

NATO/ISAF UNCLASSIFIED REL AFG/NGOs/UNAMA WEEKLY ENVIRONMENTAL OVERVIEW Reporting Period 20 0700L – 27 0700 MAY 10

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	IED ATTACK	IED DISCOVERY	DIRECT ATTACK	INDIRECT ATTACK	SAFIRE	TOTAL
RCC	0	0	0	0	0	0 (-4)
RCN	3	3	7	1	0	14 (-14)
RCW	9	20	11	5	1	46 (+1)
RCS	88	91	229	19	15	442 (+77)
RCE	23	11	103	46	0	183 (+20)
TOTAL	123	125	350	71	16	685 (+80)

Assassination	Kidnapping	DC attacks	School Incidents	A/C shot down
0	1	2	0	1

Overall Assessment

(NIUANU) GIRoA took positive steps this week to improve local governance. Emplacing competent GIRoA officials such as Judge DINARKHIL in RC-North, extended rule of law so that the populace views GIRoA as the source of justice - one of the most important ways GIRoA establishes legitimacy. GIRoA also ousted corrupt leaders; firing AHMED KHEL District Chief of Police, PAKTIYA Province, and charging NURISTAN Province Governor Jamaluddin BADR and Chief of Police Qassim PAIMAN with corruption. Allegations by 205th Corps Commanding General Sher Mohammad ZAZAI charging AWK with illegal land seizures are likely substantive, but could be weakened by claims that the accusations are self-serving. General Abdul Rashid DOSTUM reportedly personally selected Parliamentary candidates for the Jumbesh Party in several provinces. DOSTUM's national influence may be weakening and it is important to him to solidify support. In Kabul, if the Wolesi Jirga boycott continues until the summer recess, President KARZAI can keep his acting ministers by Presidential Decree.

(NIUANU) In development, IDLG Director POPAL returned to Kandahar City this week with a government delegation to begin the DDP assessment. The District Delivery Program continues in NANGARHAR and LAGHMAN provinces and the initial assessment scheduled for 07 June in Qarghayee, LAGHMAN District. This will likely set conditions accelerating the progress already seen in this population centre. Escalation of tribal tensions has the potential to delay DDP in the neighbouring BARAKI BARAK District, LOGAR Province, demonstrating the intimate relationship between security and development. The BAMYAN conference will influence the discussion during the July Kabul Conference, which will ask for multi-year commitments of funds to aid Afghan national development.

(NIUANU) The complexity, boldness, and tenacity of INS attacks against ANSF/ISAF bases increase. INS disguised as ANSF and Coalition Forces launched several complex attacks against ANSF/ISAF defences. INS attacked Bagram Air Force Base, PARWAN Province, and Forward Operating Base Orgun, PAKTIKA Province, with suicide bombers and VBIEDs. While these attacks were tactically unsuccessful, they nonetheless contributed to the INS' propaganda efforts. Expect these attacks as well as IED attacks to increase as part of the INS spring offensive. Clashes between KUCHI nomads and the HAZARA Tribe in NANGARHAR and WARDAK Provinces continue, with GIRoA officials reportedly being involved in enflaming hostility between the two tribes. INS continue to attack the links between the government and the population, as the campaign of intimidation and murder against prominent tribal elders and Parliamentary candidates intensifies.





RC SOUTH

(NIUANU) KANADAHAR atmospherics show Afghan skepticism for Operation HAMKARI. Public perception is reportedly that this operation will repeat Operation MOSHTARAK with emphasis on kinetic operations. GIRoA messaging for Operation HAMKARI apparently is met with mistrust due to low confidence in local government's capacity and the International Community's willingness to address grievances. The population desires that the proposed Operation HAMKARI improves security, governance, development and brings community consultation backed by genuine action on issues of concern.

(NIUANU) Allegations against Ahmad Wali KARZAI (AWK) are likely substantive, but are potentially weakened by alleged self-defense on MG ZAZAI's part. Although DASTGEERI and the current DG BARAN do not cooperate, any new cooperation will be overshadowed by AWK's growing influence. Increased ISAF/ANSF presence in MARJEH and NAD'ALI districts has improved local perceptions of security forces. Combined with efforts to improve access to judiciary, the rule of law is incrementally establishing GIRoA as the legitimate source of justice in these areas. IDLG Director POPAL returned to Kandahar City this week with a cross-governmental delegation to begin the DDP assessment.

(NIUANU) The District Prosecutor for MARJEH (NFI) has a tentative plan to conduct rule of law prosecutor visits beginning 18 May 2010 and on subsequent Tuesdays thereafter. These outreach events are to spread the rule of law and access areas that have limited freedom of movement. The intent is to demonstrate to Afghans the alternative to Taliban justice and implement a GIRoA "circuit court" system where the District Prosecutor will travel to areas of MARJEH that have reduced freedom of movement. Reliable application of rule of law is essential to establishing GIRoA as the legitimate source of justice in the country.

(NIUANU) A bumper fruit crop in ARGHANDAB will emphasise the need for improved cold storage facilities and transportation infrastructure to support the marketing of the produce. Although these problems are being slowly addressed, overall, this particular issue reveals the need for effective strategic planning by both GIRoA and the IC in that crops yields were being improved but without the simultaneous improvement in infrastructure to support marketing.

(NIUANU) Insurgents (INS) will possibly target parliamentary election candidates to weaken populace confidence in GIRoA's ability to protect those associated with the government. In HELMAND, 58 candidates are running for parliamentary election, including incumbent MPs, Mir WALI, son of former Provincial Chief of Police Abdul RAHMAN JAN, and recently removed GERESHK DG Haji Abdul Ahad KHAN. In KANDAHAR, the 57 candidates include President KARZAI's first cousin and owner of Private Security Contractor Asia Security Group, Hasmat Khalil KARZAI, and Provincial Governor WESA's younger brother, Mohammed Ashraf WESA. These potential targets are part of a murder and intimidation campaign in central KANDAHAR. Reporting indicates the possible kidnapping of two prominent tribal elders in PANJWA'I and possible assassination plot against Haji Agha Lalai DASTGEERI, Deputy Chair of the Provincial Council. There are other reports of INS in KANDAHAR threatening to kill tribal and village elders if they participate in talks to promote peace or reconciliation with Afghan officials. The Taliban continue a campaign of assassination to degrade GIRoA legitimacy, dividing the populace and highlighting a lack of security.

(NIUANU) Increased ISAF presence and partnering with ANSF in MARJEH and NAD'ALI Districts, central HELMAND, has improved local perceptions of security forces, but still falls short of trust. Despite an increase in police recruitment, a lack of training capacity has hindered the fielding of Afghan Uniformed Police (AUP). Some tribes have expressed a desire to oppose Taliban influence, and requested government support for local militias. Clearing operations have disrupted the Taliban in MARJEH and NAD'ALI, but security has yet to reach a level at which locals perceive they can openly engage with ISAF and GIROA.





RC EAST

(NIUANU) Effective leadership was an RC-East focus this week. GIRoA took steps to oust corrupt leaders by firing AHMED KHEL District Chief of Police, PAKTIYA Province, and with corruption charges against NURISTAN Province Governor Jamaluddin BADR and Chief of Police Qassim PAIMAN. Removing corrupt ANP leaders must be a priority to change the populace's perception of ANP. The replacement of GIRoA officials for ineffectiveness or corruption is expected to increase with the implementation of the Sub-National Governance Policy and Civil Service Reform, and in response to citizen protests. The replacement of GIRoA officials, while a positive step, will cause temporary disruption in local governance as replacements adjust to their new positions.

(NIUANU) Clashes between KUCHI nomads and the HAZARA Tribe in NANGARHAR and WARDAK Provinces continue. There are reports that Taliban are assisting KUCHI Tribe members in expanding KUCHI land grazing rights. GIRoA efforts to side with either tribe only serve to incite ethnic hostiles. As a result of protest in several provinces, the 2nd VICE President and a HAZARA-KUCHI Commission went to WARDAK Province to resolve the issue. Minister of the Interior ATMAR claims a resolution has been negotiated between the tribes. This is an issue which the national government must resolve. Escalation of tribal tensions has the potential to delay the District Delivery Program (DDP) in the neighbouring BARAKI BARAK District, LOGAR Province.

(NIUANU) Members of the Provincial Council, BAMYAN CITY led protests against BAMYAN Provincial Governor SORABI, the only female governor in Afghanistan.¹ Approximately 800-1,000 people protested asking for her resignation. It is unlikely this will destabilize her administration but her relationship with Provincial Council Head, Jahad ZARAK remains tenuous.

(NIUANU) The District Delivery Program continues in the NANGARHAR and LAGHMAN provinces with DDP workshops taking place in SURKH ROD and BEHSOOD districts this week and the initial assessment scheduled for 07 Jun in Qarghayee, LAGHMAN District. This will likely set the conditions to accelerate the progress already seen in this population and commercial center.

(NIUANU) While GIRoA attempts to improve governance, INS continue to thwart good leadership through a campaign of assassinating tribal elders and prominent officials, most notably Mohammad Nabi PATANG, ANDAR District Chief of Police, GHAZNI Province.

(NIUANU) Several INS conducted an early morning complex attack against Bagram Airfield, BAGRAM District, PARWAN Province on 19 May. INS used indirect fire, small arms fire and hand grenades. Sixteen INS were killed. Several of the dead INS were wearing United States Army Combat Uniform and IED vests. Within 48 hours of this attack, another complex attack was initiated against another ISAF installation in ORGUN-E District, PAKTIKA Province. An undetermined number of INS attacked ANA and CF with small arms, indirect fire and rocket–propelled grenades. During the attack, a vehicle borne IED was detonated at the COP entry control point. Four INS were killed. Two were wearing IED vests. Some of the INS were wearing US Army combat uniform. Although these attacks were unsuccessful, they provided propaganda for INS. Complex attacks and IED activities are expected to increase as part of the INS spring offensive.

<u>RC NORTH</u>

(NIUANU) Competent GIRoA officials, such as Judge DINARKHIL, are key to developing strong governance and security. Extending rule of law so that GIRoA is viewed as the official source of justice is one of the most important ways in which GIRoA can establish legitimacy. General Abdul Rashid DOSTUM maintains a heavy influence in JOWZJAN, SAR-E POL and SAMANGAN provinces.

1 Pajhwok Afghan News/Kabul/23 May

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Although DOSTUM's national influence may be weakening, Jumbesh Party remains DOSTUM's party, and it is important to him to solidify his support where he can.

(NIUANU) Governor of BALKH Province, Mohammad Nur ATTA, called for the central government to give more authority and executive power to the provincial governors. ATTA described the current system as faulty, worn-out and inefficient saying that a powerful governor could ensure greater enforcement of the rule of law. He said improved rule of law could ensure better security in the country, and with alterations to the system, the government would soon notice considerable changes in the overall situation in the country.²

(NIUANU) The candidature of the HiG leader Amir CHARI in QAL'AH-YE ZAL District, KUNDUZ Province, for parliamentary election could contribute to moving the HiG from violent insurgency to political dialogue and reconciliation, thus including them into the Afghan state.

(NIUANU) The Ministry of Public Health, provincial authorities of BALKH, and members of parliament held an advisory meeting on provincial health issues, aimed at improving health service delivery. This meeting is meant to strengthen transparency and decentralization of the system, which is to be extended to other provinces in AFGHANISTAN.

(NIUANU) Security in RC-N is unchanged. Security in KUNDUZ Province remains volatile for the upcoming weeks. Insurgents will defend their core support zones against and try to disrupt freedom of movement in western CHAHAR DARAH District to maintain their lines of communication to BALKH and BAGHLAN Provinces. In BAGHLAN Province, security is improving as a result of the CF operations. The INS suffered significant losses due to the last CF operations. Although the INS have fled, it is likely they will reorganize and resupply before returning. By that time, ANSF presence will be concentrated in core areas like BAGHLAN-E JADID District and DANDE I GHOWRI District due to the establishment of combat outposts and supporting development initiatives.

(NIUANU) Reports indicate that INS are gaining ground in the human terrain, to include increased anti-GIRoA propaganda, ongoing threats and intimidation against GIRoA officials and their families, against schools, health facilities, and telecommunication infrastructure. This occurs in terrain where Combined Team North (CT-N) efforts are not concentrated. INS tactics are successful in pushing back GIRoA authority and influence in these areas. Village elders in parts of FARYAB request Taliban support to establish law and order in their area.

(NIUANU) The expansion of INS intimidation in western CHAHAR KENT District is likely related to expansion of INS influence in eastern SHOLGARAH District. SHOLGARAH District's proximity to MAZAR-E SHARIF District makes it a desirable area for staging attacks, especially against the natural gas pipeline between MAZAR-E SHARIF District and JOWZJAN Province that INS historically target. Based on INS desires to enhance cross-district coordination, it is assessed that there will be increased movement, operational planning, and joint operations between INS operating out of SHOLGARAH and those in the traditional BALKH strongholds of CHEMTAL and CHAHAR BOLAK Districts to the northwest. Closer cross-district relationships will likely lead to an increased coordinated INS attacks against ANSF/ISAF and GIRoA targets in the vicinity of MAZAR-E SHARIF, to undermine development and emerging popular support for GIRoA in this regional economic center.

RC WEST

(NIUANU) A covered sewer project is planned 4th District (GAWALIAN), HERAT City, HERAT Province. The majority of the city's existing sewage system functions well; however, the sewer infrastructure is an open air system which is a threat to the public health and safety of 40,000 out of the 500,000 people of Herat City. This project is nominated for CERP funds based on the risk it poses



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to public health and safety. Projects like these can improve the local populace's opinion toward GIRoA and provide employment for Afghan workers, technicians and engineers.

(NIUANU) More INS activity is expected along Route LITHIUM related to the start of CF movement along the route during current CF operation. INS in the area could attempt to repeat the last IED campaign which was considered a success. A potential suicide attack in BADGHIS Province could involve multiple individuals or VBIED. In ZARANJ, INS disguised as ANSF carried out a coordinated suicide bombing attack using a VBIED on the governor's compound, killing four people including a provincial council member.³ It is assessed that any suicide attack will be followed by a press release from Taliban media outlets as part of an information operations campaign. Any suicide attack in BADGHIS Province will likely be claimed as a piece of the larger country-wide Taliban operations known as "AI-Faath [Victory]" which began on 10 May 2010.⁴ Although BADGHIS is one of the most violent regions in RC-West, INS in the region have never conducted a suicide attack. Taliban media outlets have already claimed that the IED that claimed the lives of ISAF service members on 17 May 10 were a part of the operation.

(NIUANU) Reporting indicates that Maulawi Abdul HAQQANI has been appointed the new provincial shadow governor of BADGHIS Province. His appointment was made by Taliban Senior Leadership in PAKISTAN; however the incumbent, Mullah ISMAIL, has reportedly not accepted the decision. It is assessed that HAQQANI'S successful appointment will add momentum to the INS effort, particularly as he is native to the Bala Murghab Valley.⁵ Separate reporting indicates that INS are targeting HERAT Province candidates in the forthcoming Afghan National Assembly elections. These reported threats in HERAT appear similar to those against provincial government targets in FARAH Province.

RC CAPITAL

(NIUANU) The events reported this week have ramifications that extend to the September 2010 elections and beyond. If the Wolesi Jirga boycott continues to their summer recess, President KARZAI can keep his acting ministers at their posts via Presidential Decree, expanding his influence at the Wolesi Jirga's expense. The BAMYAN conference will influence the discussion during the July 2010 Kabul Conference, which will ask for multi-year commitments of funds to aid Afghan national development. The September 2010 elections may see the candidacy of INS-influenced candidates that may negatively influence Afghan politics for years to come.

(NIUANU) The Wolesi Jirga continues to strike due to President KARZAI's delays in submitting 11 ministerial nominee vacancies. On 24 May, the Electoral Complaints Commission (ECC) ordered the inclusion of 226 parliamentary poll candidates in the preliminary list, who were previously disqualified for various reasons. A meeting BAMYAN Province brought several Afghan Ministries together to discuss natural resource development, railroad infrastructure, and much needed international aid. The Electoral candidate list for KABUL Province disclosed several individuals with INS and criminal ties. These individuals are fit to run, as there is no clear enforcement for disqualification based on their criminal and INS associations.

(NIUANU) Following the 10-13 May 2010 Washington visit, several Afghan Ministers met in Bamyan from 20-22 May to discuss national development planning. At the three-day meeting, it was stated that provincial officials were promised 39 million USD for development projects, and 30 million USD was pledged by the US Embassy alone. Afghanistan is planning to request 14 billion USD in assistance from the international community over the next three years at the Kabul Conference, scheduled for

^{3 (}U) "Suicide Bombers, Gunmen Attack Afghan Governor's Compound." <u>http://articles.latimes.com/2010/may/06/world/la-fg-afghanistan-governor-20100506</u>

^{4 (}U) "Taliban to launch major offensive in Afghanistan." www.reuters.com/artice/idustre6471kt20100508

⁵ Any impetus would be further boosted by HAQQANI having brought money and/or equipment with him, and it is possible that the recent procurement of heavy weapons by senior commanders in BADGHIS is a result of this development

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July 20. The money requested is to focus on development of Afghan natural resources and infrastructure. The Ministry of Mines reported that Afghanistan had mineral reserves worth 3 trillion USD. The Minister of Mines, Wahidullah SHAHRANI, said long-term projects were discussed in BAMYAN Province as well as the construction of the Kabul-Herat highway and a railway line connecting AFGHANISTAN with TURKMENISTAN and IRAN. GIRoA would seek assistance from the international community for the construction of a railroad linking northern KUNDUZ province with western HERAT at the July 20 Kabul Conference. Minister of Mines Wahidullah SHAHRANI told a press conference that the 1,200km rail track would cost up to 5 billion USD and would connect the Sher Khan Port in KUNDUZ Province with western HERAT province with TURKMENISTAN and IRAN. The railroad will pass through SAMANGAN, BALKH, JAWZJAN, FARYAB and BADGHIS Provinces. The rail project is considered vital for the country's economy. GIRoA hopes donors will provide funds for the proposed railway line. A follow-up to the London meeting in January, the Kabul Conference will be attended by representatives of 50 nations, United Nations Secretary-General Ban KI-MOON and top Afghan officials.⁶

AIR SITUATION

(NIUANU) During this reporting period, the SAFIRE engagements numbered the same as during the same period the previous year. This week, RC South was again the most dangerous Regional Command for ISAF air assets, due primarily to ISAF's high operational tempo in HELMAND Province and in KANDAHAR Province. From the 17 SAFIRE incidents reported in RC South this week, ten were in KANDAHAR Province, the majority in the ZHARI and PANJWA'I Districts. Six SAFIRE incidents were reported in HELMAND Province, the NAD ALI and NAHRI SARAJ Districts were the most dangerous areas. SAFIRE was also reported in RC East in the KAPISA and PARWAN Provinces, all against aircraft going to or coming from Kandahar Airfield.

(NIUANU) The main areas of focus for SAFIRE events will remain the HELMAND Province (SANGIN, GARM SEER, NAD ALI and NAHRI SARRAJ Districts) and KANDAHAR Province in RC South. The PARWAN, KAPISA, WARDAK, NURISTAN and KUNAR Provinces will remain the focus in RC East, as well as the P2K (PATIKA, PATIYA, KHOST) region, and despite no incidents in this province in several weeks, BADGHIS Province in RC West will also be a focus of activity.

PAKMIL Update

(NUIANU) FATA - PAKMIL's main effort continues to be Operation KHWAKH BA DE SHAM in ORAKZAI Agency, now entering its tenth week. This operation has taken longer than initially expected because of stiff militant resistance and inadequate PAKMIL troop levels. PAKMIL claims that over 140 militants were killed during the past week as a result of airstrikes and ground operations, although this cannot be independently confirmed. Also of major significance in FATA, open source reports that after talks with NWA Taliban supreme leader Hafiz Gul BAHADUR, Hakimullah MEHSUD has agreed to leave North Waziristan Agency (NWA) along with all of his Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) followers and some Punjabi Taliban. BAHADUR who, along with some Afghan Taliban, has used NWA as a sanctuary was warned by the GoP that a military operation in NWA was imminent unless MEHSUD and his followers were expelled. This follows reporting during the past two weeks that the GoP has agreed in principle to an offensive in NWA while reserving for themselves the timing of such an operation.

(NUIANU) KHYBER PAKTUNKHWA (K-PK) - In K-PK, 115 Taliban surrendered to authorities in SWAT District in compliance with a 20 May deadline to surrender set by the Nipki Khel Qaumi Jirga. The families of 25 who did not surrender, however, were expelled from the region. Elsewhere, security forces killed three militants in Lower DIR District.

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(NIUANU) Outside of the frontier provinces - Outside of the frontier provinces, the most notable event was the continuing violence in Karachi, SINDH Province, which killed at least 28 people. The violence does not appear to be related to the insurgency but rather to ethnic unrest between the Pashtun supporters of the Awami National Party (ANP) and the Urdu-speaking peoples who support the Muttahida Quami Movement (MQM). In Quetta, two people were killed by a bomb in a rickshaw. Though police were quick to blame Balochi rebels, no group has yet claimed responsibility for the attack.

(NIUANU) Miscellaneous - The GoP is set to raise the Pakistani Defense Budget by 31% in 2010-2011. The budget will go from 4.1 billion US dollars to about 5.3 billion US dollars.

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