This document describes the composition and placement of U.S. and other Western forces in Afghanistan down to battalion level. It includes advisory and “white” special operations units, as well as many of the units that support them: artillery, engineers, explosive ordnance disposal, aviation, but not some other categories such as logistics, medical, and intelligence units, and “black” special operations forces. Some of the organizational changes that accompanied the December 2014 transition from NATO’s International Security Assistance Force to the Resolute Support Mission and from the U.S. Operation Enduring Freedom to Operation Freedom’s Sentinel remain unclear—which U.S. units, for example, fall under Operation Freedom’s Sentinel but not under the Resolute Support Mission.

**Resolute Support Mission / United States Forces—Afghanistan (Gen. John Campbell, USA)—Camp Resolute Support, Kabul**

Kabul Support Unit / 1 Royal Anglian Regiment (UK)—Camp Souter, Kabul; security force supporting British personnel and facilities and ISAF headquarters¹

**Special Operations Joint Task Force—Afghanistan / NATO Special Operations Component Command—Afghanistan (Maj. Gen. Ed Reeder, USA)—Camp Integrity, Kabul²**

Special Operations Task Force—Afghanistan / 3/3 Special Forces (USA)—Bagram Airfield; supporting Afghan Defense Ministry special operations forces

ISAF Special Operations Forces (UK/Australia)—Kabul; supporting Afghan Interior Ministry special operations forces³

**9th Air and Space Expeditionary Task Force—Afghanistan (Maj. Gen. John McMullen, USA)—Kabul International Airport; oversees U.S. Air Force units in Afghanistan⁴**

- 455th Air Expeditionary Wing (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; air support in eastern and northern Afghanistan
- 451st Air Expeditionary Group (Col. Rhude Cherry, USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support in southern and western Afghanistan⁵
- 455th Expeditionary Operations Group (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; air support in eastern and northern Afghanistan
- 41st Airlift Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; transport support⁶
- 62nd Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Bagram, Kandahar, and Jalalabad Airfields; surveillance support⁷
- 83rd Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; medical evacuation support⁸
- 4th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; close air support⁹

**Combined Joint Task Force 3 / 3rd Infantry Division (Maj. Gen. Mike Murray, USA)—Bagram Airfield; U.S. national support element**

- TF 5-5 Air Defense Artillery (USA)—Bagram Airfield; counter-rocket and -mortar mission at bases countrywide¹⁰
- TF Saber / 1-82 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Dan Miner, USA)—Kabul International Airport; U/I mission¹¹
- TF Volunteer / 2-162 Infantry (USA)—New Kabul Compound; security force supporting U.S. personnel and facilities and ISAF headquarters¹²
- TF Iron Rakkasan / 3-187 Infantry (USA)—Bagram Airfield and Kandahar Airfield; U/I mission
- TF EOD / 63rd EOD Battalion (Lt. Col. Bobby Sadler, USA)—Bagram Airfield; counter-IED support¹³
- 51st Light Infantry Battalion (Georgia)—Bagram Airfield; base security¹⁴
1-186 Infantry (USA)—U/I location

82nd Combat Aviation Brigade (Col. Michael Musiol, USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support countrywide

TF Wolfpack / 1-82 Attack Aviation (USA)—Jalalabad Airfield; aviation support for TAAC-East

TF Corsair / 2-82 Assault Aviation (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support for TAAC-South

TF Talon / 3-82 General Support Aviation (USA)—Bagram Airfield; general aviation support

Joint Task Force ODIN (Col. Mark Levine, USA)—Bagram Airfield; countrywide surveillance support

Joint Task Force Thor (USA)—Bagram Airfield; fixed-wing surveillance support

Train, Advise, Assist Command Air / 438th Air Expeditionary Wing (Brig. Gen. Michael Rothstein, USAF)—Camp Oqab, Kabul; supporting Afghan Air Force

438th Air Expeditionary Advisor Group (USAF)—Kabul International Airport; supporting Afghan Air Force units in eastern Afghanistan

738th Air Expeditionary Advisor Group (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; supporting Afghan Air Force units in southern Afghanistan

Train, Advise, Assist Command Capital (Brig. Gen. Safak Gok, Turkey)—Camp Warehouse, Kabul; supporting Afghan security forces in Kabul

Battalion Motorized Task Force (Turkey)—Camp Dogan, Kabul

Train, Advise, Assist Command East / 3rd Infantry Division (Forward) (Brig. Gen. Christopher Bentley, USA)—FOB Gamberi, Laghman; supporting ANA 201st and 203rd Corps and police

TF Rakkasan / 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Col. J.B. Vowell, USA)—Tactical Base Gamberi; supporting ANA 201st and 203rd Corps and police

TF Leader Rakkasan / 1-187 Infantry (Lt. Col. Marc Cloutier, USA)—Tactical Base Gamberi and Jalalabad Airfield; supporting ANA in Laghman and Nangarhar Provinces

TF Solid / 21st Engineer Battalion (USA)—Bagram Airfield; supporting ANA in Parwan Province

TF White Eagle (Col. Wojciech Marchwica, Poland)—Bagram Airfield; supporting ANA 201st and 203rd Corps

Train, Advise, Assist Command North (Brig. Gen. Harald Gante, Germany)—Camp Marmal, Mazar-e-Sharif; supporting ANA 209th Corps and police

Support Force Mazar-e-Sharif (Germany)—Camp Marmal; base security and support

Expeditionary Air Wing Mazar-e-Sharif (Germany)—Camp Marmal; fixed- and rotary-wing aviation support for northern Afghanistan

Train, Advise, Assist Command South / 1st Cavalry Division (Forward) (Brig. Gen. Viet Luong, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; supporting ANA 205th and 215th Corps and police

TF Bastogne / 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Col. Robert Campbell, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; supporting ANA 205th and 215th Corps and police

TF Bulldog / 1-327 Infantry (Lt. Col. Eric Beatty, USA)—Tactical Base Dwyer, Garmsir; supporting ANA in Helmand Province

TF No Slack / 2-327 Infantry (Lt. Col. Chris Hossfeld, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; supporting ANA in Kandahar Province

Train, Advise, Assist Command West / “Julia” Alpine Brigade (Brig. Gen. Michele Risi, Italy)—Camp Arena, Herat; supporting ANA 207th Corps and police

8th Alpine Regiment (Italy)—Camp Arena; force protection and quick reaction force TF Fenice / 1st Aviation Regiment (Italy)—Camp Arena; aviation support in western Afghanistan

Major changes since March 1, 2015:

—Relief of “Garibaldi” Brigade by “Julia” Brigade as TAAC-West
NOTES

1. 1 RAR relieved 2 Rifles as the Kabul Support Unit in March 2015. Their exact chain of command is unclear.


3. ISAF SOF is a one-star headquarters that oversees most non-U.S. special operations forces in Afghanistan as well as some U.S. special operations forces. Command of ISAF SOF appears to rotate between British and Australian officers. At its peak, ISAF SOF controlled regional special operations task groups led by Britain, Australia, Germany, Italy, Poland, France, the Netherlands, and the U.S. 10th Special Forces Group, among others.

4. 9th AETF-A does not fall under ISAF command, but its commander is quintuple-hatted as commander, NATO Air Command—Afghanistan; deputy chief of staff (air), ISAF Joint Command; deputy commander (air), USFOR-A; and director of the Air Component Coordination Element, ISAF’s link to CENTCOM’s Combined Air and Space Operations Center in the Persian Gulf, which directs U.S. air missions.

5. 451st AEG (formerly 451st AEW) operates MQ-1 and MQ-9 drones as well as E-11A piloted aircraft. See 451st AEG web site.

6. 62nd ERS is an MQ-1 and MQ-9 drone squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.

7. This F-16 squadron deployed in May 2014.

8. 5-5 ADA relieved 2-44 ADA in October 2014.


10. The 51st Battalion deployed in October 2014.

11. 82nd CAB relieved 159th CAB in September 2014. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.

12. ODIN stands for Observe-Detect-Identify-Neutralize. The current leadership of JTF ODIN arrived in July 2014.

13. JTF Thor replaced the Air Force’s 4th ERS as Afghanistan’s MC-12 Liberty surveillance unit in October 2014.


15. 3rd ID (Fwd) relieved 10th Mountain Division and became the first TAAC-East at the beginning of November 2014.


17. The current command team of TF White Eagle took over in November 2014.

18. 2-327 Infantry relieved 4th BCT, 4th ID in late November 2014.

19. The “Julia” Brigade relieved the “Garibaldi” Brigade as TAAC-West in March 2015.