book has also helped with my spiritual health. “The Five Love Languages” by Gary Chapman has helped me reconnect with my fiancé. And, “The

ANAAC sets aeromedical evacuation first

Staff Report

CSTC-A Command Surgeon

Developing a medical capacity will save Afghan lives, and Afghan aeromedical evacuation technicians recently proved their dedication to the mission with a successful first patient movement aboard an AN-32 aircraft.

Four patients from the Kandahar Regional Medical Hospital arrived for air transport to the National Military Hospital in Kabul. The regional hospital relies on the national hospital to care for patients who either exceed their capabilities or need long-term care. Although many patients have been moved in theater aboard the Afghanistan Army Air Corp fixed-wing aircraft in the past, they have either flown without medical attendants or with a medical team from the transferring faculty, diverting scarce resources from that hospital.

The flight crew aboard the aircraft was all Afghan. The medical crew included

both Afghan and American aeromedical evacuation technicians, and Afghan and American flight surgeons.

Three of the patients were ambulatory and walked onto the waiting Afghanistan Army Air Corp fixed-wing aircraft. The medical team carried an unconscious fourth patient on a stretcher. About half way into the 1.5-hour flight, the unconscious patient stopped breathing, and Afghan aeromedical evacuation technicians resuscitated him. All four patients were admitted to the hospital.

“Due to the small number of Afghanistan Army Air Corp aircraft and limited number of trained aeromedical evacuation technicians, it is not always possible to have medics on

board when patients must be moved,” said Colonel Diane Ritter, CAPTF Surgeon. “This mission clearly demonstrated the value of this capability. This patient would not have survived without it.”



Photo courtesy of CSTC-A CAPTF

An Afghan aeromedical evacuation technician works on a patient during a flight to the National Military Hospital in Kabul.



The Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan
plans, programs and implements the
generation and development of the Afghan National Security Force
in order to enable the
Government of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to achieve
security and stability in
Afghanistan.

<http://www.cstc-a.com>

