



COALITION COMBAT FORCES IN AFGHANISTAN

AFGHANISTAN ORDER OF BATTLE

BY WESLEY MORGAN JANUARY 2013

This document describes the composition and placement of U.S. and other Western combat forces in Afghanistan down to battalion level. It includes the following categories of units: maneuver (i.e. infantry, armor, and cavalry) units, which in most cases are responsible for particular districts or provinces; artillery units, including both those acting as provisional maneuver units and those in traditional artillery roles; aviation units, both rotary and fixed-wing; military police units; most types of engineer and explosive ordnance disposal units; and “white” special operations forces, described in general terms. It does not include “black” special operations units or other units such as logistical, transportation, medical, and intelligence units or Provincial Reconstruction Teams.

International Security Assistance Force / United States Forces Afghanistan (Gen. John Allen, USMC) ISAF Headquarters, Kabul

Special Operations Joint Task Force Afghanistan / NATO Special Operations Component Command Afghanistan (Maj. Gen. Raymond Thomas III, USA) Camp Integrity, Kabul¹

Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force—Afghanistan (USA)—Bagram Airfield; village stability operations, advisors to Afghan Defense Ministry special operations forces, and other missions²

Special Operations Task Force—East (USA)—Bagram Airfield; operating in eastern Afghanistan

Special Operations Task Force—South (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; operating in Kandahar Province

Special Operations Task Force—South-East (USN)—U/I location; operating in Uruzgan and Zabul Provinces

Special Operations Task Force—West (USMC)—Camp Lawton, Herat; operating in western Afghanistan and Helmand Province

TF Balkh / 2-7 Infantry (Lt. Col. Todd Kelly, USA)—Camp Mike Spann, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in northern Afghanistan³

TF Paktika / 3-69 Armor (Lt. Col. Orestees Davenport, USA)—FOB Sharana; operating in Paktika Province⁴

ISAF Special Operations Forces / Special Operations Command and Control Element (Brig. Mark Smethurst, Australia)—Kabul; advisors to Afghan Interior Ministry special operations forces⁵

Regional Special Operations Task Groups—located around Afghanistan⁶

Combined Joint Special Operations Aviation Component—Afghanistan (USAF/USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support to SOJTF-A special operations forces⁷

9th Air and Space Expeditionary Task Force Afghanistan (Maj. Gen. H.D. Polumbo, USAF) Kabul International Airport; oversees U.S. Air Force units in Afghanistan⁸

451st Air Expeditionary Wing (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; air support in southern and western Afghanistan

26th Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; medical evacuation support⁹

46th Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Camp Bastion and Kandahar Airfield; medical evacuation support¹⁰

76th Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Camp Bastion; medical evacuation support¹¹

361st Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support¹²

179th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; close air support¹³

772nd Expeditionary Airlift Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; transport support¹⁴

455th Air Expeditionary Wing (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; air support in eastern and northern Afghanistan

4th Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support¹⁵

33rd Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; medical evacuation support¹⁶

62nd Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support¹⁷

83rd Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; medical evacuation support¹⁸

335th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; close air support¹⁹

354th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; close air support²⁰

774th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; transport support²¹

Marine Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron 3 (USMC)—Bagram Airfield; counter-IED mission²²

Combined Joint Interagency Task Force 435 (Lt. Gen. Keith Huber, USA) Kabul; responsible for rule-of-law and detention operations

TF Titan / 333rd Military Police Brigade (Brig. Gen. Philip Churn, USA)—Parwan Detention Facility; detention operations²³

Task Group Trident / Navy Military Police Battalion—Afghanistan (USN)—Parwan Detention Facility; detainee guard force²⁴

160th Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Terry Robey, USA)—Parwan Detention Facility²⁵

384th Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Kevin Keen, USA)—Parwan Detention Facility; Afghan army detention advisors²⁶

535th Military Police Battalion (USA)—Parwan Detention Facility; investigation force²⁷

NATO Training Mission Afghanistan / Combined Security Transition Command Afghanistan (Lt. Gen. Daniel Bolger, USA) Camp Eggers, Kabul; responsible for training Afghan security forces

2 Royal Canadian Regiment (Lt. Col. Andrew Ruff, Canada)—Camp Alamo, Kabul, and other locations; training Afghan forces and national and regional training centers²⁸

TF Centurion Prime / 1-167 Infantry (Lt. Col. J.R. Bass, USA)—Camp Eggers, Kabul; NTM-A security force²⁹

Regional Support Command Capital (Col. Marlin Remigio, USA)—Camp Phoenix; training Afghan forces in Kabul³⁰

Regional Support Command East (Col. Ronald Metternich, USA)—Bagram Airfield; training Afghan forces in eastern Afghanistan

Regional Support Command North (Col. Ted Donnelly, USA)—Camp Mike Spann, Mazar-e-Sharif; training Afghan forces in northern Afghanistan

Regional Support Command South (Col. Christopher Reed, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; training Afghan forces in southern Afghanistan

Regional Support Command Southwest (Col. Scott Arnold, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; training Afghan forces in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces

Regional Support Command West (Col. Rod Arrington, USMC)—Camp Stone, Herat; training Afghan forces in western Afghanistan

ISAF Joint Command / V Corps (Lt. Gen. James Terry, USA) Kabul International Airport; countrywide operational headquarters³¹

Combined Joint Task Force Paladin / Explosive Ordnance Disposal Group Two (Capt. Timothy Rudderow, USN)—Bagram Airfield; overseeing counter-IED operations countrywide³²

TF Paladin East / 84th EOD Battalion (USA)—Bagram Airfield; counter-IED operations in eastern Afghanistan³³

TF Paladin South / 3rd EOD Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; counter-IED operations in southern Afghanistan³⁴

TF Paladin Southwest (USN)—Camp Leatherneck, Helmand; counter-IED operations in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces³⁵

Joint Task Force Empire / 411th Engineer Brigade (Brig. Gen. David Weeks, USA)—Bagram Airfield; overseeing engineer operations countrywide³⁶

TF Diehard / 1st Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Thomas Hairgrove, USA)—FOB Shank, Logar; engineer support in N2KL and in Ghazni, Logar, and Wardak Provinces³⁷

TF Lumberjack / 20th Engineer Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; construction support in Kandahar Province³⁸

TF Outlaw / 120th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Jack Ritter, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; route clearance in southern Afghanistan³⁹

TF Prowler / 178th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Corol Dobson, USA)—U/I location; likely at FOB Sharana for route clearance in Paktya, Paktika, and Khost Provinces⁴⁰

TF Warhammer / 507th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. William Myer, USA)—Camp Leatherneck; route clearance in southwestern and western Afghanistan⁴¹

TF Anchor / Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 133 (Cmdr. Nicholas Yamodis, USN)—Camp Leatherneck; construction support in Helmand Province⁴²

Regional Command Capital (Brig. Gen. Levent Gozkaya, Turkey) Camp Warehouse, Kabul; operating in Kabul Province⁴³

1st Battalion Motorized Task Force (Turkey)—Camp Dogan, Kabul

2nd Battalion Motorized Task Force (Turkey)—Camp Gazi, Kabul

Regional Command East / 1st Infantry Division (Maj. Gen. Bill Mayville, USA) Bagram Airfield; operating in fourteen eastern provinces⁴⁴

TF Peacekeeper / 716th Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. David Thomspson, USA)—Camp Julien, Kabul; advising Afghan police in northern RC-East⁴⁵

TF Spartan / 793rd Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Stephen Gabavics, USA)—U/I location; advising Afghan police in southern RC-East⁴⁶

TF Bastogne / 1st Security Force Assistance Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Col. J.P. McGee, USA)—Jalalabad Airfield; operating in Kunar, Nangarhar, and Nuristan Provinces⁴⁷

TF Bulldog / 1-327 Infantry (USA)—FOB Finley-Shields; operating in Nangarhar Province

TF No Slack / 2-327 Infantry (Lt. Col. Brian Sullivan, USA)—FOB Joyce, Chawkey District; operating in Kunar Province

TF 2-320 Field Artillery (USA)—U/I location; brigade artillery support and advisor teams

TF Bayonet / 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team (Col. Andrew Rohling, USA)—FOB Shank, Logar; operating in Logar and Wardak Provinces⁴⁸

TF Nashmi / TF 222 (Jordan)—FOB Shank; operating in Logar Province⁴⁹

TF Saber / 1-91 Cavalry (USA)—FOB Shank; operating in Logar Province

TF King / 4-319 Airborne Field Artillery (USA)—FOB Shank; brigade artillery support

TF Rock / 2-503 Airborne Infantry (Lt. Col. Michael Larsen, USA)—COP Sayad Abad; operating in Wardak Province

TF Destiny / 101st Combat Aviation Brigade (Col. Paul Bontrager, USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support in eastern and northern Afghanistan⁵⁰

TF Saber / 2-17 Air Cavalry (USA)—Jalalabad Airfield; aviation support in Kunar, Nangarhar, and Nuristan Provinces

TF No Mercy / 1-101 Attack Aviation (USA)—FOB Salerno; aviation support in Khost and Paktya Provinces

TF Eagle Assault / 5-101 Assault Aviation (USA)—FOB Shank; aviation support in Logar and Wardak Provinces

TF Shadow / 6-101 General Support Aviation (USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support in Bamyan, Laghman, Panjshir, and Parwan Provinces

TF Mission Ready / 5-158 General Support Aviation (Lt. Col. Dan Ruiz, USA)—Camp Marmal; aviation support in western RC-North

TF Gunslinger / 2-159 Attack Aviation (USA)—FOB Sharana; aviation support in Paktika Province⁵¹

TF Pirate / 1-211 Attack Aviation (Lt. Col. Greg Hartvigsen, USA)—FOB Kunduz; aviation support in eastern RC-North

TF ODIN-A (USA)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support for eastern Afghanistan⁵²

TF Dragon / 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division (Col. Joseph Wawro, USA)—FOB Sharana; operating in Ghazni Province and western Paktika Province⁵³

TF Raider / 1-4 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Matthew Cody, USA)—FOB Sharana; operating in western Paktika Province

TF Rangers / 2-16 Infantry (USA)—FOB Andar; operating in eastern Ghazni Province

TF 2-32 Field Artillery (USA)—FOB Sharana; brigade artillery support

TF Eagle / 1-503 Airborne Infantry (Lt. Col. Jeremy Schroeder, USA)—U/I location; elements operating in southern Ghazni Province

TF La Fayette / 7th Armored Brigade (Brig. Gen. Francisco Soriano, France)—Camp Warehouse, Kabul; overseeing withdrawal of French forces⁵⁴

TF Mousquetaire / BATHELICO (France)—Kabul International Airport; aviation support in Kabul and Kapisa Provinces⁵⁵

Battle Group Wild Geese / 92nd Infantry Regiment (Col. Gilles Haberey, France)—Camp Warehouse, Kabul; quick reaction force⁵⁶

TF Long Knife / 4th Security Force Assistance Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division (Col. Bill Benson, USA)—FOB Gamberi; operating in Kapisa, Laghman, and Parwan Provinces⁵⁷

TF Garry Owen / 2-7 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Robert Kuth, USA)—FOB Naghlu High, Kapisa; operating in Kapisa Province

TF Headhunter / 1-9 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Jose Polanco, USA)—Bagram Airfield; operating in Parwan Province

TF Thunderhorse / 2-12 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Monte Rone, USA)—FOB Mehtar Lam; operating in Laghman Province

TF Black Dragon / 5-82 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. William Johnson, USA)—FOB Gamberi; brigade artillery support

TF Rakkasan / 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Col. R.J. Lillibridge, USA)—FOB Salerno, Khost; operating in Khost, Paktya and eastern Paktika Provinces⁵⁸

TF Black Lions / 1-28 Infantry (Lt. Col. Peter Shull, USA)—FOB Orgun; operating in eastern Paktika Province

TF War Rakkasan / 1-33 Cavalry (USA)—Camp Clark, Khost; operating in western Khost Province

TF Leader Rakkasan / 1-187 Parachute Infantry (Lt. Col. Kelly Kendrick, USA)—FOB Gardez; operating in Paktya Province

TF Iron Rakkasan / 3-187 Infantry (Lt. Col. Pat Work, USA)—FOB Salerno; operating in eastern Khost Province

TF Red Knight / 3-320 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Shannon Mosakowski, USA)—FOB Salerno; brigade artillery support

TF White Eagle / 12th Mechanized Brigade (Poland)—FOB Ghazni; operating in northern Ghazni Province⁵⁹

Battle Group Alpha (Poland)—FOB Ghazni; operating in northern Ghazni Province

Battle Group Bravo (Poland)—U/I location; operating in northern Ghazni Province

Regional Command North (Maj. Gen. Erich Pfeffer, Germany) Camp Marmal, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in nine northern provinces⁶⁰

TF Kunduz (Germany)—FOB Kunduz; operating in eastern RC-North⁶¹

TF Mazar-e-Sharif (Germany)—Camp Marmal; operating in western RC-North⁶²

Expeditionary Air Wing Mazar-e-Sharif (Germany)—Camp Marmal; fixed- and rotary-wing aviation support for northern Afghanistan⁶³

TF Garry Owen / 3-7 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Lance Varney, USA)—FOB Kunduz; operating in Kunduz Province⁶⁴

Regional Command South / 3rd Infantry Division (Maj. Gen. Robert “Abe” Abrams, USA) Kandahar Airfield; operating in Kandahar, Uruzgan, and Zabul Provinces⁶⁵

Combined Team Uruzgan (Col. Simon Stuart, Australia)—Camp Holland, Tarin Kowt; operating in Uruzgan Province⁶⁶

Mentoring Task Force 6 / 7 Royal Australian Regiment (Lt. Col. Malcolm Wells, Australia)—Camp Holland; operating in Uruzgan Province⁶⁷

TF 4-2 / 4th Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division (Col. Michael Getchell, USA)—FOB Masum Ghar, Panjwayi; operating in southern and eastern Kandahar Province and in Zabul Province⁶⁸

TF Blackhawk / 2-1 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Chuck Lombardo, USA)—U/I location

TF Manchu / 4-9 Infantry (Lt. Col. James Dooghan, USA)—FOB Masum Ghar; operating in western Panjwayi District

TF Viking / 2-12 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. William Downing, USA)—FOB Lindsey; operating east of Kandahar City

TF Tomahawk / 2-23 Infantry (Lt. Col. Tom Feltey, USA)—FOB Spin Boldak; operating in Spin Boldak District

TF Rock / 1-38 Infantry (Lt. Col. Chad Sundem, USA)—U/I location; operating in eastern Panjwayi District

TF Lancer / 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division (Col. Barry Huggins, USA)—Camp Nathan Smith; operating in Kandahar City and northern and western Kandahar Province⁶⁹

TF Ripcord / 503rd Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Terry Nihart, USA)—Camp Nathan Smith; Afghan police advisors⁷⁰

TF Legion / 2-1 Infantry (Lt. Col. Ryan Wolfgram, USA)—Camp Nathan Smith; operating in Arghandab and Zhari Districts

TF Blackhawk / 8-1 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Patrick Michaelis, USA)—Camp Nathan Smith; operating in Kandahar City

TF 3-41 Infantry (Lt. Col. Tom Anderson, USA)—FOB Pasab; operating in Zhari District⁷¹

TF Steel / 2-17 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Kevin Bernardoni, USA)—FOB Frontenac; operating in Shah Wali Kot District

TF Spartan / 4-23 Infantry (Lt. Col. Kevin Admiral, USA)—FOB Azizullah; operating in Maywand and western Zhari Districts

TF Raider / 1st Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division (Col. James Crider, USA)—FOB Apache, Qalat; operating in Zabul Province

TF Garryowen / 5-7 Cavalry (USA)—U/I location in RC-South

TF 1-41 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Thomas Hawn, USA)—FOB Lagman, Qalat; operating in Zabul Province

Maneuver Battalion 1 / 21st Mountain Battalion (Romania)—FOB Apache, Qalat; operating along Highway 1 in Zabul Province⁷²

Maneuver Battalion 2 / 33rd Mountain Battalion (Romania)—FOB Bullard, Shah Joy District; operating along Highway 1 in Zabul Province⁷³

TF Wings / 25th Combat Aviation Brigade (Col. Frank Tate, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support for RC-South⁷⁴

TF Gunslinger / 1-2 Attack Aviation (USA)—FOB Tarin Kowt; aviation support in Uruzgan Province

TF Lightning Horse / 2-6 Air Cavalry (Lt. Col. Thomas O'Connor, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in Kandahar Province

TF Diamond Head / 2-25 Assault Aviation (Lt. Col. Kelly Hines, USA)—FOB Wolverine, Zabul; aviation support in Zabul Province

TF Hammerhead / 3-25 General Support Aviation (Lt. Col. Lori Robinson, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in Kandahar Province

TF Stormrider / 3-158 Assault Aviation (USA)—Shindand Airfield; aviation support for western Afghanistan⁷⁵

Regional Command Southwest / I Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward) (Maj. Gen. Charles Gurganus, USMC) Camp Leatherneck; operating in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces⁷⁶

TF Helmand / 4th Mechanized Brigade (Brig. Bob Bruce, UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; operating in central Helmand Province⁷⁷

Brigade Advisory Group / 1 Royal Regiment of Scotland (Lt. Col. Ben Wrench, UK)—Camp Tombstone; Afghan army advisors⁷⁸

Combined Force Nahr-e-Saraj (North) / 40 Commando (Lt. Col. Matt Jackson, UK)—FOB Price, Gereshk; operating in central Nahr-e-Saraj District⁷⁹

Combined Force Nahr-e-Saraj (South) / 1 Scots Guards (Lt. Col. Robert Howieson, UK)—operating in southern Nahr-e-Saraj District⁸⁰

Joint Engineer Group / 21 Engineer Regiment (UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; brigade engineer support⁸¹

Joint Fires Group / 4 Regiment Royal Artillery (UK)—U/I location; brigade artillery support⁸²

Transition Support Unit Lashkar Gah / 1 Duke of Lancaster's Regiment (UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; operating in Lashkar Gah District⁸³

Transition Support Unit Nad-e-Ali / 1 Mercian Regiment (UK)—FOB Shawqat; operating in Nad-e-Ali District⁸⁴

Royal Dragoon Guards (UK)—Camp Bastion; elements advising Afghan police⁸⁵

Queen's Royal Lancers (UK)—Camp Bastion; elements advising Afghan police and conducting airfield security⁸⁶

1 Royal Gurkha Rifles (UK)—U/I location

Team 14 / Jutland Dragoon Regiment (Col. Kresten Hedegard, Denmark)—Camp Bastion; training Afghan forces⁸⁷

Regimental Combat Team 7 (Col. Austin Renforth, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; operating in northern and southern Helmand Province and Nimruz Province⁸⁸

2/7 Marines (Lt. Col. Donald Tomich, USMC)—FOB Jackson, Sangin; operating in northern Helmand Province⁸⁹

3/9 Marines (USMC)—FOB Geronimo, Nawa; operating in southern Helmand Province⁹⁰

2/10 Marines (Lt. Col. Phil Bragg, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; artillery support

12th Light Infantry Battalion (Georgia)—U/I location⁹¹

32nd Light Infantry Battalion (Georgia)—COP Shukvani; operating in southern Musa Qala District⁹²

3rd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward) (Brig. Gen. Gregg Sturdevant, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; aviation support in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces⁹³

Marine Attack Squadron 211 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; fixed-wing close air support⁹⁴

Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 361 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; heavy transport aviation⁹⁵

Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 169 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; attack aviation⁹⁶

Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 161 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; medium transport aviation⁹⁷

Joint Aviation Group (UK)—Camp Leatherneck; headquarters for British aviation units

Joint Helicopter Force Afghanistan (UK)—Camp Leatherneck; aviation support for TF Helmand⁹⁸

No. 2 Squadron Royal Air Force (UK)—Kandahar Airfield; close air support for TF Helmand⁹⁹

39 Squadron Royal Air Force (UK)—Kandahar Airfield; drone support for TF Helmand¹⁰⁰

Regional Command West / “Taurinense” Alpine Brigade (Brig. Gen. Dario Mari Ranieri, Italy) Camp Arena, Herat; operating in Badghis, Farah, Ghor, and Herat Provinces¹⁰¹

TF Badghis (Spain)—Qala-e-Naw; operating in Badghis Province

TF Center / 3rd Alpine Regiment (Italy)—FOB La Marmora, Shindand; operating in southern Herat Province

TF Fenice / 7th Aviation Regiment (Italy)—Herat Airfield; aviation support in western Afghanistan

TF Genio / 32nd Engineer Regiment (Italy)—Camp Arena, Herat; engineer support for western Afghanistan

TF South / 9th Alpine Regiment (Col. Riccardo Cristoni, Italy)—Camp El Alamein, Farah; operating in western Farah Province

TF Southeast / 2nd Alpine Regiment (Col. Cristiano Chiti, Italy)—FOB Lavaredo, Bakwa District; operating in eastern Farah Province

3-144 Infantry (Lt. Col. John Herrera, USA)—U/I location; operating in western Afghanistan¹⁰²

Major changes since December 1, 2012:

—Relief of 4th BCT, 4th ID by 1st SFAB, 101st Airborne in RC-East

NOTES

¹ Established in the summer of 2012, SOJTF-A/NSOCC-A is a two-star headquarters that oversees all three allied SOF commands in Afghanistan: CJSOTF-A, ISAF SOF, and the “black” special operations forces of the U.S. Joint Special Operations Command task force. See USSOCOM Fact Book 2013.

² CJSOTF-A is headquartered by troops from the 3rd Special Forces Group. Its core tasks are to advise the Afghan National Army’s special operations forces (the Afghan commando kandaks and Special Forces) and to train and advise the local police forces associated with the Village Stability Operations program. CJSOTF-A controls six battalion-level task forces: two built around Army Special Forces battalions, two around Army infantry battalions, one around a Marine special operations battalion, and one around a Navy SEAL team. Navy Combat Camera Command Detachment 1210, “CJSOTF-A Presentation,” June 2012.

³ 2-7 Infantry relieved 1-30 Infantry in October 2012. TF Balkh mixes conventional and special operations troops. See battalion Facebook page.

⁴ 3-69 Armor deployed in November 2012. TF Balkh mixes conventional and special operations troops. See battalion Facebook page.

⁵ Established in 2007, ISAF SOF is a one-star, brigade-level headquarters that oversees most non-U.S. special operations forces in Afghanistan as well as one U.S. special operations unit, TF 10. Command of ISAF SOF appears to rotate between British and Australian officers; Brig. Mark Smethurst was in command as of March 2012.

⁶ The ISAF SOTGs, some battalion-size and some company-size, support the various regional commands, often by advising elite Afghan Interior Ministry units, and are designated as numbered task forces. For example, press reports mention TF 10 (a company from the U.S. 10th Special Forces Group) in RC-Capital; TF 45 (Italian SOF) in RC-West; TF 47 (German SOF) in RC-North; TF 49 and TF 50 (Polish SOF) in Ghazni and other areas in RC-East and RC-South; TF 444 (British SOF) in Helmand; and TF 66 (Australian SOF) in Uruzgan and Kandahar.

⁷ CJSOAC-A is composed of helicopter, fixed-wing, and unmanned aviation units from the U.S. Air Force Special Operations Command, the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, and conventional U.S. Army aviation units.

- ⁸ 9th AETF-A does not fall under ISAF command, but its commander is dual-hatted as Deputy Commander (Air) of USFOR-A. It exercises only partial control of the wings and squadrons below it; day-to-day tactical control of those units is exercised by U.S. Air Force Central's Combined Air and Space Operations Center in the Persian Gulf.
- ⁹ 26th ERQS is an HH-60G squadron. Kandahar Airfield web site.
- ¹⁰ 46th ERQS is a "Guardian Angel" squadron of medical and rescue specialists who work aboard 26th ERQS's HH-60Gs. Kandahar Airfield web site.
- ¹¹ 76th ERQS is an HC-130P squadron. Tech. Sgt. Beth Del Vecchio, "76th ERQS Flies So That Others May Live," DVIDS, January 30, 2012.
- ¹² 361st ERS is equipped with MC-12 manned airplanes and MQ-1 and MQ-9 drones. Kandahar Airfield web site.
- ¹³ This F-16 squadron deployed in August 2012.
- ¹⁴ 772nd EAS is a C-130 squadron. Kandahar Airfield web site.
- ¹⁵ 4th ERS is an MC-12 squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.
- ¹⁶ 33rd ERQS is a "Guardian Angel" squadron of medical and rescue specialists who work aboard 83rd ERQS's HH-60Gs. Bagram Airfield web site.
- ¹⁷ 62nd ERS is an MQ-1 and MQ-9 drone squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.
- ¹⁸ 83rd ERQS is an HH-60G squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.
- ¹⁹ 335th EFS relieved 389th EFS in September 2011. It is an F-15E squadron. Airman 1st Class Mariah Tolbert, "SJAFB Deploys Work Force," U.S. Air Force, September 12, 2011.
- ²⁰ 354th EFS is an A-10C squadron that relieved 184th EFS in October 2012.
- ²¹ 774th EAS is a C-130 squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.
- ²² VMAQ-3 relieved VMAQ-2 in early October 2012. It is an EA-6B squadron.
- ²³ 333rd MP Brigade relieved 42nd MP Brigade in November 2012. See brigade Facebook page.
- ²⁴ MCC(SW) Maria Yager, CJIATF-435, "Navy Military Police Battalion Changes Command, Swaps Crew," May 13, 2011.
- ²⁵ This battalion deployed in July-August 2012.
- ²⁶ This battalion deployed in late August 2012.
- ²⁷ This battalion deployed in early 2012.
- ²⁸ 2 RCR relieved 3 PPCLI in March 2012. See Operation Attention web site.
- ²⁹ 1-167 relieved 1-134 Field Artillery in late August 2012.
- ³⁰ The current command teams of the six regional support commands arrived in May-July 2012.
- ³¹ V Corps relieved I Corps as the headquarters of the IJC in June 2012.
- ³² The Navy's EOD Group Two relieved the Army's 71st Ordnance Group as CJTF Paladin in late June 2012. Lt. j.g. Andrew Carleen, "Navy Takes Over Counter-IED Task Force in Afghanistan," DVIDS, June 29, 2012.
- ³³ 84th EOD Battalion deployed in late March 2012. See battalion Facebook page.
- ³⁴ 3rd EOD Battalion relieved 192nd EOD Battalion in late August 2012.
- ³⁵ EODMU-6 left Afghanistan in August 2011 and had returned as of July 2012.
- ³⁶ JTF Empire relieved the 18th Engineer Brigade, which had been responsible for only northern and eastern Afghanistan, in June 2012. Staff Sgt. Derek Smith, "411th Engineers Assume Control of Operations in Afghanistan," DVIDS, June 12, 2012.
- ³⁷ 1st Engineer Battalion relieved 7th Engineer Battalion in October 2012. See battalion Facebook page.
- ³⁸ 20th Engineer Battalion relieved 980th Engineer Battalion in November 2012. See JTF Empire newsletter.
- ³⁹ 120th Engineer Battalion relieved 223rd Engineer Battalion in September 2012.
- ⁴⁰ 178th Engineer Battalion likely relieved 578th Engineer Battalion in September 2012.
- ⁴¹ 507th Engineer Battalion relieved 14th Engineer Battalion in July 2012.
- ⁴² NMCB-133 relieved NMCB-11 in September 2012.
- ⁴³ The current headquarters of RC-Capital arrived in November 2011. ISAF.NATO.int, "Subordinate Commands | RC-Capital."
- ⁴⁴ 1st Infantry Division took over as RC-East in April 2012. See RC-East Facebook page.
- ⁴⁵ 716th MP Battalion relieved 728th MP Battalion in late January or early February 2012. See 101st Sustainment Brigade Facebook page.
- ⁴⁶ 793rd MP Battalion deployed in October 2012. See battalion Facebook page.
- ⁴⁷ 1st SFAB, 101st Airborne relieved 4th BCT, 4th ID and advisor teams from 2nd BCT, 101st Airborne in early December 2012. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.
- ⁴⁸ 173rd ABCT relieved 3rd BCT, 1st AD in July 2012. See brigade and battalion Facebook pages.

- ⁴⁹ TF 222 is built around an unidentified Jordanian Ranger battalion. The battalions appear to rotate in roughly December and June. Maj. Ashraf al-Adwan, “A Lasting Partnership.”
- ⁵⁰ 101st CAB relieved 82nd CAB in September 2012. Each of its battalion task forces combines UH-60, CH-47, AH-64, and OH-58 companies and provides direct support to a BCT. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.
- ⁵¹ 2-159 ARB is detached from 12th CAB. See battalion Facebook page.
- ⁵² TF ODIN-A III relieved TF ODIN-A II in June 2011. ODIN stands for Observe-Detect-Identify-Neutralize. The unit operates the MQ-1C and RQ-5 UAVs and various versions of the C-12 and C-35 airplanes. Pfc. Michael Syner, 10th CAB, “306th Military Intelligence Battalions Takes Reins of TF ODIN,” June 16, 2011.
- ⁵³ 4th BCT, 1st ID relieved 172nd BCT in June 2012. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.
- ⁵⁴ 7e BB relieved 2e BB as TF La Fayette in November 2012, when the French combat mission in Afghanistan ended.
- ⁵⁵ DefenceReviewAsia.com, “Afghanistan: The Year of the Tiger,” May 26, 2010.
- ⁵⁶ 92e RI relieved 1er RI as GTIA Surobi in June 2012. 1st Lt. Cecile Canali, “French Battle Group Picardie Becomes French Battle Group Wild Geese,” June 19, 2012.
- ⁵⁷ 4th SFAB, 1st Cavalry is the first SFAB to deploy, arriving in November 2012 with a total of about 1,400 soldiers (each of its battalions deployed with less than half its soldiers). The brigade relieved French units from TF LaFayette that relocated to Kabul. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.
- ⁵⁸ 3rd BCT, 101st Airborne relieved 4th Airborne BCT, 25th ID in early October 2012. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.
- ⁵⁹ 6th Airborne Brigade relieved 15th Mechanized Brigade as TF White Eagle in April 2012.
- ⁶⁰ The current headquarters of RC-North arrived in March 2012. ISAF.NATO.int, “Subordinate Commands | RC-North.”
- ⁶¹ Paratrooper Battalion 263 took over as TF Kunduz in January 2011.
- ⁶² Jager Battalion 292 relieved Mechanized Infantry Battalion 212 as TF MES in August 2011 (which relieved Mountain Infantry Battalion 232 in April 2011). RC-North Facebook page, August 20, 2011.
- ⁶³ See RC-North Facebook page.
- ⁶⁴ 3-7 Cavalry relieved 1-125 Infantry in early September 2012. See squadron Facebook page.
- ⁶⁵ 3rd ID relieved the 82nd Airborne as RC-South in early September 2012. See division Facebook page.
- ⁶⁶ CTU is a composite headquarters made up of U.S. and Australian personnel. Although the commander of CTU is an Australian officer, who relieved American leadership in October 2012, much of CTU’s headquarters is formed from 2nd BCT, 3rd ID, an American brigade headquarters whose commander acts as CTU’s deputy commander. See CTU Facebook page.
- ⁶⁷ MTF-6 relieved MTF-5 in late November 2012. See CTU Facebook page.
- ⁶⁸ 4th SBCT, 2nd ID relieved 3rd SBCT, 2nd ID in late November 2012. See brigade Facebook page.
- ⁶⁹ 2nd SBCT, 2nd ID relieved 2nd BCT, 4th ID in mid-May 2012. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.
- ⁷⁰ 503rd MP Battalion relieved 385th MP Battalion in May 2012. See DVIDS.
- ⁷¹ 1-17 Infantry is detached from 2nd SBCT, 2nd ID. See battalion Facebook page.
- ⁷² 21st Mountain Battalion relieved 300th Infantry Battalion as Maneuver Battalion I in late May 2012. Romanian Ministry of National Defense press release, June 21, 2012.
- ⁷³ 33rd Mountain Battalion relieved 280th Mechanized Infantry Battalion in late July or early August 2012. Romanian Ministry of National Defense press release, August 20, 2012.
- ⁷⁴ 25th CAB relieved 159th CAB in February 2012. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.
- ⁷⁵ 3-158 AHB is detached from 12th CAB. See battalion Facebook page.
- ⁷⁶ 1 MEF (Forward) took over as RC-Southwest in March 2012. Dan Lamothe, “New Marine Commanders Take Over in Afghanistan,” MilitaryTimes.com, March 1, 2012.
- ⁷⁷ 4th Mechanized Brigade relieved 12th Mechanized Brigade in October 2012.
- ⁷⁸ 1 Scots relieved 3 Rifles in October 2012.
- ⁷⁹ 40 Commando relieved 1 Grenadier Guards in late September 2012.
- ⁸⁰ 1 Scots Guards relieved 3 Yorks in October or November 2012.
- ⁸¹ 21 Engineer Regiment relieved 26 Engineer Regiment in October 2012. See regiment web site.
- ⁸² 4 Regiment RA relieved 19 Regiment RA in October 2012.
- ⁸³ 1 LANCS relieved The King’s Royal Hussars in October 2012.
- ⁸⁴ 1 Mercian relieved 1 Royal Anglian Regiment in Nad-e-Ali in October 2012. See battalion Facebook page.
- ⁸⁵ One of RDG’s two squadrons acts as the Brigade Recce Force, and one acts as part of the Police Mentoring and Advisory Group.
- ⁸⁶ One QRL squadron acts as part of the Police Mentoring and Advisory Group while another performs airfield security.
- ⁸⁷ Team 14 relieved Team 13 in early August 2012.

⁸⁸ RCT-7 relieved RCT-6 in late October 2012. See regimental Facebook page.

⁸⁹ 2/7 Marines took the place of two to three other Marine battalions in late September 2012.

⁹⁰ 3/9 Marines relieved 3/8 in November 2012.

⁹¹ 12th LIB relieved 23rd LIB in October 2012. See Georgian Defense Ministry web site.

⁹² 32nd LIB deployed in October 2012, boosting the Georgian presence in Afghanistan to two battalions. See Georgian Defense Ministry web site.

⁹³ 3rd MAW (Forward) relieved 2nd MAW (Forward) in late February 2012. Cpl. Lisa Tourtelot, "San Diego-Based Marines Assume Aviation Command in Afghanistan," DVIDS, March 1, 2012.

⁹⁴ VMA-211 is an AV-8B squadron that relieved VMA-223 in May 2012.

⁹⁵ HMM-361 is a CH-53E squadron that relieved HMM-362 in fall 2012.

⁹⁶ HMLA-169 is an AH-1W and UH-1Y squadron that relieved HMLA-469 in November 2012.

⁹⁷ VMM-161 is an MV-22B Osprey squadron that relieved VMM-365 in July 2012.

⁹⁸ JHF(A) is made up of British Army, Royal Air Force, and Royal Navy units. It operates a variety of attack and lift helicopters.

⁹⁹ No. 2 Squadron, a Tornado GR4 squadron, relieved 617 Squadron in March 2012.

¹⁰⁰ 39 Squadron is a Reaper UAV squadron.

¹⁰¹ The Taurinense Brigade relieved the Garibaldi Brigade as RC-West in mid-September 2012.

¹⁰² 3-144 Infantry relieved 2-108 Infantry in September 2012. See battalion Facebook page.



COALITION COMBAT FORCES IN AFGHANISTAN

AFGHANISTAN ORDER OF BATTLE

BY WESLEY MORGAN FEBRUARY 2013

This document describes the composition and placement of U.S. and other Western combat forces in Afghanistan down to battalion level. It includes the following categories of units: maneuver (i.e. infantry, armor, and cavalry) units, which in most cases are responsible for particular districts or provinces; artillery units, including both those acting as provisional maneuver units and those in traditional artillery roles; aviation units, both rotary and fixed-wing; military police units; most types of engineer and explosive ordnance disposal units; and “white” special operations forces, described in general terms. It does not include “black” special operations units or other units such as logistical, transportation, medical, and intelligence units or Provincial Reconstruction Teams.

International Security Assistance Force / United States Forces Afghanistan (Gen. John Allen, USMC) ISAF Headquarters, Kabul

Special Operations Joint Task Force Afghanistan / NATO Special Operations Component Command Afghanistan (Maj. Gen. Raymond Thomas III, USA) Camp Integrity, Kabul¹

Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force—Afghanistan (USA)—Bagram Airfield; village stability operations, advisors to Afghan Defense Ministry special operations forces, and other missions²

Special Operations Task Force—East (USA)—Bagram Airfield; operating in eastern Afghanistan

Special Operations Task Force—South (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; operating in Kandahar Province

Special Operations Task Force—South-East (USN)—U/I location; operating in Uruzgan and Zabul Provinces

Special Operations Task Force—West (USMC)—Camp Lawton, Herat; operating in western Afghanistan and Helmand Province

TF Balkh / 2-7 Infantry (Lt. Col. Todd Kelly, USA)—Camp Mike Spann, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in northern Afghanistan³

TF Paktika / 3-69 Armor (Lt. Col. Orestees Davenport, USA)—FOB Sharana; operating in Paktika Province⁴

ISAF Special Operations Forces / Special Operations Command and Control Element (Brig. Mark Smethurst, Australia)—Kabul; advisors to Afghan Interior Ministry special operations forces⁵

Regional Special Operations Task Groups—located around Afghanistan⁶

Combined Joint Special Operations Aviation Component—Afghanistan (USAF/USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support to SOJTF-A special operations forces⁷

9th Air and Space Expeditionary Task Force Afghanistan (Maj. Gen. H.D. Polumbo, USAF) Kabul International Airport; oversees U.S. Air Force units in Afghanistan⁸

451st Air Expeditionary Wing (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; air support in southern and western Afghanistan

26th Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; medical evacuation support⁹

46th Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Camp Bastion and Kandahar Airfield; medical evacuation support¹⁰

76th Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Camp Bastion; medical evacuation support¹¹

361st Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support¹²

179th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; close air support¹³

772nd Expeditionary Airlift Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; transport support¹⁴

455th Air Expeditionary Wing (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; air support in eastern and northern Afghanistan

4th Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support¹⁵

33rd Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; medical evacuation support¹⁶

62nd Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support¹⁷

83rd Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; medical evacuation support¹⁸

335th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; close air support¹⁹

354th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; close air support²⁰

774th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; transport support²¹

Marine Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron 3 (USMC)—Bagram Airfield; counter-IED mission²²

Combined Joint Interagency Task Force 435 (Lt. Gen. Keith Huber, USA) Kabul; responsible for rule-of-law and detention operations

TF Titan / 333rd Military Police Brigade (Brig. Gen. Philip Churn, USA)—Parwan Detention Facility; detention operations²³

Task Group Trident / Navy Military Police Battalion—Afghanistan (USN)—Parwan Detention Facility; detainee guard force²⁴

160th Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Terry Robey, USA)—Parwan Detention Facility²⁵

384th Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Kevin Keen, USA)—Parwan Detention Facility; Afghan army detention advisors²⁶

535th Military Police Battalion (USA)—Parwan Detention Facility; investigation force²⁷

NATO Training Mission Afghanistan / Combined Security Transition Command Afghanistan (Lt. Gen. Daniel Bolger, USA) Camp Eggers, Kabul; responsible for training Afghan security forces

2 Royal Canadian Regiment (Lt. Col. Andrew Ruff, Canada)—Camp Alamo, Kabul, and other locations; training Afghan forces and national and regional training centers²⁸

TF Centurion Prime / 1-167 Infantry (Lt. Col. J.R. Bass, USA)—Camp Eggers, Kabul; NTM-A security force²⁹

Regional Support Command Capital (Col. Marlin Remigio, USA)—Camp Phoenix; training Afghan forces in Kabul³⁰

Regional Support Command East (Col. Ronald Metternich, USA)—Bagram Airfield; training Afghan forces in eastern Afghanistan

Regional Support Command North (Col. Ted Donnelly, USA)—Camp Mike Spann, Mazar-e-Sharif; training Afghan forces in northern Afghanistan

Regional Support Command South (Col. Christopher Reed, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; training Afghan forces in southern Afghanistan

Regional Support Command Southwest (Col. Scott Arnold, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; training Afghan forces in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces

Regional Support Command West (Col. Rod Arrington, USMC)—Camp Stone, Herat; training Afghan forces in western Afghanistan

ISAF Joint Command / V Corps (Lt. Gen. James Terry, USA) Kabul International Airport; countrywide operational headquarters³¹

Combined Joint Task Force Paladin / Explosive Ordnance Disposal Group Two (Capt. Timothy Rudderow, USN)—Bagram Airfield; overseeing counter-IED operations countrywide³²

TF Paladin East / 84th EOD Battalion (USA)—Bagram Airfield; counter-IED operations in eastern Afghanistan³³

TF Paladin South / 3rd EOD Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; counter-IED operations in southern Afghanistan³⁴

TF Paladin Southwest (USN)—Camp Leatherneck, Helmand; counter-IED operations in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces³⁵

Joint Task Force Empire / 411th Engineer Brigade (Brig. Gen. David Weeks, USA)—Bagram Airfield; overseeing engineer operations countrywide³⁶

TF Diehard / 1st Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Thomas Hairgrove, USA)—FOB Shank, Logar; engineer support in N2KL and in Ghazni, Logar, and Wardak Provinces³⁷

TF Lumberjack / 20th Engineer Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; construction support in Kandahar Province³⁸

TF Outlaw / 120th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Jack Ritter, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; route clearance in southern Afghanistan³⁹

TF Prowler / 178th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Corol Dobson, USA)—U/I location; likely at FOB Sharana for route clearance in Paktya, Paktika, and Khost Provinces⁴⁰

TF Warhammer / 507th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. William Myer, USA)—Camp Leatherneck; route clearance in southwestern and western Afghanistan⁴¹

TF Anchor / Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 133 (Cmdr. Nicholas Yamodis, USN)—Camp Leatherneck; construction support in Helmand Province⁴²

Regional Command Capital (Brig. Gen. Levent Gozkaya, Turkey) Camp Warehouse, Kabul; operating in Kabul Province⁴³

1st Battalion Motorized Task Force (Turkey)—Camp Dogan, Kabul

2nd Battalion Motorized Task Force (Turkey)—Camp Gazi, Kabul

Regional Command East / 1st Infantry Division (Maj. Gen. Bill Mayville, USA) Bagram Airfield; operating in fourteen eastern provinces⁴⁴

TF Bullwhip / U/I Military Police Battalion—Camp Julien, Kabul; advising Afghan police in northern RC-East⁴⁵

TF Spartan / 793rd Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Stephen Gabavics, USA)—U/I location; advising Afghan police in southern RC-East⁴⁶

TF Bastogne / 1st Security Force Assistance Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Col. J.P. McGee, USA)—Jalalabad Airfield; operating in Kunar, Nangarhar, and Nuristan Provinces⁴⁷

TF Bulldog / 1-327 Infantry (USA)—FOB Finley-Shields; operating in Nangarhar Province

TF No Slack / 2-327 Infantry (Lt. Col. Brian Sullivan, USA)—FOB Joyce, Chawkay District; operating in Kunar Province

TF 2-320 Field Artillery (USA)—U/I location; brigade artillery support and advisor teams

TF Bayonet / 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team (Col. Andrew Rohling, USA)—FOB Shank, Logar; operating in Logar and Wardak Provinces⁴⁸

TF Nashmi / TF 222 (Jordan)—FOB Shank; operating in Logar Province⁴⁹

TF Saber / 1-91 Cavalry (USA)—FOB Shank; operating in Logar Province

TF King / 4-319 Airborne Field Artillery (USA)—FOB Shank; brigade artillery support

TF Rock / 2-503 Airborne Infantry (Lt. Col. Michael Larsen, USA)—COP Sayad Abad; operating in Wardak Province

TF Destiny / 101st Combat Aviation Brigade (Col. Paul Bontrager, USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support in eastern and northern Afghanistan⁵⁰

TF Saber / 2-17 Air Cavalry (USA)—Jalalabad Airfield; aviation support in Kunar, Nangarhar, and Nuristan Provinces

TF No Mercy / 1-101 Attack Aviation (USA)—FOB Salerno; aviation support in Khost and Paktya Provinces

TF Eagle Assault / 5-101 Assault Aviation (USA)—FOB Shank; aviation support in Logar and Wardak Provinces

TF Shadow / 6-101 General Support Aviation (USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support in Bamyan, Laghman, Panjshir, and Parwan Provinces

TF Shadow Warrior / 1-104 Attack Aviation (USA)—FOB Kunduz; aviation support in RC-North

TF ODIN-A (USA)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support for eastern Afghanistan⁵¹

TF Dragon / 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division (Col. Joseph Wawro, USA)—FOB Sharana; operating in Ghazni Province and Paktika Province⁵²

TF Raider / 1-4 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Matthew Cody, USA)—FOB Sharana; operating in western Paktika Province

TF Rangers / 2-16 Infantry (USA)—FOB Arian; operating in eastern Ghazni Province

TF Black Lions / 1-28 Infantry (Lt. Col. Peter Shull, USA)—FOB Orgun; operating in eastern Paktika Province

TF 2-32 Field Artillery (USA)—FOB Sharana; brigade artillery support

TF Eagle / 1-503 Airborne Infantry (Lt. Col. Jeremy Schroeder, USA)—FOB Warrior; operating in southern Ghazni Province

TF La Fayette / 7th Armored Brigade (Brig. Gen. Francisco Soriano, France)—Camp Warehouse, Kabul; overseeing withdrawal of French forces⁵³

TF Mousquetaire / BATHELICO (France)—Kabul International Airport; aviation support in Kabul and Kapisa Provinces⁵⁴

Battle Group Wild Geese / 92nd Infantry Regiment (Col. Gilles Haberey, France)—Camp Warehouse, Kabul; quick reaction force⁵⁵

TF Long Knife / 4th Security Force Assistance Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division (Col. Bill Benson, USA)—FOB Gamberi; operating in Kapisa, Laghman, and Parwan Provinces⁵⁶

TF Garry Owen / 2-7 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Robert Kuth, USA)—FOB Naghlu High, Kapisa; operating in Kapisa Province

TF Headhunter / 1-9 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Jose Polanco, USA)—Bagram Airfield; operating in Parwan Province

TF Thunderhorse / 2-12 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Monte Rone, USA)—FOB Mehtar Lam; operating in Laghman Province

TF Black Dragon / 5-82 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. William Johnson, USA)—FOB Gamberi; brigade artillery support

TF Rakkasan / 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Col. R.J. Lillibridge, USA)—FOB Salerno, Khost; operating in Khost and Paktya Provinces⁵⁷

TF War Rakkasan / 1-33 Cavalry (USA)—Camp Clark, Khost; operating in western Khost Province

TF Leader Rakkasan / 1-187 Parachute Infantry (Lt. Col. Kelly Kendrick, USA)—FOB Gardez; operating in Paktya Province

TF Iron Rakkasan / 3-187 Infantry (Lt. Col. Pat Work, USA)—FOB Salerno; operating in eastern Khost Province

TF Red Knight / 3-320 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Shannon Mosakowski, USA)—FOB Salerno; brigade artillery support

TF White Eagle / 12th Mechanized Brigade (Poland)—FOB Ghazni; operating in northern Ghazni Province⁵⁸

Battle Group Alpha (Poland)—FOB Ghazni; operating in northern Ghazni Province

Battle Group Bravo (Poland)—U/I location; operating in northern Ghazni Province

Regional Command North (Maj. Gen. Erich Pfeiffer, Germany) Camp Marmal, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in nine northern provinces⁵⁹

TF Kunduz (Germany)—FOB Kunduz; operating in eastern RC-North⁶⁰

TF Mazar-e-Sharif (Germany)—Camp Marmal; operating in western RC-North⁶¹

Expeditionary Air Wing Mazar-e-Sharif (Germany)—Camp Marmal; fixed- and rotary-wing aviation support for northern Afghanistan⁶²

TF Garry Owen / 3-7 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Lance Varney, USA)—FOB Kunduz; operating in Kunduz Province⁶³

Regional Command South / 3rd Infantry Division (Maj. Gen. Robert “Abe” Abrams, USA) Kandahar Airfield; operating in Kandahar, Uruzgan, and Zabul Provinces⁶⁴

Combined Team Uruzgan (Col. Simon Stuart, Australia)—Camp Holland, Tarin Kowt; operating in Uruzgan Province⁶⁵

Mentoring Task Force 6 / 7 Royal Australian Regiment (Lt. Col. Malcolm Wells, Australia)—Camp Holland; operating in Uruzgan Province⁶⁶

TF Raider / 1st Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division (Col. James Crider, USA)—FOB Apache, Qalat; operating in Zabul Province

TF Blackhawk / 2-1 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Chuck Lombardo, USA)—FOB Apache; operating in Zabul Province

TF Garryowen / 5-7 Cavalry (USA)—U/I location

TF 1-41 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Thomas Hawn, USA)—FOB Lagman, Qalat; operating in Zabul Province

Maneuver Battalion 1 / 2nd Maneuver Battalion (Romania)—FOB Apache, Qalat; operating along Highway 1 in Zabul Province⁶⁷

Maneuver Battalion 2 / 33rd Mountain Battalion (Romania)—FOB Bullard, Shah Joy District; operating along Highway 1 in Zabul Province⁶⁸

TF Falcon / 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade (Col. Allan Pepin, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in southern and western Afghanistan⁶⁹

TF Viper / 1-3 Attack Aviation (Lt. Col. Kelly Hines, USA)—FOB Wolverine, Zabul; aviation support in Zabul Province

TF Knighthawk / 2-3 General Support Aviation (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in Kandahar Province

TF Brawler / 4-3 Assault Aviation (USA)—FOB Tarin Kowt; aviation support in Uruzgan Province

TF Lighthorse / 3-17 Air Cavalry (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in Kandahar Province

TF Dragoon / 4th Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division (Col. Michael Getchell, USA)—FOB Masum Ghar, Panjwayi; operating in southern and eastern Kandahar Province⁷⁰

TF Manchu / 4-9 Infantry (Lt. Col. James Dooghan, USA)—U/I location; operating in western Panjwayi District

TF Viking / 2-12 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. William Downing, USA)—FOB Lindsey; operating east of Kandahar City

TF Tomahawk / 2-23 Infantry (Lt. Col. Tom Feltey, USA)—FOB Spin Boldak; operating in Spin Boldak District

TF Rosser / 1-38 Infantry (Lt. Col. Chad Sundem, USA)—FOB Shoja; operating in eastern Panjwayi District

TF Ready First / 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division (Col. Kenneth Adgie, USA)—Camp Nathan Smith; operating in Kandahar City and northern and western Kandahar Province⁷¹

TF Ripcord / 503rd Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Terry Nihart, USA)—Camp Nathan Smith; Afghan police advisors⁷²

TF Blackhawk / 6-1 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Kevin Wallace, USA)—Camp Nathan Smith; operating in Kandahar City

TF 2-3 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Paul Weyrauch, USA)—FOB Frontenac; operating in Shah Wali Kot District

TF Buffalo / 4-17 Infantry (Lt. Col. James Van Atta, USA)—Camp Nathan Smith; operating in Arghandab District

TF Spartan / 1-36 Infantry (Lt. Col. Kevin Admiral, USA)—FOB Azizullah; operating in Maywand District

TF Rifle / 3-41 Infantry (Lt. Col. Tom Anderson, USA)—FOB Pasab; operating in Zhari District

Regional Command Southwest / I Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward) (Maj. Gen. Charles Gurganus, USMC) Camp Leatherneck; operating in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces⁷³

TF Helmand / 4th Mechanized Brigade (Brig. Bob Bruce, UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; operating in central Helmand Province⁷⁴

Brigade Advisory Group / 1 Royal Regiment of Scotland (Lt. Col. Ben Wrench, UK)—Camp Tombstone; Afghan army advisors⁷⁵

Combined Force Nahr-e-Saraj (North) / 40 Commando (Lt. Col. Matt Jackson, UK)—FOB Price, Gereshk; operating in central Nahr-e-Saraj District⁷⁶

Combined Force Nahr-e-Saraj (South) / 1 Scots Guards (Lt. Col. Robert Howieson, UK)—operating in southern Nahr-e-Saraj District⁷⁷

Joint Engineer Group / 21 Engineer Regiment (UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; brigade engineer support⁷⁸

Joint Fires Group / 4 Regiment Royal Artillery (UK)—U/I location; brigade artillery support⁷⁹

Transition Support Unit Lashkar Gah / 1 Duke of Lancaster's Regiment (UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; operating in Lashkar Gah District⁸⁰

Transition Support Unit Nad-e-Ali / 1 Mercian Regiment (UK)—FOB Shawqat; operating in Nad-e-Ali District⁸¹

Royal Dragoon Guards (UK)—Camp Bastion; elements advising Afghan police⁸²

Queen's Royal Lancers (UK)—Camp Bastion; elements advising Afghan police and conducting airfield security⁸³

1 Royal Gurkha Rifles (UK)—U/I location

Team 14 / Jutland Dragoon Regiment (Col. Kresten Hedegard, Denmark)—Camp Bastion; training Afghan forces⁸⁴

Regimental Combat Team 7 (Col. Austin Renforth, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; operating in northern and southern Helmand Province and Nimruz Province⁸⁵

2/7 Marines (Lt. Col. Donald Tomich, USMC)—FOB Jackson, Sangin; operating in northern Helmand Province⁸⁶

3/9 Marines (USMC)—FOB Geronimo, Nawa; operating in southern Helmand Province⁸⁷

12th Light Infantry Battalion (Georgia)—U/I location⁸⁸

32nd Light Infantry Battalion (Georgia)—COP Shukvani; operating in southern Musa Qala District⁸⁹

3rd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward) (Brig. Gen. Gregg Sturdevant, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; aviation support in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces⁹⁰

Marine Attack Squadron 211 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; fixed-wing close air support⁹¹

Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 361 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; heavy transport aviation⁹²

Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 169 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; attack aviation⁹³

Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 161 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; medium transport aviation⁹⁴

Joint Aviation Group (UK)—Camp Leatherneck; headquarters for British aviation units

Joint Helicopter Force Afghanistan (UK)—Camp Leatherneck; aviation support for TF Helmand⁹⁵

No. 2 Squadron Royal Air Force (UK)—Kandahar Airfield; close air support for TF Helmand⁹⁶

39 Squadron Royal Air Force (UK)—Kandahar Airfield; drone support for TF Helmand⁹⁷

Regional Command West / “Taurinense” Alpine Brigade (Brig. Gen. Dario Mari Ranieri, Italy) Camp Arena, Herat; operating in Badghis, Farah, Ghor, and Herat Provinces⁹⁸

TF Badghis (Spain)—Qala-e-Naw; operating in Badghis Province

TF Center / 3rd Alpine Regiment (Italy)—FOB La Marmora, Shindand; operating in southern Herat Province

TF Fenice / 7th Aviation Regiment (Italy)—Herat Airfield; aviation support in western Afghanistan

TF Genio / 32nd Engineer Regiment (Italy)—Camp Arena, Herat; engineer support for western Afghanistan

TF South / 9th Alpine Regiment (Col. Riccardo Cristoni, Italy)—Camp El Alamein, Farah; operating in western Farah Province

TF Southeast / 2nd Alpine Regiment (Col. Cristiano Chiti, Italy)—FOB Lavaredo, Bakwa District; operating in eastern Farah Province

3-144 Infantry (Lt. Col. John Herrera, USA)—U/I location; operating in western Afghanistan⁹⁹

Major changes since January 1, 2013:

—Relief of 2nd SBCT, 2nd ID by 1st SBCT, 1st AD in Kandahar Province

—Relief of 25th CAB by 3rd CAB in RC-South

NOTES

¹ Established in the summer of 2012, SOJTF-A/NSOCC-A is a two-star headquarters that oversees all three allied SOF commands in Afghanistan: CJSOTF-A, ISAF SOF, and the “black” special operations forces of the U.S. Joint Special Operations Command task force. See USSOCOM Fact Book 2013.

² CJSOTF-A is headquartered by troops from the 3rd Special Forces Group. Its core tasks are to advise the Afghan National Army’s special operations forces (the Afghan commando kandaks and Special Forces) and to train and advise the local police forces associated with the Village Stability Operations program. CJSOTF-A controls six battalion-level task forces: two built around Army Special Forces battalions, two around Army infantry battalions, one around a Marine special operations battalion, and one around a Navy SEAL team. Navy

Combat Camera Command Detachment I210, “CJSOTF-A Presentation,” June 2012.

³ 2-7 Infantry relieved 1-30 Infantry in October 2012. TF Balkh mixes conventional and special operations troops. See battalion Facebook page.

⁴ 3-69 Armor deployed in November 2012. TF Balkh mixes conventional and special operations troops. See battalion Facebook page.

⁵ Established in 2007, ISAF SOF is a one-star, brigade-level headquarters that oversees most non-U.S. special operations forces in Afghanistan as well as one U.S. special operations unit, TF 10. Command of ISAF SOF appears to rotate between British and Australian officers; Brig. Mark Smethurst was in command as of March 2012.

⁶ The ISAF SOTGs, some battalion-size and some company-size, support the various regional commands, often by advising elite Afghan Interior Ministry units, and are designated as numbered task forces. For example, press reports mention TF 10 (a company from the U.S. 10th Special Forces Group) in RC-Capital; TF 45 (Italian SOF) in RC-West; TF 47 (German SOF) in RC-North; TF 49 and TF 50 (Polish SOF) in Ghazni and other areas in RC-East and RC-South; TF 444 (British SOF) in Helmand; and TF 66 (Australian SOF) in Uruzgan and Kandahar.

⁷ CJSOAC-A is composed of helicopter, fixed-wing, and unmanned aviation units from the U.S. Air Force Special Operations Command, the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, and conventional U.S. Army aviation units.

⁸ 9th AETF-A does not fall under ISAF command, but its commander is dual-hatted as Deputy Commander (Air) of USFOR-A. It exercises only partial control of the wings and squadrons below it; day-to-day tactical control of those units is exercised by U.S. Air Force Central’s Combined Air and Space Operations Center in the Persian Gulf.

⁹ 26th ERQS is an HH-60G squadron. Kandahar Airfield web site.

¹⁰ 46th ERQS is a “Guardian Angel” squadron of medical and rescue specialists who work aboard 26th ERQS’s HH-60Gs. Kandahar Airfield web site.

¹¹ 76th ERQS is an HC-130P squadron. Tech. Sgt. Beth Del Vecchio, “76th ERQS Flies So That Others May Live,” DVIDS, January 30, 2012.

¹² 361st ERS is equipped with MC-12 manned airplanes and MQ-1 and MQ-9 drones. Kandahar Airfield web site.

¹³ This F-16 squadron deployed in August 2012.

¹⁴ 772nd EAS is a C-130 squadron. Kandahar Airfield web site.

¹⁵ 4th ERS is an MC-12 squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.

¹⁶ 33rd ERQS is a “Guardian Angel” squadron of medical and rescue specialists who work aboard 83rd ERQS’s HH-60Gs. Bagram Airfield web site.

¹⁷ 62nd ERS is an MQ-1 and MQ-9 drone squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.

¹⁸ 83rd ERQS is an HH-60G squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.

¹⁹ 335th EFS relieved 389th EFS in September 2011. It is an F-15E squadron. Airman 1st Class Mariah Tolbert, “SJAFB Deploys Work Force,” U.S. Air Force, September 12, 2011.

²⁰ 354th EFS is an A-10C squadron that relieved 184th EFS in October 2012.

²¹ 774th EAS is a C-130 squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.

²² VMAQ-3 relieved VMAQ-2 in early October 2012. It is an EA-6B squadron.

²³ 333rd MP Brigade relieved 42nd MP Brigade in November 2012. See brigade Facebook page.

²⁴ MCC(SW) Maria Yager, CJJATF-435, “Navy Military Police Battalion Changes Command, Swaps Crew,” May 13, 2011.

²⁵ This battalion deployed in July-August 2012.

²⁶ This battalion deployed in late August 2012.

²⁷ This battalion deployed in early 2012.

²⁸ 2 RCR relieved 3 PPCLI in March 2012. See Operation Attention web site.

²⁹ 1-167 relieved 1-134 Field Artillery in late August 2012.

³⁰ The current command teams of the six regional support commands arrived in May-July 2012.

³¹ V Corps relieved I Corps as the headquarters of the IJC in June 2012.

³² The Navy’s EOD Group Two relieved the Army’s 71st Ordnance Group as CJTF Paladin in late June 2012. Lt. j.g. Andrew Carleen, “Navy Takes Over Counter-IED Task Force in Afghanistan,” DVIDS, June 29, 2012.

³³ 84th EOD Battalion deployed in late March 2012. See battalion Facebook page.

³⁴ 3rd EOD Battalion relieved 192nd EOD Battalion in late August 2012.

³⁵ EODMU-6 left Afghanistan in August 2011 and had returned as of July 2012.

³⁶ JTF Empire relieved the 18th Engineer Brigade, which had been responsible for only northern and eastern Afghanistan, in June 2012. Staff Sgt. Derek Smith, “411th Engineers

Assume Control of Operations in Afghanistan,” DVIDS, June 12, 2012.

³⁷ 1st Engineer Battalion relieved 7th Engineer Battalion in October 2012. See battalion Facebook page.

³⁸ 20th Engineer Battalion relieved 980th Engineer Battalion in November 2012. See JTF Empire newsletter.

³⁹ 120th Engineer Battalion relieved 223rd Engineer Battalion in September 2012.

⁴⁰ 178th Engineer Battalion likely relieved 578th Engineer Battalion in September 2012.

⁴¹ 507th Engineer Battalion relieved 14th Engineer Battalion in July 2012.

⁴² NMCB-133 relieved NMCB-II in September 2012.

⁴³ The current headquarters of RC-Capital arrived in November 2011. ISAF.NATO.int, “Subordinate Commands | RC-Capital.”

⁴⁴ 1st Infantry Division took over as RC-East in April 2012. See RC-East Facebook page.

⁴⁵ TF Bullwhip relieved 716th MP Battalion in December 2012. See 101st Sustainment Brigade Facebook page.

⁴⁶ 793rd MP Battalion deployed in October 2012. See battalion Facebook page.

⁴⁷ 1st SFAB, 101st Airborne relieved 4th BCT, 4th ID and advisor teams from 2nd BCT, 101st Airborne in early December 2012. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.

⁴⁸ 173rd ABCT relieved 3rd BCT, 1st AD in July 2012. See brigade and battalion Facebook pages.

⁴⁹ TF 222 is built around an unidentified Jordanian Ranger battalion. The battalions appear to rotate in roughly December and June. Maj. Ashraf al-Adwan, “A Lasting Partnership.”

⁵⁰ 101st CAB relieved 82nd CAB in September 2012. Each of its battalion task forces combines UH-60, CH-47, AH-64, and OH-58 companies and provides direct support to a BCT. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.

⁵¹ TF ODIN-A III relieved TF ODIN-A II in June 2011. ODIN stands for Observe-Detect-Identify-Neutralize. The unit operates the MQ-1C and RQ-5 UAVs and various versions of the C-12 and C-35 airplanes. Pfc. Michael Syner, 10th CAB, “306th Military Intelligence Battalions Takes Reins of TF ODIN,” June 16, 2011.

⁵² 4th BCT, 1st ID relieved 172nd BCT in June 2012. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.

⁵³ 7e BB relieved 2e BB as TF La Fayette in November 2012, when the French combat mission in Afghanistan ended.

⁵⁴ DefenceReviewAsia.com, “Afghanistan: The Year of the Tiger,” May 26, 2010.

⁵⁵ 92e RI relieved 1er RI as GTIA Surobi in June 2012. 1st Lt. Cecile Canali, “French Battle Group Picardie Becomes French Battle Group Wild Geese,” June 19, 2012.

⁵⁶ 4th SFAB, 1st Cavalry is the first SFAB to deploy, arriving in November 2012 with a total of about 1,400 soldiers (each of its battalions deployed with less than half its soldiers). The brigade relieved French units from TF LaFayette that relocated to Kabul. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.

⁵⁷ 3rd BCT, 101st Airborne relieved 4th Airborne BCT, 25th ID in early October 2012. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.

⁵⁸ 6th Airborne Brigade relieved 15th Mechanized Brigade as TF White Eagle in April 2012.

⁵⁹ The current headquarters of RC-North arrived in March 2012. ISAF.NATO.int, “Subordinate Commands | RC-North.”

⁶⁰ Paratrooper Battalion 263 took over as TF Kunduz in January 2011.

⁶¹ Jager Battalion 292 relieved Mechanized Infantry Battalion 212 as TF MES in August 2011 (which relieved Mountain Infantry Battalion 232 in April 2011). RC-North Facebook page, August 20, 2011.

⁶² See RC-North Facebook page.

⁶³ 3-7 Cavalry relieved 1-125 Infantry in early September 2012. See squadron Facebook page.

⁶⁴ 3rd ID relieved the 82nd Airborne as RC-South in early September 2012. See division Facebook page.

⁶⁵ CTU is a composite headquarters made up of U.S. and Australian personnel. Although the commander of CTU is an Australian officer, who relieved American leadership in October 2012, much of CTU’s headquarters is formed from 2nd BCT, 3rd ID, an American brigade headquarters whose commander acts as CTU’s deputy commander. See CTU Facebook page.

⁶⁶ MTF-6 relieved MTF-5 in late November 2012. See CTU Facebook page.

⁶⁷ 2nd Maneuver Battalion relieved 21st Mountain Battalion in January or early February 2013.

⁶⁸ 33rd Mountain Battalion relieved 280th Mechanized Infantry Battalion in late July or early August 2012. Romanian Ministry of National Defense press release, August 20, 2012.

⁶⁹ 25th CAB relieved 159th CAB in February 2012. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.

⁷⁰ 4th SBCT, 2nd ID relieved 3rd SBCT, 2nd ID in late November 2012. See brigade Facebook page.

- ⁷¹ 1st SBCT, 1st AD relieved 2nd SBCT, 2nd ID in early January 2013. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.
- ⁷² 503rd MP Battalion relieved 385th MP Battalion in May 2012. See DVIDS.
- ⁷³ I MEF (Forward) took over as RC-Southwest in March 2012. Dan Lamothe, "New Marine Commanders Take Over in Afghanistan," *MilitaryTimes.com*, March 1, 2012.
- ⁷⁴ 4th Mechanized Brigade relieved 12th Mechanized Brigade in October 2012.
- ⁷⁵ I Scots relieved 3 Rifles in October 2012.
- ⁷⁶ 40 Commando relieved 1 Grenadier Guards in late September 2012.
- ⁷⁷ I Scots Guards relieved 3 Yorks in October or November 2012.
- ⁷⁸ 21 Engineer Regiment relieved 26 Engineer Regiment in October 2012. See regiment web site.
- ⁷⁹ 4 Regiment RA relieved 19 Regiment RA in October 2012.
- ⁸⁰ 1 LANCS relieved The King's Royal Hussars in October 2012.
- ⁸¹ 1 Mercian relieved 1 Royal Anglian Regiment in Nad-e-Ali in October 2012. See battalion Facebook page.
- ⁸² One of RDG's two squadrons acts as the Brigade Recce Force, and one acts as part of the Police Mentoring and Advisory Group.
- ⁸³ One QRL squadron acts as part of the Police Mentoring and Advisory Group while another performs airfield security.
- ⁸⁴ Team 14 relieved Team 13 in early August 2012.
- ⁸⁵ RCT-7 relieved RCT-6 in late October 2012. See regimental Facebook page.
- ⁸⁶ 2/7 Marines took the place of two to three other Marine battalions in late September 2012.
- ⁸⁷ 3/9 Marines relieved 3/8 in November 2012.
- ⁸⁸ 12th LIB relieved 23rd LIB in October 2012. See Georgian Defense Ministry web site.
- ⁸⁹ 32nd LIB deployed in October 2012, boosting the Georgian presence in Afghanistan to two battalions. See Georgian Defense Ministry web site.
- ⁹⁰ 3rd MAW (Forward) relieved 2nd MAW (Forward) in late February 2012. Cpl. Lisa Tourtelot, "San Diego-Based Marines Assume Aviation Command in Afghanistan," DVIDS, March 1, 2012.
- ⁹¹ VMA-211 is an AV-8B squadron that relieved VMA-223 in May 2012.
- ⁹² HMH-361 is a CH-53E squadron that relieved HMH-362 in fall 2012.
- ⁹³ HMLA-169 is an AH-1W and UH-1Y squadron that relieved HMLA-469 in November 2012.
- ⁹⁴ VMM-161 is an MV-22B Osprey squadron that relieved VMM-365 in July 2012.
- ⁹⁵ JHF(A) is made up of British Army, Royal Air Force, and Royal Navy units. It operates a variety of attack and lift helicopters.
- ⁹⁶ No. 2 Squadron, a Tornado GR4 squadron, relieved 617 Squadron in March 2012.
- ⁹⁷ 39 Squadron is a Reaper UAV squadron.
- ⁹⁸ The Taurinense Brigade relieved the Garibaldi Brigade as RC-West in mid-September 2012.
- ⁹⁹ 3-144 Infantry relieved 2-108 Infantry in September 2012. See battalion Facebook page.



COALITION COMBAT FORCES IN AFGHANISTAN

AFGHANISTAN ORDER OF BATTLE

BY WESLEY MORGAN MARCH 2013

This document describes the composition and placement of U.S. and other Western combat and advisory forces in Afghanistan down to battalion level. It includes the following categories of units: maneuver (i.e. infantry, armor, and cavalry) units, which in most cases are responsible for advising or partnering with Afghan troops in particular districts or provinces; artillery units; aviation units, both rotary and fixed-wing; military police units; most types of engineer and explosive ordnance disposal units; and “white” special operations forces. It does not include “black” special operations units or other units such as logistical, transportation, medical, and intelligence units or Provincial Reconstruction Teams.

International Security Assistance Force / United States Forces Afghanistan (Gen. John Allen, USMC) ISAF Headquarters, Kabul

Special Operations Joint Task Force Afghanistan / NATO Special Operations Component Command Afghanistan (Maj. Gen. Raymond Thomas III, USA) Camp Integrity, Kabul¹

Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force—Afghanistan (USA)—Bagram Airfield; village stability operations, advisors to Afghan Defense Ministry special operations forces, and other missions²

Special Operations Task Force—East (USA)—Bagram Airfield; operating in eastern Afghanistan

Special Operations Task Force—South (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; operating in Kandahar Province

Special Operations Task Force—South-East (USN)—U/I location; operating in Uruzgan and Zabul Provinces

Special Operations Task Force—West (USMC)—Camp Lawton, Herat; operating in western Afghanistan and Helmand Province

TF Balkh / 2-7 Infantry (Lt. Col. Todd Kelly, USA)—Camp Mike Spann, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in northern Afghanistan³

TF Paktika / 3-69 Armor (Lt. Col. Orestees Davenport, USA)—FOB Sharana; operating in Paktika Province⁴

ISAF Special Operations Forces / Special Operations Command and Control Element (Brig. Mark Smethurst, Australia)—Kabul; advisors to Afghan Interior Ministry special operations forces⁵

Regional Special Operations Task Groups—located around Afghanistan⁶

Combined Joint Special Operations Aviation Component—Afghanistan (USAF/USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support to SOJTF-A special operations forces⁷

9th Air and Space Expeditionary Task Force Afghanistan (Maj. Gen. H.D. Polumbo, USAF) Kabul International Airport; oversees U.S. Air Force units in Afghanistan⁸

451st Air Expeditionary Wing (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; air support in southern and western Afghanistan

26th Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; medical evacuation support⁹

46th Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Camp Bastion and Kandahar Airfield; medical evacuation support¹⁰

76th Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Camp Bastion; medical evacuation support¹¹

361st Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support¹²

179th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; close air support¹³

772nd Expeditionary Airlift Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; transport support¹⁴

455th Air Expeditionary Wing (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; air support in eastern and northern Afghanistan

4th Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support¹⁵

33rd Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; medical evacuation support¹⁶

62nd Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support¹⁷

83rd Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; medical evacuation support¹⁸

354th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; close air support¹⁹

391st Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; close air support²⁰

774th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; transport support²¹

Marine Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron 3 (USMC)—Bagram Airfield; counter-IED mission²²

Combined Joint Interagency Task Force 435 (Lt. Gen. Keith Huber, USA) Kabul; responsible for rule-of-law and detention operations

TF Titan / 333rd Military Police Brigade (Brig. Gen. Philip Churn, USA)—Parwan Detention Facility; detention operations²³

Task Group Trident / Navy Military Police Battalion—Afghanistan (USN)—Parwan Detention Facility; detainee guard force²⁴

160th Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Terry Robey, USA)—Parwan Detention Facility²⁵

384th Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Kevin Keen, USA)—Parwan Detention Facility; Afghan army detention advisors²⁶

535th Military Police Battalion (USA)—Parwan Detention Facility; investigation force²⁷

NATO Training Mission Afghanistan / Combined Security Transition Command Afghanistan (Lt. Gen. Daniel Bolger, USA) Camp Eggers, Kabul; responsible for training Afghan security forces

U/I infantry battalion (Canada)—Camp Alamo, Kabul, and other locations; training Afghan forces and national and regional training centers²⁸

TF Centurion Prime / I-167 Infantry (Lt. Col. J.R. Bass, USA)—Camp Eggers, Kabul; NTM-A security force²⁹

Regional Support Command Capital (Col. Marlin Remigio, USA)—Camp Phoenix; training Afghan forces in Kabul³⁰

Regional Support Command East (Col. Ronald Metternich, USA)—Bagram Airfield; training Afghan forces in eastern Afghanistan

Regional Support Command North (Col. Ted Donnelly, USA)—Camp Mike Spann, Mazar-e-Sharif; training Afghan forces in northern Afghanistan

Regional Support Command South (Col. Christopher Reed, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; training Afghan forces in southern Afghanistan

Regional Support Command Southwest (Col. Scott Arnold, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; training Afghan forces in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces

Regional Support Command West (Col. Rod Arrington, USMC)—Camp Stone, Herat; training Afghan forces in western Afghanistan

ISAF Joint Command / V Corps (Lt. Gen. James Terry, USA) Kabul International Airport; countrywide operational headquarters³¹

Combined Joint Task Force Paladin / Explosive Ordnance Disposal Group Two (Capt. Timothy Rudderow, USN)—Bagram Airfield; overseeing counter-IED operations countrywide³²

TF Paladin East / 84th EOD Battalion (USA)—Bagram Airfield; counter-IED operations in eastern Afghanistan³³

TF Paladin South / 3rd EOD Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; counter-IED operations in southern Afghanistan³⁴

TF Paladin Southwest (USN)—Camp Leatherneck, Helmand; counter-IED operations in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces³⁵

Joint Task Force Triple Nickel / 555th Engineer Brigade (Col. Nicholas Katers, USA)—Bagram Airfield; overseeing engineer operations countrywide³⁶

TF Diehard / 1st Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Thomas Hairgrove, USA)—FOB Shank, Logar; engineer support in N2KL and in Ghazni, Logar, and Wardak Provinces³⁷

TF Lumberjack / 20th Engineer Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; construction support in Kandahar Province³⁸

TF Outlaw / 120th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Jack Ritter, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; route clearance in southern Afghanistan³⁹

TF Prowler / 178th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Corol Dobson, USA)—U/I location; likely at FOB Sharana for route clearance in Paktya, Paktika, and Khost Provinces⁴⁰

TF Warhammer / 507th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. William Myer, USA)—Camp Leatherneck; route clearance in southwestern and western Afghanistan⁴¹

TF Anchor / Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 133 (Cmdr. Nicholas Yamodis, USN)—Camp Leatherneck; construction support in Helmand Province⁴²

Regional Command Capital (Brig. Gen. Levent Gozkaya, Turkey) Camp Warehouse, Kabul; operating in Kabul Province⁴³

1st Battalion Motorized Task Force (Turkey)—Camp Dogan, Kabul

2nd Battalion Motorized Task Force (Turkey)—Camp Gazi, Kabul

Regional Command East / 1st Infantry Division (Maj. Gen. Bill Mayville, USA) Bagram Airfield; operating in fourteen eastern provinces⁴⁴

TF Bullwhip / U/I Military Police Battalion—Camp Julien, Kabul; advising Afghan police in northern RC-East⁴⁵

TF Spartan / 793rd Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Stephen Gabavics, USA)—U/I location; advising Afghan police in southern RC-East⁴⁶

TF Bastogne / 1st Security Force Assistance Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Col. J.P. McGee, USA)—Jalalabad Airfield; operating in Kunar, Nangarhar, and Nuristan Provinces⁴⁷

TF Bulldog / 1-327 Infantry (USA)—FOB Finley-Shields; operating in Nangarhar Province

TF No Slack / 2-327 Infantry (Lt. Col. Brian Sullivan, USA)—FOB Joyce, Chawkey District; operating in Kunar Province

TF 2-320 Field Artillery (USA)—U/I location; brigade artillery support and advisor teams

TF Bayonet / 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team (Col. Andrew Rohling, USA)—FOB Shank, Logar; operating in Logar and Wardak Provinces⁴⁸

TF Nashmi / TF 222 (Jordan)—FOB Shank; operating in Logar Province⁴⁹

TF Saber / 1-91 Cavalry (USA)—FOB Shank; operating in Logar Province

TF King / 4-319 Airborne Field Artillery (USA)—FOB Shank; brigade artillery support

TF Rock / 2-503 Airborne Infantry (Lt. Col. Michael Larsen, USA)—COP Sayad Abad; operating in Wardak Province

TF Commandos / 2nd Security Force Assistance Brigade, 10th Mountain Division (Col. Dennis Sullivan, USA)—FOB Sharana; operating in Paktika Province⁵⁰

TF Golden Dragons / 2-14 Infantry (Lt. Col. Robert Fouche, USA)—FOB Orgun; operating in eastern Paktika Province

TF Allons / 2-15 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Christopher Wendland, USA)—FOB Sharana; brigade artillery support

TF Wolverine / 1-89 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Robert Griggs, USA)—FOB Sharana; operating in western Paktika Province

TF Destiny / 101st Combat Aviation Brigade (Col. Paul Bontrager, USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support in eastern and northern Afghanistan⁵¹

TF Condor / 1-101 Attack Aviation (USA)—FOB Salerno; aviation support in Khost and Paktya Provinces

TF Eagle Assault / 5-101 Assault Aviation (USA)—FOB Shank; aviation support in Logar and Wardak Provinces

TF Shadow / 6-101 General Support Aviation (USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support in Bamyan, Laghman, Panjshir, and Parwan Provinces

TF Shadow Warrior / 1-104 Attack Aviation (USA)—FOB Kunduz; aviation support in RC-North

TF Dragon / 1-501 Attack Aviation (USA)—Jalalabad Airfield; aviation support in Kunar, Nangarhar, and Nuristan Provinces

TF ODIN-A (USA)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support for eastern Afghanistan⁵²

TF La Fayette / 7th Armored Brigade (Brig. Gen. Francisco Soriano, France)—Camp Warehouse, Kabul; overseeing withdrawal of French forces⁵³

TF Mousquetaire / BATHELICO (France)—Kabul International Airport; aviation support in Kabul and Kapisa Provinces⁵⁴

U/I infantry battalion or regiment (France)—Camp Warehouse, Kabul; quick reaction force⁵⁵

TF Long Knife / 4th Security Force Assistance Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division (Col. Bill Benson, USA)—FOB Gamberi; operating in Kapisa, Laghman, and Parwan Provinces⁵⁶

TF Garry Owen / 2-7 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Robert Kuth, USA)—FOB Naghlu High, Kapisa; operating in Kapisa Province

TF Headhunter / 1-9 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Jose Polanco, USA)—Bagram Airfield; operating in Parwan Province

TF Thunderhorse / 2-12 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Monte Rone, USA)—FOB Mehtar Lam; operating in Laghman Province

TF Black Dragon / 5-82 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. William Johnson, USA)—FOB Gamberi; brigade artillery support

TF Rakkasan / 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Col. R.J. Lillibridge, USA)—FOB Salerno, Khost; operating in Khost and Paktya Provinces⁵⁷

TF War Rakkasan / 1-33 Cavalry (USA)—Camp Clark, Khost; operating in western Khost Province

TF Leader Rakkasan / 1-187 Parachute Infantry (Lt. Col. Kelly Kendrick, USA)—FOB Gardez; operating in Paktya Province

TF Iron Rakkasan / 3-187 Infantry (Lt. Col. Pat Work, USA)—FOB Salerno; operating in eastern Khost Province

TF Red Knight / 3-320 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Shannon Mosakowski, USA)—FOB Salerno; brigade artillery support

TF Warrior / 1st Security Force Assistance Brigade, 10th Mountain Division (Col. Stephen Michael, USA)—FOB Warrior; operating in southern and eastern Ghazni Province⁵⁸

TF 3-6 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Mike Oeschger, USA)—U/I location

TF 2-22 Infantry (USA)—FOB Warrior; operating in southern Ghazni Province

TF Summit / 1-87 Infantry (Lt. Col. Daniel Morgan, USA)—FOB Arian; operating in eastern Ghazni Province

TF White Eagle / 12th Mechanized Brigade (Poland)—FOB Ghazni; operating in northern Ghazni Province⁵⁹

Battle Group Alpha (Poland)—FOB Ghazni; operating in northern Ghazni Province

Battle Group Bravo (Poland)—U/I location; operating in northern Ghazni Province

Regional Command North (Maj. Gen. Erich Pfeffer, Germany) Camp Marmal, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in nine northern provinces⁶⁰

TF Kunduz (Germany)—FOB Kunduz; operating in eastern RC-North⁶¹

TF Mazar-e-Sharif (Germany)—Camp Marmal; operating in western RC-North⁶²

Expeditionary Air Wing Mazar-e-Sharif (Germany)—Camp Marmal; fixed- and rotary-wing aviation support for northern Afghanistan⁶³

TF Garry Owen / 3-7 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Lance Varney, USA)—FOB Kunduz; operating in Kunduz Province⁶⁴

Regional Command South / 3rd Infantry Division (Maj. Gen. Robert “Abe” Abrams, USA) Kandahar Airfield; operating in Kandahar, Uruzgan, and Zabul Provinces⁶⁵

Combined Team Uruzgan (Col. Simon Stuart, Australia)—Camp Holland, Tarin Kowt; operating in Uruzgan Province⁶⁶

Mentoring Task Force 6 / 7 Royal Australian Regiment (Lt. Col. Malcolm Wells, Australia)—Camp Holland; operating in Uruzgan Province⁶⁷

TF Raider / 1st Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division (Col. James Crider, USA)—FOB Apache, Qalat; operating in Zabul Province

TF Blackhawk / 2-1 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Chuck Lombardo, USA)—FOB Apache; operating in Zabul Province

TF Garryowen / 5-7 Cavalry (USA)—U/I location

TF I-41 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Thomas Hawn, USA)—FOB Lagman, Qalat; operating in Zabul Province

Maneuver Battalion 1 / 2nd Maneuver Battalion (Romania)—FOB Apache, Qalat; operating along Highway 1 in Zabul Province⁶⁸

Maneuver Battalion 2 / 33rd Mountain Battalion (Romania)—FOB Bullard, Shah Joy District; operating along Highway 1 in Zabul Province⁶⁹

TF Falcon / 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade (Col. Allan Pepin, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in southern and western Afghanistan⁷⁰

TF Viper / 1-3 Attack Aviation (Lt. Col. Kelly Hines, USA)—FOB Wolverine, Zabul; aviation support in Zabul Province

TF Knighthawk / 2-3 General Support Aviation (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in Kandahar Province

TF Brawler / 4-3 Assault Aviation (USA)—FOB Tarin Kowt; aviation support in Uruzgan Province

TF Lighthorse / 3-17 Air Cavalry (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in Kandahar Province

TF Dragoon / 4th Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division (Col. Michael Getchell, USA)—FOB Masum Ghar, Panjwayi; operating in southern and eastern Kandahar Province⁷¹

TF Manchu / 4-9 Infantry (Lt. Col. James Dooghan, USA)—U/I location; operating in western Panjwayi District

TF Viking / 2-12 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. William Downing, USA)—FOB Lindsey; operating east of Kandahar City

TF Tomahawk / 2-23 Infantry (Lt. Col. Tom Feltey, USA)—FOB Spin Boldak; operating in Spin Boldak District

TF Rosser / 1-38 Infantry (Lt. Col. Chad Sundem, USA)—FOB Shoja; operating in eastern Panjwayi District

TF Ready First / 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division (Col. Kenneth Adgie, USA)—Camp Nathan Smith; operating in Kandahar City and northern and western Kandahar Province⁷²

TF Ripcord / 503rd Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Terry Nihart, USA)—Camp Nathan Smith; Afghan police advisors⁷³

TF Blackhawk / 6-1 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Kevin Wallace, USA)—Camp Nathan Smith; operating in Kandahar City

TF 2-3 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Paul Weyrauch, USA)—FOB Frontenac; operating in Shah Wali Kot District

TF Buffalo / 4-17 Infantry (Lt. Col. James Van Atta, USA)—Camp Nathan Smith; operating in Arghandab District

TF Spartan / 1-36 Infantry (Lt. Col. Kevin Admiral, USA)—FOB Azizullah; operating in Maywand District

TF Rifle / 3-41 Infantry (Lt. Col. Tom Anderson, USA)—FOB Pasab; operating in Zhari District

Regional Command Southwest / II Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward) (Maj. Gen. Lee Miller, USMC) Camp Leatherneck; operating in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces⁷⁴

TF Helmand / 4th Mechanized Brigade (Brig. Bob Bruce, UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; operating in central Helmand Province⁷⁵

Brigade Advisory Group / 1 Royal Regiment of Scotland (Lt. Col. Ben Wrench, UK)—Camp Tombstone; Afghan army advisors⁷⁶

Combined Force Nahr-e-Saraj (North) / 40 Commando (Lt. Col. Matt Jackson, UK)—FOB Price, Gereshk; operating in central Nahr-e-Saraj District⁷⁷

Combined Force Nahr-e-Saraj (South) / 1 Scots Guards (Lt. Col. Robert Howieson, UK)—operating in southern Nahr-e-Saraj District⁷⁸

Joint Engineer Group / 21 Engineer Regiment (UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; brigade engineer support⁷⁹

Joint Fires Group / 4 Regiment Royal Artillery (UK)—U/I location; brigade artillery support⁸⁰

Transition Support Unit Lashkar Gah / 1 Duke of Lancaster's Regiment (UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; operating in Lashkar Gah District⁸¹

Transition Support Unit Nad-e-Ali / 1 Mercian Regiment (UK)—FOB Shawqat; operating in Nad-e-Ali District⁸²

Royal Dragoon Guards (UK)—Camp Bastion; elements advising Afghan police⁸³

Queen's Royal Lancers (UK)—Camp Bastion; elements advising Afghan police and conducting airfield security⁸⁴

1 Royal Gurkha Rifles (UK)—U/I location

Team 14 / Jutland Dragoon Regiment (Col. Kresten Hedegard, Denmark)—Camp Bastion; training Afghan forces⁸⁵

Regimental Combat Team 7 (Col. Austin Renforth, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; operating in northern and southern Helmand Province and Nimruz Province⁸⁶

2/7 Marines (Lt. Col. Donald Tomich, USMC)—FOB Jackson, Sangin; operating in northern Helmand Province⁸⁷

3/9 Marines (USMC)—FOB Geronimo, Nawa; operating in southern Helmand Province⁸⁸

12th Light Infantry Battalion (Georgia)—U/I location⁸⁹

32nd Light Infantry Battalion (Georgia)—COP Shukvani; operating in southern Musa Qala District⁹⁰

2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward) (Brig. Gen. Gary Thomas, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; aviation support in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces⁹¹

Marine Attack Squadron 231 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; fixed-wing close air support⁹²

Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 361 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; heavy transport aviation⁹³

Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 169 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; attack aviation⁹⁴

Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 161 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; medium transport aviation⁹⁵

Joint Aviation Group (UK)—Camp Leatherneck; headquarters for British aviation units

Joint Helicopter Force Afghanistan (UK)—Camp Leatherneck; aviation support for TF Helmand⁹⁶

IX (Bomber) Squadron Royal Air Force (UK)—Kandahar Airfield; close air support for TF Helmand⁹⁷

39 Squadron Royal Air Force (UK)—Kandahar Airfield; drone support for TF Helmand⁹⁸

Regional Command West / “Taurinense” Alpine Brigade (Brig. Gen. Dario Mari Ranieri, Italy) Camp Arena, Herat; operating in Badghis, Farah, Ghor, and Herat Provinces⁹⁹

TF Badghis (Spain)—Qala-e-Naw; operating in Badghis Province

TF Center / 3rd Alpine Regiment (Italy)—FOB La Marmora, Shindand; operating in southern Herat Province

TF Fenice / 7th Aviation Regiment (Italy)—Herat Airfield; aviation support in western Afghanistan

TF Genio / 32nd Engineer Regiment (Italy)—Camp Arena, Herat; engineer support for western Afghanistan

TF South / 9th Alpine Regiment (Col. Riccardo Cristoni, Italy)—Camp El Alamein, Farah; operating in western Farah Province

TF Southeast / 2nd Alpine Regiment (Col. Cristiano Chiti, Italy)—FOB Lavaredo, Bakwa District; operating in eastern Farah Province

3-144 Infantry (Lt. Col. John Herrera, USA)—U/I location; operating in western Afghanistan¹⁰⁰

Major changes since February 1, 2013:

—Relief of I MEF (Forward) by II MEF (Forward) as RC-Southwest

—Relief of 3rd MAW (Forward) by 2nd MAW (Forward) in RC-Southwest

—Relief of 4th BCT, 1st ID by 1st and 2nd SFABs, 10th Mountain Division in RC-East

—Relief of 411th Engineer Brigade by 555th Engineer Brigade as ISAF engineer headquarters

NOTES

¹ Established in the summer of 2012, SOJTF-A/NSOCC-A is a two-star headquarters that oversees all three allied SOF commands in Afghanistan: CJSOTF-A, ISAF SOF, and the “black” special operations forces of the U.S. Joint Special Operations Command task force. See USSOCOM Fact Book 2013.

² CJSOTF-A is headquartered by troops from the 3rd Special Forces Group. Its core tasks are to advise the Afghan National Army’s special operations forces (the Afghan commando kandaks and Special Forces) and to train and advise the local police forces associated with the Village Stability Operations program. CJSOTF-A controls six battalion-level task forces: two built around Army Special Forces battalions, two around Army infantry battalions, one around a Marine special operations battalion, and one around a Navy SEAL team. Navy Combat Camera Command Detachment 1210, “CJSOTF-A Presentation,” June 2012.

³ 2-7 Infantry relieved 1-30 Infantry in October 2012. TF Balkh mixes conventional and special operations troops. See battalion Facebook page.

⁴ 3-69 Armor deployed in November 2012. TF Balkh mixes conventional and special operations troops. See battalion Facebook page.

⁵ Established in 2007, ISAF SOF is a one-star, brigade-level headquarters that oversees most non-U.S. special operations forces in Afghanistan as well as one U.S. special operations unit, TF 10. Command of ISAF SOF appears to rotate between British and Australian officers; Brig. Mark Smethurst was in command as of March 2012.

⁶ The ISAF SOTGs, some battalion-size and some company-size, support the various regional commands, often by advising elite Afghan Interior Ministry units, and are designated as numbered task forces. For example, press reports mention TF 10 (a company from the U.S. 10th Special Forces Group) in RC-Capital; TF 45 (Italian SOF) in RC-West; TF 47 (German SOF) in RC-North; TF 49 and TF 50 (Polish SOF) in Ghazni and other areas in RC-East; TF 42 (British SOF) in Helmand; and TF 66 (Australian SOF) in Uruzgan and Kandahar.

⁷ CJSOAC-A is composed of helicopter, fixed-wing, and unmanned aviation units from the U.S. Air Force Special Operations Command, the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, and conventional U.S. Army aviation units.

⁸ 9th AETF-A does not fall under ISAF command, but its commander is dual-hatted as Deputy Commander (Air) of USFOR-A. It exercises only partial control of the wings and squadrons below it; day-to-day tactical control of those units is exercised by U.S. Air Force Central’s Combined Air and Space Operations Center in the Persian Gulf.

⁹ 26th ERQS is an HH-60G squadron. Kandahar Airfield web site.

¹⁰ 46th ERQS is a “Guardian Angel” squadron of medical and rescue specialists who work aboard 26th ERQS’s HH-60Gs. Kandahar Airfield web site.

¹¹ 76th ERQS is an HC-130P squadron. Tech. Sgt. Beth Del Vecchio, “76th ERQS Flies So That Others May Live,” DVIDS, January 30, 2012.

¹² 361st ERS is equipped with MC-12 manned airplanes and MQ-1 and MQ-9 drones. Kandahar Airfield web site.

¹³ This F-16 squadron deployed in August 2012.

¹⁴ 772nd EAS is a C-130 squadron. Kandahar Airfield web site.

¹⁵ 4th ERS is an MC-12 squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.

¹⁶ 33rd ERQS is a “Guardian Angel” squadron of medical and rescue specialists who work aboard 83rd ERQS’s HH-60Gs. Bagram Airfield web site.

¹⁷ 62nd ERS is an MQ-1 and MQ-9 drone squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.

¹⁸ 83rd ERQS is an HH-60G squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.

¹⁹ 354th EFS is an A-10C squadron that relieved 184th EFS in October 2012. See warhognews.blogspot.com.

²⁰ 391st EFS is an F-15E squadron that was in Afghanistan as of August 2012.

²¹ 774th EAS is a C-130 squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.

²² VMAQ-3 relieved VMAQ-2 in early October 2012. It is an EA-6B squadron.

²³ 333rd MP Brigade relieved 42nd MP Brigade in November 2012. See brigade Facebook page.

²⁴ MCC(SW) Maria Yager, CJIATF-435, “Navy Military Police Battalion Changes Command, Swaps Crew,” May 13, 2011.

²⁵ This battalion deployed in July-August 2012.

²⁶ This battalion deployed in late August 2012.

²⁷ This battalion deployed in early 2012.

²⁸ This Quebec-based battalion, likely from the Royal 22e Regiment, relieved 2 RCR in October 2012. See Operation Attention web site.

²⁹ I-167 relieved I-134 Field Artillery in late August 2012.

³⁰ The current command teams of the six regional support commands arrived in May-July 2012.

³¹ V Corps relieved I Corps as the headquarters of the IJC in June 2012.

³² The Navy's EOD Group Two relieved the Army's 71st Ordnance Group as CJTF Paladin in late June 2012. Lt. j.g. Andrew Carleen, "Navy Takes Over Counter-IED Task Force in Afghanistan," DVIDS, June 29, 2012.

³³ 84th EOD Battalion deployed in late March 2012. See battalion Facebook page.

³⁴ 3rd EOD Battalion relieved 192nd EOD Battalion in late August 2012.

³⁵ EODMU-6 left Afghanistan in August 2011 and had returned as of July 2012.

³⁶ JTF Empire relieved the 18th Engineer Brigade, which had been responsible for only northern and eastern Afghanistan, in June 2012. Staff Sgt. Derek Smith, "411th Engineers Assume Control of Operations in Afghanistan," DVIDS, June 12, 2012.

³⁷ 1st Engineer Battalion relieved 7th Engineer Battalion in October 2012. See battalion Facebook page.

³⁸ 20th Engineer Battalion relieved 980th Engineer Battalion in November 2012. See JTF Empire newsletter.

³⁹ 120th Engineer Battalion relieved 223rd Engineer Battalion in September 2012.

⁴⁰ 178th Engineer Battalion likely relieved 578th Engineer Battalion in September 2012.

⁴¹ 507th Engineer Battalion relieved 14th Engineer Battalion in July 2012.

⁴² NMCB-133 relieved NMCB-11 in September 2012.

⁴³ The current headquarters of RC-Capital arrived in November 2011. ISAF.NATO.int, "Subordinate Commands | RC-Capital."

⁴⁴ 1st Infantry Division took over as RC-East in April 2012. See RC-East Facebook page.

⁴⁵ TF Bullwhip relieved 716th MP Battalion in December 2012. See 101st Sustainment Brigade Facebook page.

⁴⁶ 793rd MP Battalion deployed in October 2012. See battalion Facebook page.

⁴⁷ 1st SFAB, 101st Airborne relieved 4th BCT, 4th ID and advisor teams from 2nd BCT, 101st Airborne in early December 2012. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages. A security force assistance team is typically about half the size of a brigade combat team, even if it has the same number of battalions.

⁴⁸ 173rd ABCT relieved 3rd BCT, 1st AD in July 2012. See brigade and battalion Facebook pages.

⁴⁹ TF 222 is built around an unidentified Jordanian Ranger battalion. The battalions appear to rotate in roughly December and June. Maj. Ashraf al-Adwan, "A Lasting Partnership."

⁵⁰ 2nd SFAB, 10th Mountain relieved elements of 4th BCT, 1st ID in mid-February 2013.

⁵¹ 101st CAB relieved 82nd CAB in September 2012. Each of its battalion task forces combines UH-60, CH-47, AH-64, and OH-58 companies and provides direct support to a BCT. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.

⁵² ODIN stands for Observe-Detect-Identify-Neutralize. The unit operates the MQ-1C and RQ-5 UAVs and various versions of the C-12 and C-35 airplanes.

⁵³ 7e BB relieved 2e BB as TF La Fayette in November 2012, when the French combat mission in Afghanistan ended.

⁵⁴ DefenceReviewAsia.com, "Afghanistan: The Year of the Tiger," May 26, 2010.

⁵⁵ 92e RI relieved 1er RI as GTIA Surobi in June 2012. 1st Lt. Cecile Canali, "French Battle Group Picardie Becomes French Battle Group Wild Geese," June 19, 2012.

⁵⁶ 4th SFAB, 1st Cavalry is the first SFAB to deploy, arriving in November 2012 with a total of about 1,400 soldiers (each of its battalions deployed with less than half its soldiers). The brigade relieved French units from TF LaFayette that relocated to Kabul. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.

⁵⁷ 3rd BCT, 101st Airborne relieved 4th Airborne BCT, 25th ID in early October 2012. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.

⁵⁸ 1st SFAB, 10th Mountain relieved elements of 4th BCT, 1st ID in mid-February 2013.

⁵⁹ 12th Mechanized Brigade relieved 6th Airborne Brigade as TF White Eagle around October 2012.

⁶⁰ The current headquarters of RC-North arrived in March 2012. ISAF.NATO.int, "Subordinate Commands | RC-North."

⁶¹ Paratrooper Battalion 263 took over as TF Kunduz in January 2011.

⁶² Jager Battalion 292 relieved Mechanized Infantry Battalion 212 as TF MES in August 2011 (which relieved Mountain Infantry Battalion 232 in April 2011). RC-North Facebook page, August 20, 2011.

⁶³ See RC-North Facebook page.

- ⁶⁴ 3-7 Cavalry relieved 1-125 Infantry in early September 2012. See squadron Facebook page.
- ⁶⁵ 3rd ID relieved the 82nd Airborne as RC-South in early September 2012. See division Facebook page.
- ⁶⁶ CTU is a composite headquarters made up of U.S. and Australian personnel. Although the commander of CTU is an Australian officer, who relieved American leadership in October 2012, much of CTU's headquarters is formed from 2nd BCT, 3rd ID, an American brigade headquarters whose commander acts as CTU's deputy commander. See CTU Facebook page.
- ⁶⁷ MTF-6 relieved MTF-5 in late November 2012. See CTU Facebook page.
- ⁶⁸ 2nd Maneuver Battalion relieved 21st Mountain Battalion in January or early February 2013.
- ⁶⁹ 33rd Mountain Battalion relieved 280th Mechanized Infantry Battalion in late July or early August 2012. Romanian Ministry of National Defense press release, August 20, 2012.
- ⁷⁰ 25th CAB relieved 159th CAB in February 2012. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.
- ⁷¹ 4th SBCT, 2nd ID relieved 3rd SBCT, 2nd ID in late November 2012. See brigade Facebook page.
- ⁷² 1st SBCT, 1st AD relieved 2nd SBCT, 2nd ID in early January 2013. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.
- ⁷³ 503rd MP Battalion relieved 385th MP Battalion in May 2012. See DVIDS.
- ⁷⁴ II MEF (Forward) took over as RC-Southwest in late February 2013.
- ⁷⁵ 4th Mechanized Brigade relieved 12th Mechanized Brigade in October 2012.
- ⁷⁶ 1 Scots relieved 3 Rifles in October 2012.
- ⁷⁷ 40 Commando relieved 1 Grenadier Guards in late September 2012.
- ⁷⁸ 1 Scots Guards relieved 3 Yorks in October or November 2012.
- ⁷⁹ 21 Engineer Regiment relieved 26 Engineer Regiment in October 2012. See regiment web site.
- ⁸⁰ 4 Regiment RA relieved 19 Regiment RA in October 2012.
- ⁸¹ 1 LANCS relieved The King's Royal Hussars in October 2012.
- ⁸² 1 Mercian relieved 1 Royal Anglian Regiment in Nad-e-Ali in October 2012. See battalion Facebook page.
- ⁸³ One of RDG's two squadrons acts as the Brigade Recce Force, and one acts as part of the Police Mentoring and Advisory Group.
- ⁸⁴ One QRL squadron acts as part of the Police Mentoring and Advisory Group while another performs airfield security.
- ⁸⁵ Team 14 relieved Team 13 in early August 2012.
- ⁸⁶ RCT-7 relieved RCT-6 in late October 2012. See regimental Facebook page.
- ⁸⁷ 2/7 Marines took the place of two to three other Marine battalions in late September 2012.
- ⁸⁸ 3/9 Marines relieved 3/8 in November 2012.
- ⁸⁹ 12th LIB relieved 23rd LIB in October 2012. See Georgian Defense Ministry web site.
- ⁹⁰ 32nd LIB deployed in October 2012, boosting the Georgian presence in Afghanistan to two battalions. See Georgian Defense Ministry web site.
- ⁹¹ 2nd MAW (Forward) relieved 3rd MAW (Forward) in late February 2013.
- ⁹² VMA-231 is an AV-8B squadron that relieved VMA-211 in December 2012.
- ⁹³ HMMH-361 is a CH-53E squadron that relieved HMMH-362 in fall 2012.
- ⁹⁴ HMLA-169 is an AH-1W and UH-1Y squadron that relieved HMLA-469 in November 2012.
- ⁹⁵ VMM-161 is an MV-22B Osprey squadron that relieved VMM-365 in July 2012.
- ⁹⁶ JHF(A) is made up of British Army, Royal Air Force, and Royal Navy units. It operates a variety of attack and lift helicopters.
- ⁹⁷ IX(B) Squadron, a Tornado GR4 squadron, relieved II(AC) Squadron in November 2012.
- ⁹⁸ 39 Squadron is a Reaper UAV squadron.
- ⁹⁹ The Taurinense Brigade relieved the Garibaldi Brigade as RC-West in mid-September 2012.
- ¹⁰⁰ 3-144 Infantry relieved 2-108 Infantry in September 2012. See battalion Facebook page.



Coalition Combat Forces in Afghanistan

AFGHANISTAN ORDER OF BATTLE

by Wesley Morgan April 2013

This document describes the composition and placement of U.S. and other Western combat and advisory forces in Afghanistan down to battalion level. It includes the following categories of units: maneuver (i.e. infantry, armor, and cavalry) units, which in most cases are responsible for advising or partnering with Afghan troops in particular districts or provinces; artillery units; aviation units, both rotary and fixed-wing; military police units; most types of engineer and explosive ordnance disposal units; and “white” special operations forces. It does not include “black” special operations units or other units such as logistical, transportation, medical, and intelligence units or Provincial Reconstruction Teams.

International Security Assistance Force / United States Forces—Afghanistan (Gen. John Allen, USMC)—ISAF Headquarters, Kabul

Special Operations Joint Task Force—Afghanistan / NATO Special Operations Component Command—Afghanistan (Maj. Gen. Raymond Thomas III, USA)—Camp Integrity, Kabul¹

Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force—Afghanistan (USA)—Bagram Airfield; village stability operations, advisors to Afghan Defense Ministry special operations forces, and other missions²

Special Operations Task Force—East (USA)—Bagram Airfield; operating in eastern Afghanistan

Special Operations Task Force—South (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; operating in Kandahar Province

Special Operations Task Force—South-East (USN)—U/I location; operating in Uruzgan and Zabul Provinces

Special Operations Task Force—West (USMC)—Camp Lawton, Herat; operating in western Afghanistan and Helmand Province

TF Balkh / 2-7 Infantry (Lt. Col. Todd Kelly, USA)—Camp Mike Spann, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in northern Afghanistan³

TF Paktika / 3-69 Armor (Lt. Col. Orestees Davenport, USA)—FOB Sharana; operating in Paktika Province⁴

ISAF Special Operations Forces / Special Operations Command and Control Element (Brig. Mark Smethurst, Australia)—Kabul; advisors to Afghan Interior Ministry special operations forces⁵

Regional Special Operations Task Groups—located around Afghanistan⁶

Combined Joint Special Operations Aviation Component—Afghanistan (USAF/USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support to SOJTF-A special operations forces⁷

9th Air and Space Expeditionary Task Force—Afghanistan (Maj. Gen. H.D. Polumbo, USAF)—Kabul International Airport; oversees U.S. Air Force units in Afghanistan⁸

451st Air Expeditionary Wing (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; air support in southern and western Afghanistan

26th Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; medical evacuation support⁹

46th Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Camp Bastion and Kandahar Airfield; medical evacuation support¹⁰

76th Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Camp Bastion; medical evacuation support¹¹

361st Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support¹²

179th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; close air support¹³

772nd Expeditionary Airlift Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; transport support¹⁴

455th Air Expeditionary Wing (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; air support in eastern and northern Afghanistan

4th Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support¹⁵

33rd Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; medical evacuation support¹⁶

62nd Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support¹⁷

83rd Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; medical evacuation support¹⁸

354th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; close air support¹⁹

391st Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; close air support²⁰

774th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; transport support²¹

Marine Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron 3 (USMC)—Bagram Airfield; counter-IED mission²²

Combined Joint Interagency Task Force 435 (Lt. Gen. Keith Huber, USA)—Kabul; responsible for rule-of-law and detention operations

TF Titan / 333rd Military Police Brigade (Brig. Gen. Philip Churn, USA)—Parwan Detention Facility; detention operations²³

Task Group Trident / Navy Military Police Battalion—Afghanistan (USN)—Parwan Detention Facility; detainee guard force²⁴

160th Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Terry Robey, USA)—Parwan Detention Facility²⁵

384th Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Kevin Keen, USA)—Parwan Detention Facility; Afghan army detention advisors²⁶

535th Military Police Battalion (USA)—Parwan Detention Facility; investigation force²⁷

NATO Training Mission—Afghanistan / Combined Security Transition Command—Afghanistan (Lt. Gen. Daniel Bolger, USA)—Camp Eggers, Kabul; responsible for training Afghan security forces

U/I infantry battalion (Canada)—Camp Alamo, Kabul, and other locations; training Afghan forces and national and regional training centers²⁸

TF Centurion Prime / 1-167 Infantry (Lt. Col. J.R. Bass, USA)—Camp Eggers, Kabul; NTM-A security force²⁹

Regional Support Command Capital (Col. Marlin Remigio, USA)—Camp Phoenix; training Afghan forces in Kabul³⁰

Regional Support Command East (Col. Ronald Metternich, USA)—Bagram Airfield; training Afghan forces in eastern Afghanistan

Regional Support Command North (Col. Ted Donnelly, USA)—Camp Mike Spann, Mazar-e-Sharif; training Afghan forces in northern Afghanistan

Regional Support Command South (Col. Christopher Reed, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; training Afghan forces in southern Afghanistan

Regional Support Command Southwest (Col. Scott Arnold, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; training Afghan forces in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces

Regional Support Command West (Col. Rod Arrington, USMC)—Camp Stone, Herat; training Afghan forces in western Afghanistan

ISAF Joint Command / V Corps (Lt. Gen. James Terry, USA)—Kabul International Airport; countrywide operational headquarters³¹

Combined Joint Task Force Paladin / Explosive Ordnance Disposal Group Two (Capt. Timothy Rudderow, USN)—Bagram Airfield; overseeing counter-IED operations countrywide³²

TF Paladin East / 84th EOD Battalion (USA)—Bagram Airfield; counter-IED operations in eastern Afghanistan³³

TF Paladin South / 3rd EOD Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; counter-IED operations in southern Afghanistan³⁴

TF Paladin Southwest (USN)—Camp Leatherneck, Helmand; counter-IED operations in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces³⁵

Joint Task Force Triple Nickel / 555th Engineer Brigade (Col. Nicholas Katers, USA)—Bagram Airfield; overseeing engineer operations countrywide³⁶

TF Diehard / 1st Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Thomas Hairgrove, USA)—FOB Shank, Logar; engineer support in N2KL and in Ghazni, Logar, and Wardak Provinces³⁷

TF Lumberjack / 20th Engineer Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; construction support in Kandahar Province³⁸

TF Black Diamond / 92nd Engineer Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; retrograde operations in southern Afghanistan³⁹

TF Outlaw / 120th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Jack Ritter, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; route clearance in southern Afghanistan⁴⁰

TF Prowler / 178th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Carol Dobson, USA)—U/I location; likely at FOB Sharana for route clearance in Paktya, Paktika, and Khost Provinces⁴¹

TF SAW / 307th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Brett Sylvia, USA)—Camp Leatherneck; route clearance in southwestern and western Afghanistan⁴²

TF True Grit / Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 15 (Cmdr. Anthony Spindler, USN)—Camp Leatherneck; construction support in Helmand Province⁴³

TF ODIN (Enhanced) (Col. Adam Hinsdale, USA)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support in eastern and southern Afghanistan⁴⁴

TF ODIN-A (USA)—Bagram Airfield and Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support⁴⁵

TF Condor (USA)—Bagram Airfield and Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support⁴⁶

Regional Command Capital (Brig. Gen. Levent Gozkaya, Turkey)—Camp Warehouse, Kabul; operating in Kabul Province⁴⁷

1st Battalion Motorized Task Force (Turkey)—Camp Dogan, Kabul

2nd Battalion Motorized Task Force (Turkey)—Camp Gazi, Kabul

Regional Command East / 101st Airborne Division (Maj. Gen. James McConville, USA)—Bagram Airfield; operating in fourteen eastern provinces⁴⁸

TF Bullwhip / U/I Military Police Battalion—Camp Julien, Kabul; advising Afghan police in northern RC-East⁴⁹

TF Spartan / 793rd Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Stephen Gabavics, USA)—U/I location; advising Afghan police in southern RC-East⁵⁰

TF Bastogne / 1st Security Force Assistance Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Col. J.P. McGee, USA)—Jalalabad Airfield; operating in Kunar, Nangarhar, and Nuristan Provinces⁵¹

TF Bulldog / 1-327 Infantry (USA)—FOB Finley-Shields; operating in Nangarhar Province

TF No Slack / 2-327 Infantry (Lt. Col. Brian Sullivan, USA)—FOB Joyce, Chawkey District; operating in Kunar Province

TF 2-320 Field Artillery (USA)—U/I location; brigade artillery support and advisor teams

TF Commandos / 2nd Security Force Assistance Brigade, 10th Mountain Division (Col. Dennis Sullivan, USA)—FOB Sharana; operating in Paktika Province⁵²

TF Golden Dragons / 2-14 Infantry (Lt. Col. Robert Fouche, USA)—FOB Orgun; operating in eastern Paktika Province

TF Allons / 2-15 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Christopher Wendland, USA)—FOB Sharana; brigade artillery support

TF Wolverine / 1-89 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Robert Griggs, USA)—FOB Sharana; operating in western Paktika Province

TF Destiny / 101st Combat Aviation Brigade (Col. Paul Bontrager, USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support in eastern and northern Afghanistan⁵³

TF No Mercy / 1-101 Attack Aviation (USA)—FOB Salerno; aviation support in Khost and Paktya Provinces

TF Eagle Assault / 5-101 Assault Aviation (USA)—FOB Shank; aviation support in Logar and Wardak Provinces

TF Shadow / 6-101 General Support Aviation (USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support in Bamyan, Laghman, Panjshir, and Parwan Provinces

TF Iron Warriors / 1-104 Attack Aviation and 2-501 General Support Aviation (USA)—Camp Marmal, Mazar-e-Sharif; aviation support in RC-North⁵⁴

TF Dragon / 1-501 Attack Aviation (Lt. Col. Glen Heape, USA)—Jalalabad Airfield; aviation support in Kunar, Nangarhar, and Nuristan Provinces

TF La Fayette / 7th Armored Brigade (Brig. Gen. Francisco Soriano, France)—Camp Warehouse, Kabul; overseeing withdrawal of French forces⁵⁵

TF Mousquetaire / BATHELICO (France)—Kabul International Airport; aviation support in Kabul and Kapisa Provinces⁵⁶

U/I infantry battalion or regiment (France)—Camp Warehouse, Kabul; quick reaction force⁵⁷

TF Long Knife / 4th Security Force Assistance Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division (Col. Bill Benson, USA)—FOB Gamberi; operating in Kapisa, Laghman, and Parwan Provinces⁵⁸

TF Garry Owen / 2-7 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Robert Kuth, USA)—FOB Naghlu High, Kapisa; operating in Kapisa Province

TF Headhunter / 1-9 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Jose Polanco, USA)—Bagram Airfield; operating in Parwan Province

TF Thunderhorse / 2-12 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Monte Rone, USA)—FOB Mehtar Lam; operating in Laghman Province

TF Black Dragon / 5-82 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. William Johnson, USA)—FOB Gamberi; brigade artillery support

TF Rakkasan / 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Col. R.J. Lillibridge, USA)—FOB Salerno, Khost; operating in Khost and Paktya Provinces⁵⁹

TF War Rakkasan / 1-33 Cavalry (USA)—Camp Clark, Khost; operating in western Khost Province

TF Leader Rakkasan / 1-187 Parachute Infantry (Lt. Col. Kelly Kendrick, USA)—FOB Gardez; operating in Paktya Province

TF Iron Rakkasan / 3-187 Infantry (Lt. Col. Pat Work, USA)—FOB Salerno; operating in eastern Khost Province

TF Red Knight / 3-320 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Shannon Mosakowski, USA)—FOB Salerno; brigade artillery support

TF Vanguard / 4th Security Force Assistance Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division (Col. Kimo Gallahue, USA)—FOB Shank, Logar; operating in Logar and Wardak Provinces⁶⁰

TF Nashmi / TF 222 (Jordan)—FOB Shank; operating in Logar Province⁶¹

TF Cottonbaler / 3-7 Infantry (Lt. Col. Gregory Bell, USA)—FOB Shank; operating in Logar Province

6-8 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Justin Hadley, USA)—FOB Shank; operating in Logar Province

TF China / 3-15 Infantry (Lt. Col. Joel Smith, USA)—U/I location; operating in Wardak Province

TF Patriot / 1-76 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Lee Overby, USA)—FOB Shank; brigade artillery support

TF Warrior / 1st Security Force Assistance Brigade, 10th Mountain Division (Col. Stephen Michael, USA)—FOB Warrior; operating in southern and eastern Ghazni Province⁶²

TF 3-6 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Mike Oeschger, USA)—U/I location

TF 2-22 Infantry (USA)—FOB Warrior; operating in southern Ghazni Province

TF Summit / 1-87 Infantry (Lt. Col. Daniel Morgan, USA)—FOB Arian; operating in eastern Ghazni Province

TF White Eagle / 12th Mechanized Brigade (Poland)—FOB Ghazni; operating in northern Ghazni Province⁶³

Battle Group Alpha (Poland)—FOB Ghazni; operating in northern Ghazni Province

Battle Group Bravo (Poland)—U/I location; operating in northern Ghazni Province

Regional Command North (Maj. Gen. Erich Pfeffer, Germany)—Camp Marmal, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in nine northern provinces⁶⁴

Nordic-Baltic Transition Support Unit—Camp Northern Lights, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in RC-North⁶⁵

Partnering and Advisory Task Force Kunduz (Germany)—FOB Kunduz; operating in southern Kunduz Province⁶⁶

Partnering and Advisory Task Force Mazar-e-Sharif (Germany)—Camp Marmal; operating in Balkh Province

Expeditionary Air Wing Mazar-e-Sharif (Germany)—Camp Marmal; fixed- and rotary-wing aviation support for northern Afghanistan⁶⁷

TF Garry Owen / 3-7 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Lance Varney, USA)—FOB Kunduz; operating in northern Kunduz Province⁶⁸

Regional Command South / 3rd Infantry Division (Maj. Gen. Robert “Abe” Abrams, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; operating in Kandahar, Uruzgan, and Zabul Provinces⁶⁹

Combined Team Uruzgan (Col. Simon Stuart, Australia)—Camp Holland, Tarin Kowt; operating in Uruzgan Province⁷⁰

Mentoring Task Force 6 / 7 Royal Australian Regiment (Lt. Col. Malcolm Wells, Australia)—Camp Holland; operating in Uruzgan Province⁷¹

TF Raider / 1st Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division (Col. James Crider, USA)—FOB Apache, Qalat; operating in Zabul Province

TF Blackhawk / 2-1 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Chuck Lombardo, USA)—FOB Apache; operating in Zabul Province

TF Garryowen / 5-7 Cavalry (USA)—U/I location

TF 1-41 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Thomas Hawn, USA)—FOB Lagman, Qalat; operating in Zabul Province

Maneuver Battalion 1 / 2nd Maneuver Battalion (Romania)—FOB Apache, Qalat; operating along Highway 1 in Zabul Province⁷²

Maneuver Battalion 2 / 33rd Mountain Battalion (Romania)—FOB Bullard, Shah Joy District; operating along Highway 1 in Zabul Province⁷³

TF Dragoon / 4th Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division (Col. Michael Getchell, USA)—FOB Masum Ghar, Panjwayi; operating in southern and eastern Kandahar Province⁷⁴

TF Manchu / 4-9 Infantry (Lt. Col. James Dooghan, USA)—U/I location; operating in western Panjwayi District

TF Viking / 2-12 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. William Downing, USA)—FOB Lindsey; operating east of Kandahar City

TF Tomahawk / 2-23 Infantry (Lt. Col. Tom Feltey, USA)—FOB Spin Boldak; operating in Spin Boldak District

TF Rosser / 1-38 Infantry (Lt. Col. Chad Sundem, USA)—FOB Shoja; operating in eastern Panjwayi District

TF Falcon / 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade (Col. Allan Pepin, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in southern and western Afghanistan⁷⁵

TF Viper / 1-3 Attack Aviation (Lt. Col. Kelly Hines, USA)—FOB Wolverine, Zabul; aviation support in Zabul Province

TF Knighthawk / 2-3 General Support Aviation (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in Kandahar Province

TF Brawler / 4-3 Assault Aviation (USA)—FOB Tarin Kowt; aviation support in Uruzgan Province

TF Lighthorse / 3-17 Air Cavalry (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in Kandahar Province

TF Ready First / 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division (Col. Kenneth Adgie, USA)—Camp Nathan Smith; operating in Kandahar City and northern and western Kandahar Province⁷⁶

TF Ripcord / 503rd Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Terry Nihart, USA)—Camp Nathan Smith; Afghan police advisors⁷⁷

TF Blackhawk / 6-1 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Kevin Wallace, USA)—Camp Nathan Smith; operating in Kandahar City

TF 2-3 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Paul Weyrauch, USA)—FOB Frontenac; operating in Shah Wali Kot District

TF Buffalo / 4-17 Infantry (Lt. Col. James Van Atta, USA)—Camp Nathan Smith; operating in Arghandab District

TF Spartan / 1-36 Infantry (Lt. Col. Kevin Admiral, USA)—FOB Azizullah; operating in Maywand District

TF Rifle / 3-41 Infantry (Lt. Col. Tom Anderson, USA)—FOB Pasab; operating in Zhari District

Regional Command Southwest / II Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward) (Maj. Gen. Lee Miller, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; operating in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces⁷⁸

TF Helmand / 4th Mechanized Brigade (Brig. Bob Bruce, UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; operating in central Helmand Province⁷⁹

Brigade Advisory Group / 1 Royal Regiment of Scotland (Lt. Col. Ben Wrench, UK)—Camp Tombstone; Afghan army advisors⁸⁰

Joint Engineer Group / 21 Engineer Regiment (UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; brigade engineer support⁸¹

Joint Fires Group / 4 Regiment Royal Artillery (UK)—U/I location; brigade artillery support⁸²

Transition Support Unit Lashkar Gah / 1 Duke of Lancaster's Regiment (UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; operating in Lashkar Gah District⁸³

Transition Support Unit Nad-e-Ali / 1 Mercian Regiment (UK)—FOB Shawqat; operating in Nad-e-Ali District⁸⁴

Transition Support Unit Nahr-e-Saraj / 40 Commando (Lt. Col. Matt Jackson, UK)—FOB Price, Gereshk; operating in central Nahr-e-Saraj District⁸⁵

Royal Dragoon Guards (UK)—Camp Bastion; elements advising Afghan police⁸⁶

Queen's Royal Lancers (UK)—Camp Bastion; elements advising Afghan police and conducting airfield security⁸⁷

1 Royal Gurkha Rifles (UK)—U/I location

Team 15 / 1 Royal Life Guards (Col. Anders Pedersen, Denmark)—Camp Bastion; training Afghan forces⁸⁸

Regimental Combat Team 7 (Col. Austin Renforth, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; operating in northern and southern Helmand Province and Nimruz Province⁸⁹

2/7 Marines (Lt. Col. Donald Tomich, USMC)—FOB Jackson, Sangin; operating in northern Helmand Province⁹⁰

3/9 Marines (USMC)—FOB Geronimo, Nawa; operating in southern Helmand Province⁹¹

12th Light Infantry Battalion (Georgia)—U/I location⁹²

32nd Light Infantry Battalion (Georgia)—COP Shukvani; operating in Musa Qala District⁹³

2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward) (Brig. Gen. Gary Thomas, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; aviation support in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces⁹⁴

Marine Attack Squadron 231 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; fixed-wing close air support⁹⁵

Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 361 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; heavy transport aviation⁹⁶

Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 169 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; attack aviation⁹⁷

Joint Aviation Group (UK)—Camp Leatherneck; headquarters for British aviation units

Joint Helicopter Force Afghanistan (UK)—Camp Leatherneck; aviation support for TF Helmand⁹⁸

II (Army Cooperation) Squadron Royal Air Force (UK)—Kandahar Airfield; close air support for TF Helmand⁹⁹

39 Squadron Royal Air Force (UK)—Kandahar Airfield; drone support for TF Helmand¹⁰⁰

Regional Command West / “Julia” Alpine Brigade (Brig. Gen. Ignazio Gamba, Italy)—Camp Arena, Herat; operating in Badghis, Farah, Ghor, and Herat Provinces¹⁰¹

Transition Support Unit Badghis (Spain)—Qala-e-Naw; operating in Badghis Province

Transition Support Unit Center / 7th Alpine Regiment (Italy)—FOB La Marmora, Shindand; operating in southern Herat Province

Transition Support Unit South / 8th Alpine Regiment (Italy)—Camp El Alamein, Farah; operating in western Farah Province

TF Fenice / 5th Aviation Regiment (Italy)—Herat Airfield; aviation support in western Afghanistan

TF Genio / 2nd Engineer Regiment (Italy)—Camp Arena, Herat; engineer support for western Afghanistan

3-144 Infantry (Lt. Col. John Herrera, USA)—U/I location; operating in western Afghanistan¹⁰²

Major changes since March 1, 2013:

—Relief of 1st Infantry Division by 101st Airborne Division as RC-East

—Relief of 173rd Airborne BCT by 4th SFAB, 3rd ID in RC-East

—Relief of “Taurinense” Alpine Brigade by “Julia” Alpine Brigade as RC-West

—Relief of I MEF (Forward) by II MEF (Forward) as RC-Southwest

- Relief of 3rd MAW (Forward) by 2nd MAW (Forward) in RC-Southwest
- Relief of 4th BCT, 1st ID by 1st and 2nd SFABs, 10th Mountain Division in RC-East
- Relief of 411th Engineer Brigade by 555th Engineer Brigade as ISAF engineer headquarters

NOTES

¹ Established in the summer of 2012, SOJTF-A/NSOCC-A is a two-star headquarters that oversees all three allied SOF commands in Afghanistan: CJSOTF-A, ISAF SOF, and the “black” special operations forces of the U.S. Joint Special Operations Command task force. See USSOCOM Fact Book 2013.

² CJSOTF-A is headquartered by troops from the 3rd Special Forces Group. Its core tasks are to advise the Afghan National Army’s special operations forces (the Afghan commando kandaks and Special Forces) and to train and advise the local police forces associated with the Village Stability Operations program. CJSOTF-A controls six battalion-level task forces: two built around Army Special Forces battalions, two around Army infantry battalions, one around a Marine special operations battalion, and one around a Navy SEAL team. Navy Combat Camera Command Detachment 1210, “CJSOTF-A Presentation,” June 2012.

³ 2-7 Infantry relieved 1-30 Infantry in October 2012. TF Balkh mixes conventional and special operations troops. See battalion Facebook page.

⁴ 3-69 Armor deployed in November 2012. TF Paktika mixes conventional and special operations troops. See battalion Facebook page.

⁵ Established in 2007, ISAF SOF is a one-star, brigade-level headquarters that oversees most non-U.S. special operations forces in Afghanistan as well as one U.S. special operations unit, TF 10. Command of ISAF SOF appears to rotate between British and Australian officers; Brig. Mark Smethurst was in command as of March 2012.

⁶ The ISAF SOTGs, some battalion-level and some company-level, support the various regional commands, often by advising elite Afghan Interior Ministry units like the Provincial Response Companies, the Kabul-based Crisis Response Unit, and TF 333 and TF 444, and are designated as numbered task forces. For example, press reports mention TF 10 (a company from the U.S. 10th Special Forces Group) in RC-Capital; TF 45 (Italian SOF) in RC-West; TF 47 (German SOF) in RC-North; TF 49 and TF 50 (Polish SOF) in Ghazni and other areas in RC-East; TF 42 (British SOF) in Helmand; and TF 66 (Australian SOF) in Uruzgan and Kandahar. (Units that have since withdrawn included France’s TF 32 and the Netherlands’ TF 637.)

⁷ CJSOAC-A is composed of helicopter, fixed-wing, and unmanned aviation units from the U.S. Air Force Special Operations Command, the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, and conventional U.S. Army aviation units.

⁸ 9th AETF-A does not fall under ISAF command, but its commander is dual-hatted as Deputy Commander (Air) of USFOR-A. It exercises only partial control of the wings and squadrons below it; day-to-day tactical control of those units is exercised by U.S. Air Force Central’s Combined Air and Space Operations Center in the Persian Gulf.

⁹ 26th ERQS is an HH-60G squadron. Kandahar Airfield web site.

¹⁰ 46th ERQS is a “Guardian Angel” squadron of medical and rescue specialists who work aboard 26th ERQS’s HH-60Gs. Kandahar Airfield web site.

¹¹ 76th ERQS is an HC-130P squadron. Tech. Sgt. Beth Del Vecchio, “76th ERQS Flies So That Others May Live,” DVIDS, January 30, 2012.

¹² 361st ERS is equipped with MC-12 manned airplanes and MQ-1 and MQ-9 drones. Kandahar Airfield web site.

¹³ This F-16 squadron deployed in August 2012.

¹⁴ 772nd EAS is a C-130 squadron. Kandahar Airfield web site.

¹⁵ 4th ERS is an MC-12 squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.

¹⁶ 33rd ERQS is a “Guardian Angel” squadron of medical and rescue specialists who work aboard 83rd ERQS’s HH-60Gs. Bagram Airfield web site.

¹⁷ 62nd ERS is an MQ-1 and MQ-9 drone squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.

¹⁸ 83rd ERQS is an HH-60G squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.

¹⁹ 354th EFS is an A-10C squadron that relieved 184th EFS in October 2012. See warthognews.blogspot.com.

²⁰ 391st EFS is an F-15E squadron that was in Afghanistan as of August 2012.

²¹ 774th EAS is a C-130 squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.

²² VMAQ-3 relieved VMAQ-2 in early October 2012. It is an EA-6B squadron.

²³ 333rd MP Brigade relieved 42nd MP Brigade in November 2012. See brigade Facebook page.

²⁴ MCC(SW) Maria Yager, CJATF-435, “Navy Military Police Battalion Changes Command, Swaps Crew,” May 13, 2011.



COALITION COMBAT FORCES IN AFGHANISTAN

AFGHANISTAN ORDER OF BATTLE

BY WESLEY MORGAN MAY 2013

This document describes the composition and placement of U.S. and other Western combat and advisory forces in Afghanistan down to battalion level. It includes the following categories of units: maneuver (i.e. infantry, armor, and cavalry) units, which in most cases are responsible for advising or partnering with Afghan troops in particular districts or provinces; artillery units; aviation units, both rotary and fixed-wing; military police units; most types of engineer and explosive ordnance disposal units; and “white” special operations forces. It does not include “black” special operations units or other units such as logistical, transportation, medical, and intelligence units or Provincial Reconstruction Teams.

International Security Assistance Force / United States Forces—Afghanistan (Gen. Joseph Dunford, USMC)—ISAF Headquarters, Kabul

Special Operations Joint Task Force—Afghanistan / NATO Special Operations Component Command—Afghanistan (Maj. Gen. Raymond Thomas III, USA)—Camp Integrity, Kabul¹

Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force—Afghanistan (USA)—Bagram Airfield; village stability operations, advisors to Afghan Defense Ministry special operations forces, and other missions²

Special Operations Task Force—East (USA)—Bagram Airfield; operating in eastern Afghanistan

Special Operations Task Force—South (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; operating in Kandahar Province

Special Operations Task Force—South-East (USN)—U/I location; operating in Uruzgan and Zabul Provinces

Special Operations Task Force—West (USMC)—Camp Lawton, Herat; operating in western Afghanistan and Helmand Province

TF Balkh / 2-7 Infantry (Lt. Col. Todd Kelly, USA)—Camp Mike Spann, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in northern Afghanistan³

TF Paktika / 3-69 Armor (Lt. Col. Orestees Davenport, USA)—FOB Sharana; operating in Paktika Province⁴

ISAF Special Operations Forces / Special Operations Command and Control Element (Brig. Mark Smethurst, Australia)—Kabul; advisors to Afghan Interior Ministry special operations forces⁵

Regional Special Operations Task Groups—located around Afghanistan⁶

Combined Joint Special Operations Aviation Component—Afghanistan (USAF/USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support to SOJTF-A special operations forces⁷

9th Air and Space Expeditionary Task Force—Afghanistan (Maj. Gen. H.D. Polumbo, USAF)—Kabul International Airport; oversees U.S. Air Force units in Afghanistan⁸

451st Air Expeditionary Wing (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; air support in southern and western Afghanistan

26th Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; medical evacuation support⁹

46th Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Camp Bastion and Kandahar Airfield; medical evacuation support¹⁰

76th Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Camp Bastion; medical evacuation support¹¹

361st Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support¹²

179th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; close air support¹³

772nd Expeditionary Airlift Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; transport support¹⁴

455th Air Expeditionary Wing (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; air support in eastern and northern Afghanistan

4th Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support¹⁵

33rd Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; medical evacuation support¹⁶

62nd Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support¹⁷

83rd Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; medical evacuation support¹⁸

354th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; close air support¹⁹

391st Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; close air support²⁰

774th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; transport support²¹

Marine Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron 3 (USMC)—Bagram Airfield; counter-IED mission²²

Combined Joint Interagency Task Force 435 (Lt. Gen. Keith Huber, USA)—Kabul; responsible for rule-of-law and detention operations

TF Titan / 333rd Military Police Brigade (Brig. Gen. Philip Churn, USA)—Parwan Detention Facility; detention operations²³

Task Group Trident / Navy Military Police Battalion—Afghanistan (USN)—Parwan Detention Facility; detainee guard force²⁴

160th Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Terry Robey, USA)—Parwan Detention Facility²⁵

384th Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Kevin Keen, USA)—Parwan Detention Facility; Afghan army detention advisors²⁶

535th Military Police Battalion (USA)—Parwan Detention Facility; investigation force²⁷

NATO Training Mission—Afghanistan / Combined Security Transition Command—Afghanistan (Lt. Gen. Daniel Bolger, USA)—Camp Eggers, Kabul; responsible for training Afghan security forces

U/I infantry battalion (Canada)—Camp Alamo, Kabul, and other locations; training Afghan forces and national and regional training centers²⁸

TF Guam / I-294 Infantry (USA)—Camp Eggers, Kabul; NTM-A security force²⁹

Regional Support Command Capital (Col. Marlin Remigio, USA)—Camp Phoenix; training Afghan forces in Kabul³⁰

Regional Support Command East (Col. Ronald Metternich, USA)—Bagram Airfield; training Afghan forces in eastern Afghanistan

Regional Support Command North (Col. Ted Donnelly, USA)—Camp Mike Spann, Mazar-e-Sharif; training Afghan forces in northern Afghanistan

Regional Support Command South (Col. Christopher Reed, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; training Afghan forces in southern Afghanistan

Regional Support Command Southwest (Col. Scott Arnold, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; training Afghan forces in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces

Regional Support Command West (Col. Rod Arrington, USMC)—Camp Stone, Herat; training Afghan forces in western Afghanistan

ISAF Joint Command / V Corps (Lt. Gen. James Terry, USA)—Kabul International Airport; countrywide operational headquarters³¹

Combined Joint Task Force Paladin / Explosive Ordnance Disposal Group Two (Capt. Timothy Rudderow, USN)—Bagram Airfield; overseeing counter-IED operations countrywide³²

TF Paladin East (USA)—Bagram Airfield; counter-IED operations in eastern Afghanistan

TF Paladin South / 3rd EOD Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; counter-IED operations in southern Afghanistan³³

TF Paladin Southwest (USN)—Camp Leatherneck, Helmand; counter-IED operations in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces³⁴

Joint Task Force Triple Nickel / 555th Engineer Brigade (Col. Nicholas Katers, USA)—Bagram Airfield; overseeing engineer operations countrywide³⁵

TF Diehard / 1st Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Thomas Hairgrove, USA)—FOB Shank, Logar; engineer support in N2KL and in Ghazni, Logar, and Wardak Provinces³⁶

TF Lumberjack / 20th Engineer Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; construction support in Kandahar Province³⁷

TF Black Diamond / 92nd Engineer Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; retrograde operations in southern Afghanistan³⁸

TF Outlaw / 120th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Jack Ritter, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; route clearance in southern Afghanistan³⁹

TF Prowler / 178th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Corol Dobson, USA)—U/I location; likely at FOB Sharana for route clearance in Paktya, Paktika, and Khost Provinces⁴⁰

TF SAW / 307th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Brett Sylvia, USA)—Camp Leatherneck; route clearance in southwestern and western Afghanistan⁴¹

TF True Grit / Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 15 (Cmdr. Anthony Spindler, USN)—Camp Leatherneck; construction support in Helmand Province⁴²

TF ODIN (Enhanced) (Col. Adam Hinsdale, USA)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support in eastern and southern Afghanistan⁴³

TF ODIN-A (USA)—Bagram Airfield and Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support⁴⁴

TF Condor (USA)—Bagram Airfield and Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support⁴⁵

Regional Command Capital (Brig. Gen. Levent Gozkaya, Turkey)—Camp Warehouse, Kabul; operating in Kabul Province⁴⁶

1st Battalion Motorized Task Force (Turkey)—Camp Dogan, Kabul

2nd Battalion Motorized Task Force (Turkey)—Camp Gazi, Kabul

Regional Command East / 101st Airborne Division (Maj. Gen. James McConville, USA)—Bagram Airfield; operating in fourteen eastern provinces⁴⁷

TF Bullwhip / U/I Military Police Battalion—Camp Julien, Kabul; advising Afghan police in northern RC-East⁴⁸

TF Spartan / 793rd Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Stephen Gabavics, USA)—U/I location; advising Afghan police in southern RC-East⁴⁹

TF Bastogne / 1st Security Force Assistance Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Col. J.P. McGee, USA)—Jalalabad Airfield; operating in Kunar, Nangarhar, and Nuristan Provinces⁵⁰

TF Bulldog / 1-327 Infantry (USA)—FOB Finley-Shields; operating in Nangarhar Province

TF No Slack / 2-327 Infantry (Lt. Col. Brian Sullivan, USA)—FOB Joyce, Chawkey District; operating in Kunar Province

TF 2-320 Field Artillery (USA)—U/I location; brigade artillery support and advisor teams

TF Commandos / 2nd Security Force Assistance Brigade, 10th Mountain Division (Col. Dennis Sullivan, USA)—FOB Sharana; operating in Paktika Province⁵¹

TF Golden Dragons / 2-14 Infantry (Lt. Col. Robert Fouche, USA)—FOB Orgun; operating in eastern Paktika Province

TF Allons / 2-15 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Christopher Wendland, USA)—FOB Sharana; brigade artillery support

TF Wolverine / 1-89 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Robert Griggs, USA)—FOB Sharana; operating in western Paktika Province

TF Destiny / 101st Combat Aviation Brigade (Col. Paul Bontrager, USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support in eastern and northern Afghanistan⁵²

TF No Mercy / 1-101 Attack Aviation (USA)—FOB Salerno; aviation support in Khost and Paktya Provinces

TF Eagle Assault / 5-101 Assault Aviation (USA)—FOB Shank; aviation support in Logar and Wardak Provinces

TF Shadow / 6-101 General Support Aviation (USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support in Bamyan, Laghman, Panjshir, and Parwan Provinces

TF Iron Warriors / 1-104 Attack Aviation and 2-501 General Support Aviation (USA)—Camp Marmal, Mazar-e-Sharif; aviation support in RC-North⁵³

TF Dragon / 1-501 Attack Aviation (Lt. Col. Glen Heape, USA)—Jalalabad Airfield; aviation support in Kunar, Nangarhar, and Nuristan Provinces

TF La Fayette / 7th Armored Brigade (Brig. Gen. Francisco Soriano, France)—Camp Warehouse, Kabul; overseeing withdrawal of French forces⁵⁴

TF Mousquetaire / BATHELICO (France)—Kabul International Airport; aviation support in Kabul and Kapisa Provinces⁵⁵

U/I infantry battalion or regiment (France)—Camp Warehouse, Kabul; quick reaction force⁵⁶

TF Long Knife / 4th Security Force Assistance Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division (Col. Bill Benson, USA)—FOB Gamberi; operating in Kapisa, Laghman, and Parwan Provinces⁵⁷

TF Garry Owen / 2-7 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Robert Kuth, USA)—FOB Naghlu High, Kapisa; operating in Kapisa Province

TF Headhunter / 1-9 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Jose Polanco, USA)—Bagram Airfield; operating in Parwan Province

TF Thunderhorse / 2-12 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Monte Rone, USA)—FOB Mehtar Lam; operating in Laghman Province

TF Black Dragon / 5-82 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. William Johnson, USA)—FOB Gamberi; brigade artillery support

TF Rakkasan / 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Col. R.J. Lillibridge, USA)—FOB Salerno, Khost; operating in Khost and Paktya Provinces⁵⁸

TF War Rakkasan / 1-33 Cavalry (USA)—Camp Clark, Khost; operating in western Khost Province

TF Leader Rakkasan / 1-187 Parachute Infantry (Lt. Col. Kelly Kendrick, USA)—FOB Gardez; operating in Paktya Province

TF Iron Rakkasan / 3-187 Infantry (Lt. Col. Pat Work, USA)—FOB Salerno; operating in eastern Khost Province

TF Red Knight / 3-320 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Shannon Mosakowski, USA)—FOB Salerno; brigade artillery support

TF Vanguard / 4th Security Force Assistance Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division (Col. Kimo Gallahue, USA)—FOB Shank, Logar; operating in Logar and Wardak Provinces⁵⁹

TF Nashmi / TF 222 (Jordan)—FOB Shank; operating in Logar Province⁶⁰

TF Cottonbaler / 3-7 Infantry (Lt. Col. Gregory Bell, USA)—FOB Shank; operating in Logar Province

6-8 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Justin Hadley, USA)—FOB Shank; operating in Logar Province

TF China / 3-15 Infantry (Lt. Col. Joel Smith, USA)—U/I location; operating in Wardak Province

TF Patriot / 1-76 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Lee Overby, USA)—FOB Shank; brigade artillery support

TF Warrior / 1st Security Force Assistance Brigade, 10th Mountain Division (Col. Stephen Michael, USA)—FOB Warrior; operating in southern and eastern Ghazni Province⁶¹

TF 3-6 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Mike Oeschger, USA)—U/I location

TF 2-22 Infantry (USA)—FOB Warrior; operating in southern Ghazni Province

TF Summit / 1-87 Infantry (Lt. Col. Daniel Morgan, USA)—FOB Arian; operating in eastern Ghazni Province

TF White Eagle (Poland)—FOB Ghazni; operating in northern Ghazni Province⁶²

Battle Group Alpha (Poland)—FOB Ghazni; operating in northern Ghazni Province

Battle Group Bravo (Poland)—U/I location; operating in northern Ghazni Province

Regional Command North (Maj. Gen. Jorg Vollmer, Germany)—Camp Marmal, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in nine northern provinces⁶³

Nordic-Baltic Transition Support Unit—Camp Northern Lights, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in RC-North⁶⁴

Partnering and Advisory Task Force Kunduz (Germany)—FOB Kunduz; operating in southern Kunduz Province⁶⁵

Partnering and Advisory Task Force Mazar-e-Sharif (Germany)—Camp Marmal; operating in Balkh Province

Expeditionary Air Wing Mazar-e-Sharif (Germany)—Camp Marmal; fixed- and rotary-wing aviation support for northern Afghanistan⁶⁶

TF Garry Owen / 3-7 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Lance Varney, USA)—FOB Kunduz; operating in northern Kunduz Province⁶⁷

Regional Command South / 3rd Infantry Division (Maj. Gen. Robert “Abe” Abrams, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; operating in Kandahar, Uruzgan, and Zabul Provinces⁶⁸

Combined Team Uruzgan (Col. Simon Stuart, Australia)—Camp Holland, Tarin Kowt; operating in Uruzgan Province⁶⁹

Mentoring Task Force 6 / 7 Royal Australian Regiment (Lt. Col. Malcolm Wells, Australia)—Camp Holland; operating in Uruzgan Province⁷⁰

TF Raider / 1st Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division (Col. James Crider, USA)—FOB Apache, Qalat; operating in Zabul Province

TF Blackhawk / 2-1 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Chuck Lombardo, USA)—FOB Apache; operating in Zabul Province

TF Garryowen / 5-7 Cavalry (USA)—FOB Apache; operating in Zabul Province

TF I-41 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Thomas Hawn, USA)—FOB Lagman, Qalat; operating in Zabul Province

Maneuver Battalion 1 (Romania)—FOB Apache, Qalat; operating along Highway I in Zabul Province⁷¹

Maneuver Battalion 2 (Romania)—FOB Bullard, Shah Joy District; operating along Highway I in Zabul Province⁷²

TF Dragoon / 4th Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division (Col. Michael Getchell, USA)—FOB Masum Ghar, Panjwayi; operating in southern and eastern Kandahar Province⁷³

TF Manchu / 4-9 Infantry (Lt. Col. James Dooghan, USA)—U/I location; operating in western Panjwayi District

TF Viking / 2-12 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. William Downing, USA)—FOB Lindsey; operating east of Kandahar City

TF Tomahawk / 2-23 Infantry (Lt. Col. Tom Feltey, USA)—FOB Spin Boldak; operating in Spin Boldak District

TF Rosser / 1-38 Infantry (Lt. Col. Chad Sundem, USA)—FOB Shoja; operating in eastern Panjwayi District

TF Falcon / 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade (Col. Allan Pepin, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in southern and western Afghanistan⁷⁴

TF Viper / 1-3 Attack Aviation (Lt. Col. Kelly Hines, USA)—FOB Wolverine, Zabul; aviation support in Zabul Province

TF Knighthawk / 2-3 General Support Aviation (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in Kandahar Province

TF Brawler / 4-3 Assault Aviation (USA)—FOB Tarin Kowt; aviation support in Uruzgan Province

TF Lighthorse / 3-17 Air Cavalry (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in Kandahar Province

TF Ready First / 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division (Col. Kenneth Adgie, USA)—Camp Nathan Smith; operating in Kandahar City and northern and western Kandahar Province⁷⁵

TF Ripcord / 503rd Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Terry Nihart, USA)—Camp Nathan Smith; Afghan police advisors⁷⁶

TF Blackhawk / 6-1 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Kevin Wallace, USA)—Camp Nathan Smith; operating in Kandahar City

TF 2-3 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Paul Weyrauch, USA)—FOB Frontenac; operating in Shah Wali Kot District

TF Buffalo / 4-17 Infantry (Lt. Col. James Van Atta, USA)—Camp Nathan Smith; operating in Arghandab District

TF Spartan / 1-36 Infantry (Lt. Col. Kevin Admiral, USA)—FOB Azizullah; operating in Maywand District

TF Rifle / 3-41 Infantry (Lt. Col. Tom Anderson, USA)—FOB Pasab; operating in Zhari District

Regional Command Southwest / II Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward) (Maj. Gen. Lee Miller, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; operating in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces⁷⁷

TF Helmand / 1st Mechanized Brigade (Brig. Rupert Jones, UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; operating in central Helmand Province⁷⁸

Brigade Advisory Group / 4 Rifles (Lt. Col. Tom Bewick, UK)—Camp Tombstone; Afghan army advisors⁷⁹

Joint Engineer Group / 22 Engineer Regiment (Lt. Col. Jason Kerr, UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; brigade engineer support⁸⁰

Joint Fires Group / 1 Regiment Royal Horse Artillery (UK)—U/I location; brigade artillery support⁸¹

Police Mentoring and Advisory Group / 2 Royal Regiment of Scotland (Lt. Col. Robin Lindsay, UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; Afghan police advisors

Transition Support Unit Lashkar Gah / 2nd Royal Tank Regiment (UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; operating in Lashkar Gah District⁸²

Transition Support Unit Nad-e-Ali / 2 Duke of Lancaster's Regiment (Lt. Col. Neil Unsworth, UK)—FOB Shawqat; operating in Nad-e-Ali District⁸³

Transition Support Unit Nahr-e-Saraj / 1 Royal Regiment of Fusiliers (Lt. Col. John Swift, UK)—FOB Price, Gereshk; operating in Nahr-e-Saraj District⁸⁴

Household Cavalry (UK)—Camp Bastion; elements acting as Brigade Reconnaissance Force

Team 15 / 1 Royal Life Guards (Col. Anders Pedersen, Denmark)—Camp Bastion; training Afghan forces⁸⁵

Regimental Combat Team 7 (Col. Austin Renforth, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; operating in northern and southern Helmand Province and Nimruz Province⁸⁶

3/4 Marines (USMC)—FOB Jackson, Sangin; operating in northern Helmand Province⁸⁷

3/9 Marines (USMC)—FOB Geronimo, Nawa; operating in southern Helmand Province⁸⁸

3rd Combat Engineer Battalion (USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; engineer support⁸⁹

33rd Light Infantry Battalion (Georgia)—COP Shukvani; operating in Musa Qala District⁹⁰

42nd Light Infantry Battalion (Georgia)—U/I location

2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward) (Brig. Gen. Gary Thomas, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; aviation support in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces⁹¹

Marine Attack Squadron 231 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; fixed-wing close air support⁹²

Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 361 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; heavy transport aviation⁹³

Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 169 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; attack aviation⁹⁴

Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 264 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; medium transport aviation⁹⁵

Joint Aviation Group (UK)—Camp Leatherneck; headquarters for British aviation units

Joint Helicopter Force Afghanistan (UK)—Camp Leatherneck; aviation support for TF Helmand⁹⁶

II (Army Cooperation) Squadron Royal Air Force (UK)—Kandahar Airfield; close air support for TF Helmand⁹⁷

39 Squadron Royal Air Force (UK)—Kandahar Airfield; drone support for TF Helmand⁹⁸

Regional Command West / “Julia” Alpine Brigade (Brig. Gen. Ignazio Gamba, Italy)—Camp Arena, Herat; operating in Badghis, Farah, Ghor, and Herat Provinces⁹⁹

Transition Support Unit Badghis (Spain)—Qala-e-Naw; operating in Badghis Province

Transition Support Unit Center / 7th Alpine Regiment (Italy)—FOB La Marmorata, Shindand; operating in southern Herat Province

Transition Support Unit South / 8th Alpine Regiment (Italy)—Camp El Alamein, Farah; operating in western Farah Province

TF Fenice / 5th Aviation Regiment (Italy)—Herat Airfield; aviation support in western Afghanistan

TF Genio / 2nd Engineer Regiment (Italy)—Camp Arena, Herat; engineer support for western Afghanistan

3-144 Infantry (Lt. Col. John Herrera, USA)—U/I location; operating in western Afghanistan¹⁰⁰

Major changes since April 1, 2013:

—Relief of 4th Mechanized Brigade by 1st Mechanized Brigade as TF Helmand

NOTES

¹ Established in the summer of 2012, SOJTF-A/NSOCC-A is a two-star headquarters that oversees all three allied SOF commands in Afghanistan: CJSOTF-A, 2 ISAF SOF, and the “black” special operations forces of the U.S. Joint Special Operations Command task force. See USSOCOM Fact Book 2013.

² CJSOTF-A is headquartered by troops from the 3rd Special Forces Group. Its core tasks are to advise the Afghan National Army’s special operations forces (the Afghan commando kandaks and Special Forces) and to train and advise the local police forces associated with the Village Stability Operations program. CJSOTF-A controls six battalion-level task forces: two built around Army Special Forces battalions, two around Army infantry battalions, one around a Marine special operations battalion, and one around a Navy SEAL team. Navy Combat Camera Command Detachment 1210, “CJSOTF-A Presentation,” June 2012.

³ 2-7 Infantry relieved 1-30 Infantry in October 2012. TF Balkh mixes conventional and special operations troops. See battalion Facebook page.

⁴ 3-69 Armor deployed in November 2012. TF Paktika mixes conventional and special operations troops. See battalion Facebook page.

⁵ Established in 2007, ISAF SOF is a one-star, brigade-level headquarters that oversees most non-U.S. special operations forces in Afghanistan as well as one U.S. special operations unit, TF 10. Command of ISAF SOF appears to rotate between British and Australian officers; Brig. Mark Smethurst was in command as of March 2012.

⁶ The ISAF SOTGs, some battalion-level and some company-level, support the various regional commands, often by advising elite Afghan Interior Ministry units like the Provincial Response Companies, the Kabul-based Crisis Response Unit, and TF 333 and TF 444, and are designated as numbered task forces. For example, press reports mention TF 10 (a company from the U.S. 10th Special Forces Group) in RC-Capital; TF 45 (Italian SOF) in RC-West; TF 47 (German SOF) in RC-North; TF 49 and TF 50 (Polish SOF) in Ghazni and other areas in RC-East; TF 42 and TF 528 (British SOF) in Helmand; and TF 66 (Australian SOF) in Uruzgan and Kandahar. (Units that have since withdrawn included France’s TF 32 and the Netherlands’ TF 637.)

⁷ CJSOAC-A is composed of helicopter, fixed-wing, and unmanned aviation units from the U.S. Air Force Special Operations Command, the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, and conventional U.S. Army aviation units.

⁸ 9th AETF-A does not fall under ISAF command, but its commander is dual-hatted as Deputy Commander (Air) of USFOR-A. It exercises only partial control of the wings and squadrons below it; day-to-day tactical control of those units is exercised by U.S. Air Force Central’s Combined Air and Space Operations Center in the Persian Gulf.

⁹ 26th ERQS is an HH-60G squadron. Kandahar Airfield web site.

¹⁰ 46th ERQS is a “Guardian Angel” squadron of medical and rescue specialists who work aboard 26th ERQS’s HH-60Gs. Kandahar Airfield web site.

¹¹ 76th ERQS is an HC-130P squadron. Tech. Sgt. Beth Del Vecchio, “76th ERQS Flies So That Others May Live,” DVIDS, January 30, 2012.

¹² 361st ERS is equipped with MC-12 manned airplanes and MQ-1 and MQ-9 drones. Kandahar Airfield web site.

¹³ This F-16 squadron deployed in August 2012.

¹⁴ 772nd EAS is a C-130 squadron. Kandahar Airfield web site.

¹⁵ 4th ERS is an MC-12 squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.

¹⁶ 33rd ERQS is a “Guardian Angel” squadron of medical and rescue specialists who work aboard 83rd ERQS’s HH-60Gs. Bagram Airfield web site.

¹⁷ 62nd ERS is an MQ-1 and MQ-9 drone squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.

¹⁸ 83rd ERQS is an HH-60G squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.

¹⁹ 354th EFS is an A-10C squadron that relieved 184th EFS in October 2012. See warthognews.blogspot.com.

²⁰ 391st EFS is an F-15E squadron that was in Afghanistan as of August 2012.

²¹ 774th EAS is a C-130 squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.

²² VMAQ-3 relieved VMAQ-2 in early October 2012. It is an EA-6B squadron.

²³ 333rd MP Brigade relieved 42nd MP Brigade in November 2012. See brigade Facebook page.

²⁴ MCC(SW) Maria Yager, CJIATF-435, “Navy Military Police Battalion Changes Command, Swaps Crew,” May 13, 2011.

²⁵ This battalion deployed in July-August 2012.

²⁶ This battalion deployed in late August 2012.

²⁷ This battalion deployed in early 2012.

²⁸ This Quebec-based battalion, likely from the Royal 22e Regiment, relieved 2 RCR in October 2012. See Operation Attention web site.

²⁹ I-294 relieved I-167 Infantry in early May 2013.

³⁰ The current command teams of the six regional support commands arrived in May-July 2012.

³¹ V Corps relieved I Corps as the headquarters of the IJC in June 2012.

³² The Navy's EOD Group Two relieved the Army's 71st Ordnance Group as CJTF Paladin in late June 2012. Lt. j.g. Andrew Carleen, "Navy Takes Over Counter-IED Task Force in Afghanistan," DVIDS, June 29, 2012.

³³ 3rd EOD Battalion relieved 192nd EOD Battalion in late August 2012.

³⁴ EODMU-6 left Afghanistan in August 2011 and had returned as of July 2012.

³⁵ JTF Empire relieved the 18th Engineer Brigade, which had been responsible for only northern and eastern Afghanistan, in June 2012. Staff Sgt. Derek Smith, "411th Engineers Assume Control of Operations in Afghanistan," DVIDS, June 12, 2012.

³⁶ 1st Engineer Battalion relieved 7th Engineer Battalion in October 2012. See battalion Facebook page.

³⁷ 20th Engineer Battalion relieved 980th Engineer Battalion in November 2012. See JTF Empire newsletter.

³⁸ 92nd Engineer Battalion relieved 62nd Engineer Battalion in March 2013. See battalion Facebook page.

³⁹ 120th Engineer Battalion relieved 223rd Engineer Battalion in September 2012.

⁴⁰ 178th Engineer Battalion likely relieved 578th Engineer Battalion in September 2012.

⁴¹ 307th Engineer Battalion relieved 507th Engineer Battalion in March 2013.

⁴² NMCB-15 relieved NMCB-133 in March 2013.

⁴³ ODIN stands for Observe-Detect-Identify-Neutralize. TF ODIN-E stood up in the summer of 2012.

⁴⁴ TF ODIN-A operates the MQ-1C and RQ-5 UAVs and various versions of the C-12 and C-35 airplanes.

⁴⁵ TF Condor operates the RQ-5 UAV and a version of the C-12 airplane.

⁴⁶ The current headquarters of RC-Capital arrived in November 2011. ISAF.NATO.int, "Subordinate Commands | RC-Capital."

⁴⁷ 101st Airborne Division took over as RC-East in March 2013. See RC-East Facebook page.

⁴⁸ TF Bullwhip relieved 716th MP Battalion in December 2012. See 101st Sustainment Brigade Facebook page.

⁴⁹ 793rd MP Battalion deployed in October 2012. See battalion Facebook page.

⁵⁰ 1st SFAB, 101st Airborne relieved 4th BCT, 4th ID and advisor teams from 2nd BCT, 101st Airborne in early December 2012. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages. A security force assistance team is typically about half the size of a brigade combat team, even if it has the same number of battalions.

⁵¹ 2nd SFAB, 10th Mountain relieved elements of 4th BCT, 1st ID in mid-February 2013.

⁵² 101st CAB relieved 82nd CAB in September 2012. Each of its battalion task forces combines UH-60, CH-47, AH-64, and OH-58 companies and provides direct support to a BCT. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.

⁵³ TF Iron Warriors combines elements of two battalions into a single battalion-plus task force.

⁵⁴ 7e BB relieved 2e BB as TF La Fayette in November 2012, when the French combat mission in Afghanistan ended.

⁵⁵ DefenceReviewAsia.com, "Afghanistan: The Year of the Tiger," May 26, 2010.

⁵⁶ 92e RI relieved 1er RI as GTIA Surobi in June 2012. 1st Lt. Cecile Canali, "French Battle Group Picardie Becomes French Battle Group Wild Geese," June 19, 2012.

⁵⁷ 4th SFAB, 1st Cavalry is the first SFAB to deploy, arriving in November 2012 with a total of about 1,400 soldiers (each of its battalions deployed with less than half its soldiers). The brigade relieved French units from TF LaFayette that relocated to Kabul. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.

³⁸ 3rd BCT, 101st Airborne relieved 4th Airborne BCT, 25th ID in early October 2012. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.

⁵⁹ 173rd ABCT relieved 3rd BCT, 1st AD in July 2012. See brigade and battalion Facebook pages.

⁶⁰ TF 222 is built around an unidentified Jordanian Ranger battalion. The battalions appear to rotate in roughly December and June. Maj. Ashraf al-Adwan, "A Lasting Partnership."

⁶¹ 1st SFAB, 10th Mountain relieved elements of 4th BCT, 1st ID in mid-February 2013.

⁶² 12th Mechanized Brigade relieved 6th Airborne Brigade as TF White Eagle around October 2012.

⁶³ The current headquarters of RC-North arrived in February 2013. ISAF.NATO.int, "Subordinate Commands | RC-North."

- ⁶⁴ The Nordic-Baltic Transition Support Unit was established in March 2013 and comprises 450 Swedish, Norwegian, Finnish, and Latvian troops.
- ⁶⁵ The current leadership of PATF Kunduz, from Airborne Brigade 26, took over in January 2013. See RC-North Facebook page.
- ⁶⁶ See RC-North Facebook page.
- ⁶⁷ 3-7 Cavalry relieved 1-125 Infantry in early September 2012. See squadron Facebook page.
- ⁶⁸ 3rd ID relieved the 82nd Airborne as RC-South in early September 2012. See division Facebook page.
- ⁶⁹ CTU is a composite headquarters made up of U.S. and Australian personnel. Although the commander of CTU is an Australian officer, who relieved American leadership in October 2012, much of CTU's headquarters is formed from 2nd BCT, 3rd ID, an American brigade headquarters whose commander acts as CTU's deputy commander. See CTU Facebook page.
- ⁷⁰ MTF-6 relieved MTF-5 in late November 2012. See CTU Facebook page.
- ⁷¹ 2nd Maneuver Battalion relieved 21st Mountain Battalion in January or early February 2013.
- ⁷² 33rd Mountain Battalion relieved 280th Mechanized Infantry Battalion in late July or early August 2012. Romanian Ministry of National Defense press release, August 20, 2012.
- ⁷³ 4th SBCT, 2nd ID relieved 3rd SBCT, 2nd ID in late November 2012. See brigade Facebook page.
- ⁷⁴ 3rd CAB relieved 25th CAB in January-February 2013.
- ⁷⁵ 1st SBCT, 1st AD relieved 2nd SBCT, 2nd ID in early January 2013. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.
- ⁷⁶ 503rd MP Battalion relieved 385th MP Battalion in May 2012. See DVIDS.
- ⁷⁷ II MEF (Forward) took over as RC-Southwest in late February 2013.
- ⁷⁸ 1st Mechanized Brigade relieved 4th Mechanized Brigade in April 2013.
- ⁷⁹ 4 Rifles relieved 1 Scots in early April 2013.
- ⁸⁰ 22 Engineer Regiment relieved 21 Engineer Regiment in April 2013. See regiment Facebook page.
- ⁸¹ 1 Regiment RHA relieved 4 Regiment RA in April 2013.
- ⁸² 2 RTR relieved 1 LANCS in April 2013.
- ⁸³ 2 LANCS relieved 1 Mercian Regiment in Nad-e-Ali in April 2013.
- ⁸⁴ 1 RRF relieved 40 Commando in April 2013.
- ⁸⁵ Team 15 relieved Team 14 in February 2013. It is expected to be the last Danish battalion in Afghanistan.
- ⁸⁶ RCT-7 relieved RCT-6 in late October 2012. See regimental Facebook page.
- ⁸⁷ 3/4 Marines relieves 2/7 Marines in April 2013.
- ⁸⁸ 3/9 Marines relieved 3/8 in November 2012.
- ⁸⁹ 3rd CEB deployed in April 2013.
- ⁹⁰ The 33rd and 42nd Georgian battalions deployed in April 2013.
- ⁹¹ 2nd MAW (Forward) relieved 3rd MAW (Forward) in late February 2013.
- ⁹² VMA-231 is an AV-8B squadron that relieved VMA-211 in December 2012.
- ⁹³ HMMH-361 is a CH-53E squadron that relieved HMMH-362 in fall 2012.
- ⁹⁴ HMLA-169 is an AH-1W and UH-1Y squadron that relieved HMLA-469 in November 2012.
- ⁹⁵ VMM-264 is an MV-22B squadron that was in Afghanistan as of April 2013.
- ⁹⁶ JHF(A) is made up of British Army, Royal Air Force, and Royal Navy units. It operates a variety of attack and lift helicopters.
- ⁹⁷ II(AC) Squadron, a Tornado GR4 squadron, relieved IX(B) Squadron in March 2013.
- ⁹⁸ 39 Squadron is a Reaper UAV squadron.
- ⁹⁹ The "Julia" Brigade relieved the "Taurinense" Brigade as RC-West in March 2013.
- ¹⁰⁰ 3-144 Infantry relieved 2-108 Infantry in September 2012. See battalion Facebook page.



COALITION COMBAT FORCES IN AFGHANISTAN

AFGHANISTAN ORDER OF BATTLE

BY WESLEY MORGAN JUNE 2013

This document describes the composition and placement of U.S. and other Western combat and advisory forces in Afghanistan down to battalion level. It includes the following categories of units: maneuver (i.e. infantry, armor, and cavalry) units, which in most cases are responsible for advising or partnering with Afghan troops in particular districts or provinces; artillery units; aviation units, both rotary and fixed-wing; military police units; most types of engineer and explosive ordnance disposal units; and “white” special operations forces. It does not include “black” special operations units or other units such as logistical, transportation, medical, and intelligence units or Provincial Reconstruction Teams.

International Security Assistance Force / United States Forces Afghanistan (Gen. Joseph Dunford, USMC) ISAF Headquarters, Kabul

Special Operations Joint Task Force Afghanistan / NATO Special Operations Component Command Afghanistan (Maj. Gen. Raymond Thomas III, USA) Camp Integrity, Kabul¹

Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force—Afghanistan (USA)—Bagram Airfield; village stability operations, advisors to Afghan Defense Ministry special operations forces, and other missions²

Special Operations Task Force—East (USA)—Bagram Airfield; operating in eastern Afghanistan

Special Operations Task Force—South (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; operating in Kandahar Province

Special Operations Task Force—South-East (USN)—U/I location; operating in Uruzgan and Zabul Provinces

Special Operations Task Force—West (USMC)—Camp Lawton, Herat; operating in western Afghanistan and Helmand Province

TF Balkh / 2-7 Infantry (Lt. Col. Todd Kelly, USA)—Camp Mike Spann, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in northern Afghanistan³

TF Paktika / 3-69 Armor (Lt. Col. Orestees Davenport, USA)—FOB Sharana; operating in Paktika Province⁴

ISAF Special Operations Forces / Special Operations Command and Control Element (Brig. Mark Smethurst, Australia)—Kabul; advisors to Afghan Interior Ministry special operations forces⁵

Regional Special Operations Task Groups—located around Afghanistan⁶

Combined Joint Special Operations Aviation Component—Afghanistan (USAF/USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support to SOJTF-A special operations forces⁷

9th Air and Space Expeditionary Task Force Afghanistan (Maj. Gen. H.D. Polumbo, USAF) Kabul International Airport; oversees U.S. Air Force units in Afghanistan⁸

451st Air Expeditionary Wing (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; air support in southern and western Afghanistan

26th Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; medical evacuation support⁹

46th Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Camp Bastion and Kandahar Airfield; medical evacuation support¹⁰

76th Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Camp Bastion; medical evacuation support¹¹

361st Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support¹²

179th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; close air support¹³

772nd Expeditionary Airlift Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; transport support¹⁴

455th Air Expeditionary Wing (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; air support in eastern and northern Afghanistan

4th Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support¹⁵

33rd Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; medical evacuation support¹⁶

62nd Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support¹⁷

83rd Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; medical evacuation support¹⁸

354th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; close air support¹⁹

391st Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; close air support²⁰

774th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; transport support²¹

Marine Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron 3 (USMC)—Bagram Airfield; counter-IED mission²²

Combined Joint Interagency Task Force 435 (Lt. Gen. Keith Huber, USA) Kabul; responsible for rule-of-law and detention operations

TF Titan / 333rd Military Police Brigade (Brig. Gen. Philip Churn, USA)—Parwan Detention Facility; detention operations²³

Task Group Trident / Navy Military Police Battalion—Afghanistan (USN)—Parwan Detention Facility; detainee guard force²⁴

160th Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Terry Robey, USA)—Parwan Detention Facility²⁵

384th Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Kevin Keen, USA)—Parwan Detention Facility; Afghan army detention advisors²⁶

535th Military Police Battalion (USA)—Parwan Detention Facility; investigation force²⁷

NATO Training Mission Afghanistan / Combined Security Transition Command Afghanistan (Lt. Gen. Daniel Bolger, USA) Camp Eggers, Kabul; responsible for training Afghan security forces

U/I infantry battalion (Canada)—Camp Alamo, Kabul, and other locations; training Afghan forces and national and regional training centers²⁸

TF Guam / 1-294 Infantry (USA)—Camp Eggers, Kabul; NTM-A security force²⁹

Regional Support Command Capital (Col. Marlin Remigio, USA)—Camp Phoenix; training Afghan forces in Kabul³⁰

Regional Support Command East (Col. Ronald Metternich, USA)—Bagram Airfield; training Afghan forces in eastern Afghanistan

Regional Support Command North (Col. Ted Donnelly, USA)—Camp Mike Spann, Mazar-e-Sharif; training Afghan forces in northern Afghanistan

Regional Support Command South (Col. Christopher Reed, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; training Afghan forces in southern Afghanistan

Regional Support Command Southwest (Col. Scott Arnold, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; training Afghan forces in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces

Regional Support Command West (Col. Rod Arrington, USMC)—Camp Stone, Herat; training Afghan forces in western Afghanistan

ISAF Joint Command / III Corps (Lt. Gen. Mark Milley, USA) Kabul International Airport; countrywide operational headquarters³¹

Combined Joint Task Force Paladin / 52nd Ordnance Group (USA)—Bagram Airfield; overseeing counter-IED operations countrywide³²

TF Paladin East (USA)—Bagram Airfield; counter-IED operations in eastern Afghanistan

TF Paladin South / 3rd EOD Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; counter-IED operations in southern Afghanistan³³

TF Paladin Southwest (USN)—Camp Leatherneck, Helmand; counter-IED operations in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces³⁴

Joint Task Force Triple Nickel / 555th Engineer Brigade (Col. Nicholas Katers, USA)—Bagram Airfield; overseeing engineer operations countrywide³⁵

TF Diehard / 1st Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Thomas Hairgrove, USA)—FOB Shank, Logar; engineer support in N2KL and in Ghazni, Logar, and Wardak Provinces³⁶

TF Lumberjack / 20th Engineer Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; construction support in Kandahar Province³⁷

TF Black Diamond / 92nd Engineer Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; retrograde operations in southern Afghanistan³⁸

TF Outlaw / 120th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Jack Ritter, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; route clearance in southern Afghanistan³⁹

TF War Horse / 122nd Engineer Battalion (USA)—FOB Sharana; route clearance in Paktya, Paktika, and Khost Provinces⁴⁰

TF SAW / 307th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Brett Sylvia, USA)—Camp Leatherneck; route clearance in southwestern and western Afghanistan⁴¹

TF True Grit / Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 15 (Cmdr. Anthony Spindler, USN)—Camp Leatherneck; construction support in Helmand Province⁴²

TF ODIN (Enhanced) (Col. Adam Hinsdale, USA)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support in eastern and southern Afghanistan⁴³

TF ODIN-A (USA)—Bagram Airfield and Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support⁴⁴

TF Condor (USA)—Bagram Airfield and Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support⁴⁵

Regional Command Capital (Brig. Gen. Levent Gozkaya, Turkey) Camp Warehouse, Kabul; operating in Kabul Province⁴⁶

1st Battalion Motorized Task Force (Turkey)—Camp Dogan, Kabul

2nd Battalion Motorized Task Force (Turkey)—Camp Gazi, Kabul

Regional Command East / 101st Airborne Division (Maj. Gen. James McConville, USA) Bagram Airfield; operating in fourteen eastern provinces⁴⁷

TF Bullwhip / U/I Military Police Battalion—Camp Julien, Kabul; advising Afghan police in northern RC-East⁴⁸

TF Spartan / 793rd Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Stephen Gabavics, USA)—U/I location; advising Afghan police in southern RC-East⁴⁹

TF Bastogne / 1st Security Force Assistance Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Col. J.P. McGee, USA)—Jalalabad Airfield; operating in Kunar, Nangarhar, and Nuristan Provinces⁵⁰

TF Bulldog / 1-327 Infantry (USA)—FOB Finley-Shields; operating in Nangarhar Province

TF No Slack / 2-327 Infantry (Lt. Col. Brian Sullivan, USA)—FOB Joyce, Chawkey District; operating in Kunar Province

TF 2-320 Field Artillery (USA)—U/I location; brigade artillery support and advisor teams

TF Commandos / 2nd Security Force Assistance Brigade, 10th Mountain Division (Col. Dennis Sullivan, USA)—FOB Sharana; operating in Paktika Province⁵¹

TF Golden Dragons / 2-14 Infantry (Lt. Col. Robert Fouche, USA)—FOB Orgun; operating in eastern Paktika Province

TF Allons / 2-15 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Christopher Wendland, USA)—FOB Sharana; brigade artillery support

TF Wolverine / 1-89 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Robert Griggs, USA)—FOB Sharana; operating in western Paktika Province

TF Currahee / 4th Security Force Assistance Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Col. Val Keaveny, USA)—FOB Salerno, Khost; operating in Khost and Paktya Provinces⁵²

TF 1-61 Cavalry (USA)—Camp Clark, Khost; operating in western Khost Province

TF 1-506 Infantry (USA)—U/I location

TF 2-506 Infantry (USA)—FOB Salerno; operating in eastern Khost Province

TF 4-320 Field Artillery (USA)—U/I location; brigade artillery support

TF Falcon / 10th Combat Aviation Brigade (Col. David Francis, USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support in eastern and northern Afghanistan⁵³

TF Tigershark / 1-10 Attack Aviation (USA)—FOB Salerno; aviation support in Khost and Paktya Provinces

TF Knighthawk / 2-10 Assault Aviation (USA)—FOB Shank; aviation support in Logar and Wardak Provinces

TF Phoenix / 3-10 General Support Aviation (USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support in Bamyán, Laghman, Panjshir, and Parwan Provinces

TF Iron Warriors / 1-104 Attack Aviation and 2-501 General Support Aviation (USA)—Camp Marmal, Mazar-e-Sharif; aviation support in RC-North⁵⁴

TF Dragon / 1-501 Attack Aviation (Lt. Col. Glen Heape, USA)—Jalalabad Airfield; aviation support in Kunar, Nangarhar, and Nuristan Provinces

TF Long Knife / 4th Security Force Assistance Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division (Col. Bill Benson, USA)—FOB Gamberi; operating in Kapisa, Laghman, and Parwan Provinces⁵⁵

TF Garry Owen / 2-7 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Robert Kuth, USA)—FOB Naghlu High, Kapisa; operating in Kapisa Province

TF Headhunter / 1-9 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Jose Polanco, USA)—Bagram Airfield; operating in Parwan Province

TF Thunderhorse / 2-12 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Monte Rone, USA)—FOB Mehtar Lam; operating in Laghman Province

TF Black Dragon / 5-82 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. William Johnson, USA)—FOB Gamberi; brigade artillery support

TF Vanguard / 4th Security Force Assistance Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division (Col. Kimo Gallahue, USA)—FOB Shank, Logar; operating in Logar and Wardak Provinces⁵⁶

TF Nashmi / TF 222 (Jordan)—FOB Shank; operating in Logar Province⁵⁷

TF Cottonbaler / 3-7 Infantry (Lt. Col. Gregory Bell, USA)—FOB Shank; operating in Logar Province

6-8 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Justin Hadley, USA)—FOB Shank; operating in Logar Province

TF China / 3-15 Infantry (Lt. Col. Joel Smith, USA)—U/I location; operating in Wardak Province

TF Patriot / 1-76 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Lee Overby, USA)—FOB Shank; brigade artillery support

TF Warrior / 1st Security Force Assistance Brigade, 10th Mountain Division (Col. Stephen Michael, USA)—FOB Warrior; operating in southern and eastern Ghazni Province⁵⁸

TF 3-6 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Mike Oeschger, USA)—U/I location

TF 2-22 Infantry (USA)—FOB Warrior; operating in southern Ghazni Province

TF Summit / 1-87 Infantry (Lt. Col. Daniel Morgan, USA)—FOB Arian; operating in eastern Ghazni Province

TF White Eagle (Poland)—FOB Ghazni; operating in northern Ghazni Province⁵⁹

Battle Group Alpha (Poland)—FOB Ghazni; operating in northern Ghazni Province

Battle Group Bravo (Poland)—U/I location; operating in northern Ghazni Province

Regional Command North (Maj. Gen. Jorg Vollmer, Germany) Camp Marmal, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in nine northern provinces⁶⁰

Nordic-Baltic Transition Support Unit—Camp Northern Lights, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in RC-North⁶¹

Partnering and Advisory Task Force Kunduz (Germany)—FOB Kunduz; operating in southern Kunduz Province⁶²

Partnering and Advisory Task Force Mazar-e-Sharif (Germany)—Camp Marmal; operating in Balkh Province

Expeditionary Air Wing Mazar-e-Sharif (Germany)—Camp Marmal; fixed- and rotary-wing aviation support for northern Afghanistan⁶³

TF 6-4 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Michael Zernickow, USA)—FOB Kunduz; operating in northern Kunduz Province⁶⁴

Regional Command South / 3rd Infantry Division (Maj. Gen. Robert “Abe” Abrams, USA) Kandahar Airfield; operating in Kandahar, Uruzgan, and Zabul Provinces⁶⁵

Combined Team Uruzgan (Col. Simon Stuart, Australia)—Camp Holland, Tarin Kowt; operating in Uruzgan Province⁶⁶

Mentoring Task Force 6 / 7 Royal Australian Regiment (Lt. Col. Malcolm Wells, Australia)—Camp Holland; operating in Uruzgan Province⁶⁷

TF Raider / 1st Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division (Col. James Crider, USA)—FOB Apache, Qalat; operating in Zabul Province

TF Blackhawk / 2-1 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Chuck Lombardo, USA)—FOB Apache; operating in Zabul Province

TF Garryowen / 5-7 Cavalry (USA)—FOB Apache; operating in Zabul Province

TF I-41 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Thomas Hawn, USA)—FOB Lagman, Qalat; operating in Zabul Province

Maneuver Battalion 1 (Romania)—FOB Apache, Qalat; operating along Highway I in Zabul Province⁶⁸

Maneuver Battalion 2 (Romania)—FOB Bullard, Shah Joy District; operating along Highway I in Zabul Province⁶⁹

TF Dragoon / 4th Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division (Col. Michael Getchell, USA)—FOB Masum Ghar, Panjwayi; operating in southern and eastern Kandahar Province⁷⁰

TF Manchu / 4-9 Infantry (Lt. Col. James Dooghan, USA)—U/I location; operating in western Panjwayi District

TF Viking / 2-12 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. William Downing, USA)—FOB Lindsey; operating east of Kandahar City

TF Tomahawk / 2-23 Infantry (Lt. Col. Tom Feltey, USA)—FOB Spin Boldak; operating in Spin Boldak District

TF Rosser / 1-38 Infantry (Lt. Col. Chad Sundem, USA)—FOB Shoja; operating in eastern Panjwayi District

TF Falcon / 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade (Col. Allan Pepin, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in southern and western Afghanistan⁷¹

TF Viper / 1-3 Attack Aviation (Lt. Col. Kelly Hines, USA)—FOB Wolverine, Zabul; aviation support in Zabul Province

TF Knighthawk / 2-3 General Support Aviation (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in Kandahar Province

TF Brawler / 4-3 Assault Aviation (USA)—FOB Tarin Kowt; aviation support in Uruzgan Province

TF Lighthorse / 3-17 Air Cavalry (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in Kandahar Province

TF Ready First / 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division (Col. Kenneth Adgie, USA)—Camp Nathan Smith; operating in Kandahar City and northern and western Kandahar Province⁷²

TF Ripcord / 503rd Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Terry Nihart, USA)—Camp Nathan Smith; Afghan police advisors⁷³

TF Blackhawk / 6-1 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Kevin Wallace, USA)—Camp Nathan Smith; operating in Kandahar City

TF 2-3 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Paul Weyrauch, USA)—FOB Frontenac; operating in Shah Wali Kot District

TF Buffalo / 4-17 Infantry (Lt. Col. James Van Atta, USA)—Camp Nathan Smith; operating in Arghandab District

TF Spartan / 1-36 Infantry (Lt. Col. Kevin Admiral, USA)—FOB Azizullah; operating in Maywand District

TF Rifle / 3-4I Infantry (Lt. Col. Tom Anderson, USA)—FOB Pasab; operating in Zhari District

Regional Command Southwest / II Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward) (Maj. Gen. Lee Miller, USMC) Camp Leatherneck; operating in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces⁷⁴

TF Helmand / 1st Mechanized Brigade (Brig. Rupert Jones, UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; operating in central Helmand Province⁷⁵

Brigade Advisory Group / 4 Rifles (Lt. Col. Tom Bewick, UK)—Camp Tombstone; Afghan army advisors⁷⁶

Joint Engineer Group / 22 Engineer Regiment (Lt. Col. Jason Kerr, UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; brigade engineer support⁷⁷

Joint Fires Group / 1 Regiment Royal Horse Artillery (UK)—U/I location; brigade artillery support⁷⁸

Police Mentoring and Advisory Group / 2 Royal Regiment of Scotland (Lt. Col. Robin Lindsay, UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; Afghan police advisors

Transition Support Unit Lashkar Gah / 2nd Royal Tank Regiment (UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; operating in Lashkar Gah District⁷⁹

Transition Support Unit Nad-e-Ali / 2 Duke of Lancaster's Regiment (Lt. Col. Neil Unsworth, UK)—FOB Shawqat; operating in Nad-e-Ali District⁸⁰

Transition Support Unit Nahr-e-Saraj / 1 Royal Regiment of Fusiliers (Lt. Col. John Swift, UK)—FOB Price, Gereshk; operating in Nahr-e-Saraj District⁸¹

Household Cavalry (UK)—Camp Bastion; elements acting as Brigade Reconnaissance Force

Team 15 / 1 Royal Life Guards (Col. Anders Pedersen, Denmark)—Camp Bastion; training Afghan forces⁸²

Regimental Combat Team 7 (Col. Austin Renforth, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; operating in northern and southern Helmand Province and Nimruz Province⁸³

3/4 Marines (USMC)—FOB Jackson, Sangin; operating in northern Helmand Province⁸⁴

2/8 Marines (USMC)—FOB Geronimo, Nawa; operating in southern Helmand Province⁸⁵

3rd Combat Engineer Battalion (USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; engineer support⁸⁶

33rd Light Infantry Battalion (Georgia)—COP Shukvani; operating in Musa Qala District⁸⁷

42nd Light Infantry Battalion (Georgia)—U/I location

2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward) (Brig. Gen. Gary Thomas, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; aviation support in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces⁸⁸

Marine Attack Squadron 231 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; fixed-wing close air support⁸⁹

Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 361 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; heavy transport aviation⁹⁰

Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 169 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; attack aviation⁹¹

Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 264 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; medium transport aviation⁹²

Joint Aviation Group (UK)—Camp Leatherneck; headquarters for British aviation units

Joint Helicopter Force Afghanistan (UK)—Camp Leatherneck; aviation support for TF Helmand⁹³

II (Army Cooperation) Squadron Royal Air Force (UK)—Kandahar Airfield; close air support for TF Helmand⁹⁴

39 Squadron Royal Air Force (UK)—Kandahar Airfield; drone support for TF Helmand⁹⁵

Regional Command West / “Julia” Alpine Brigade (Brig. Gen. Ignazio Gamba, Italy) Camp Arena, Herat; operating in Badghis, Farah, Ghor, and Herat Provinces⁹⁶

Transition Support Unit Badghis (Spain)—Qala-e-Naw; operating in Badghis Province

Transition Support Unit Center / 7th Alpine Regiment (Italy)—FOB La Marmora, Shindand; operating in southern Herat Province

Transition Support Unit South / 8th Alpine Regiment (Italy)—Camp El Alamein, Farah; operating in western Farah Province

TF Fenice / 5th Aviation Regiment (Italy)—Herat Airfield; aviation support in western Afghanistan

TF Genio / 2nd Engineer Regiment (Italy)—Camp Arena, Herat; engineer support for western Afghanistan

3-144 Infantry (Lt. Col. John Herrera, USA)—U/I location; operating in western Afghanistan⁹⁷

Major changes since May 1, 2013:

—Relief of V Corps by III Corps as headquarters of the ISAF Joint Command

—Relief of 3rd BCT, 101st Airborne by 4th SFAB, 101st Airborne in RC-East

—Relief of 101st Combat Aviation Brigade by 10th Combat Aviation Brigade in RC-East

—Departure of TF La Fayette from RC-East

NOTES

- ¹ Established in the summer of 2012, SOJTF-A/NSOCC-A is a two-star headquarters that oversees all three allied SOF commands in Afghanistan: CJSOTF-A, ISAF SOF, and the “black” special operations forces of the U.S. Joint Special Operations Command task force. See USSOCOM Fact Book 2013.
- ² CJSOTF-A is headquartered by troops from the 3rd Special Forces Group. Its core tasks are to advise the Afghan National Army’s special operations forces (the Afghan commando kandaks and Special Forces) and to train and advise the local police forces associated with the Village Stability Operations program. CJSOTF-A controls six battalion-level task forces: two built around Army Special Forces battalions, two around Army infantry battalions, one around a Marine special operations battalion, and one around a Navy SEAL team. Navy Combat Camera Command Detachment 1210, “CJSOTF-A Presentation,” June 2012.
- ³ 2-7 Infantry relieved 1-30 Infantry in October 2012. TF Balkh mixes conventional and special operations troops. See battalion Facebook page.
- ⁴ 3-69 Armor deployed in November 2012. TF Paktika mixes conventional and special operations troops. See battalion Facebook page.
- ⁵ Established in 2007, ISAF SOF is a one-star, brigade-level headquarters that oversees most non-U.S. special operations forces in Afghanistan as well as one U.S. special operations unit, TF 10. Command of ISAF SOF appears to rotate between British and Australian officers; Brig. Mark Smethurst was in command as of March 2012.
- ⁶ The ISAF SOTGs, some battalion-level and some company-level, support the various regional commands, often by advising elite Afghan Interior Ministry units like the Provincial Response Companies, the Kabul-based Crisis Response Unit, and TF 333 and TF 444, and are designated as numbered task forces. For example, press reports mention TF 10 (a company from the U.S. 10th Special Forces Group) in RC-Capital; TF 45 (Italian SOF) in RC-West; TF 47 (German SOF) in RC-North; TF 49 and TF 50 (Polish SOF) in Ghazni and other areas in RC-East; TF 42 and TF 528 (British SOF) in Helmand; and TF 66 (Australian SOF) in Uruzgan and Kandahar. (Units that have since withdrawn included France’s TF 32 and the Netherlands’ TF 637.)
- ⁷ CJSOAC-A is composed of helicopter, fixed-wing, and unmanned aviation units from the U.S. Air Force Special Operations Command, the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, and conventional U.S. Army aviation units.
- ⁸ 9th AETF-A does not fall under ISAF command, but its commander is dual-hatted as Deputy Commander (Air) of USFOR-A. It exercises only partial control of the wings and squadrons below it; day-to-day tactical control of those units is exercised by U.S. Air Force Central’s Combined Air and Space Operations Center in the Persian Gulf.
- ⁹ 26th ERQS is an HH-60G squadron. Kandahar Airfield web site.
- ¹⁰ 46th ERQS is a “Guardian Angel” squadron of medical and rescue specialists who work aboard 26th ERQS’s HH-60Gs. Kandahar Airfield web site.
- ¹¹ 76th ERQS is an HC-130P squadron. Tech. Sgt. Beth Del Vecchio, “76th ERQS Flies So That Others May Live,” DVIDS, January 30, 2012.
- ¹² 361st ERS is equipped with MC-12 manned airplanes and MQ-1 and MQ-9 drones. Kandahar Airfield web site.
- ¹³ This F-16 squadron deployed in August 2012.
- ¹⁴ 772nd EAS is a C-130 squadron. Kandahar Airfield web site.
- ¹⁵ 4th ERS is an MC-12 squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.
- ¹⁶ 33rd ERQS is a “Guardian Angel” squadron of medical and rescue specialists who work aboard 83rd ERQS’s HH-60Gs. Bagram Airfield web site.
- ¹⁷ 62nd ERS is an MQ-1 and MQ-9 drone squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.
- ¹⁸ 83rd ERQS is an HH-60G squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.
- ¹⁹ 354th EFS is an A-10C squadron that relieved 184th EFS in October 2012. See warthognews.blogspot.com.
- ²⁰ 391st EFS is an F-15E squadron that was in Afghanistan as of August 2012.
- ²¹ 774th EAS is a C-130 squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.
- ²² VMAQ-3 relieved VMAQ-2 in early October 2012. It is an EA-6B squadron.
- ²³ 333rd MP Brigade relieved 42nd MP Brigade in November 2012. See brigade Facebook page.
- ²⁴ MCC(SW) Maria Yager, CJIATF-435, “Navy Military Police Battalion Changes Command, Swaps Crew,” May 13, 2011.
- ²⁵ This battalion deployed in July-August 2012.
- ²⁶ This battalion deployed in late August 2012.
- ²⁷ This battalion deployed in early 2012.
- ²⁸ This Quebec-based battalion, likely from the Royal 22e Regiment, relieved 2 RCR in October 2012. See Operation Attention web site.
- ²⁹ 1-294 relieved 1-167 Infantry in early May 2013.

³⁰ The current command teams of the six regional support commands arrived in May-July 2012.

³¹ V Corps relieved I Corps as the headquarters of the IJC in June 2012.

³² 52nd Ordnance Group relieved the Navy's EOD Group Two as CJTF Paladin in May 2013.

³³ 3rd EOD Battalion relieved 192nd EOD Battalion in late August 2012.

³⁴ EODMU-6 left Afghanistan in August 2011 and had returned as of July 2012.

³⁵ JTF Empire relieved the 18th Engineer Brigade, which had been responsible for only northern and eastern Afghanistan, in June 2012. Staff Sgt. Derek Smith, "411th Engineers Assume Control of Operations in Afghanistan," DVIDS, June 12, 2012.

³⁶ 1st Engineer Battalion relieved 7th Engineer Battalion in October 2012. See battalion Facebook page.

³⁷ 20th Engineer Battalion relieved 980th Engineer Battalion in November 2012. See JTF Empire newsletter.

³⁸ 92nd Engineer Battalion relieved 62nd Engineer Battalion in March 2013. See battalion Facebook page.

³⁹ 120th Engineer Battalion relieved 223rd Engineer Battalion in September 2012.

⁴⁰ 122nd Engineer Battalion relieved 178th Engineer Battalion in May 2013.

⁴¹ 307th Engineer Battalion relieved 507th Engineer Battalion in March 2013.

⁴² NMCB-15 relieved NMCB-133 in March 2013.

⁴³ ODIN stands for Observe-Detect-Identify-Neutralize. TF ODIN-E stood up in the summer of 2012.

⁴⁴ TF ODIN-A operates the MQ-1C and RQ-5 UAVs and various versions of the C-12 and C-35 airplanes.

⁴⁵ TF Condor operates the RQ-5 UAV and a version of the C-12 airplane.

⁴⁶ The current headquarters of RC-Capital arrived in November 2011. ISAF.NATO.int, "Subordinate Commands | RC-Capital."

⁴⁷ 101st Airborne Division took over as RC-East in March 2013. See RC-East Facebook page.

⁴⁸ TF Bullwhip relieved 716th MP Battalion in December 2012. See 101st Sustainment Brigade Facebook page.

⁴⁹ 793rd MP Battalion deployed in October 2012. See battalion Facebook page.

⁵⁰ 1st SFAB, 101st Airborne relieved 4th BCT, 4th ID and advisor teams from 2nd BCT, 101st Airborne in early December 2012. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages. A security force assistance team is typically about half the size of a brigade combat team, even if it has the same number of battalions.

⁵¹ 2nd SFAB, 10th Mountain relieved elements of 4th BCT, 1st ID in mid-February 2013.

⁵² 4th SFAB, 101st Airborne relieved 3rd BCT, 101st Airborne in May 2013. See brigade Facebook page.

⁵³ 10th CAB relieved 101st CAB in May 2013. Each of its battalion task forces combines UH-60, CH-47, AH-64, and OH-58 companies and provides direct support to a BCT. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.

⁵⁴ TF Iron Warriors combines elements of two battalions into a single battalion-plus task force.

⁵⁵ 4th SFAB, 1st Cavalry is the first SFAB to deploy, arriving in November 2012 with a total of about 1,400 soldiers (each of its battalions deployed with less than half its soldiers). The brigade relieved French units from TF LaFayette that relocated to Kabul. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.

⁵⁶ 4th SFAB, 3rd ID relieved 173rd Airborne BCT in March 2013. See brigade and battalion Facebook pages.

⁵⁷ TF 222 is built around an unidentified Jordanian Ranger battalion. The battalions appear to rotate in roughly December and June. Maj. Ashraf al-Adwan, "A Lasting Partnership."

⁵⁸ 1st SFAB, 10th Mountain relieved elements of 4th BCT, 1st ID in mid-February 2013.

⁵⁹ 12th Mechanized Brigade relieved 6th Airborne Brigade as TF White Eagle around October 2012.

⁶⁰ The current headquarters of RC-North arrived in February 2013. ISAF.NATO.int, "Subordinate Commands | RC-North."

⁶¹ The Nordic-Baltic Transition Support Unit was established in March 2013 and comprises 450 Swedish, Norwegian, Finnish, and Latvian troops.

⁶² The current leadership of PATF Kunduz, from Airborne Brigade 26, took over in January 2013. See RC-North Facebook page.

⁶³ See RC-North Facebook page.

⁶⁴ 6-4 Cavalry relieved 3-7 Cavalry in May 2013. See squadron Facebook page.

⁶⁵ 3rd ID relieved the 82nd Airborne as RC-South in early September 2012. See division Facebook page.

⁶⁶ CTU is a composite headquarters made up of U.S. and Australian personnel. Although the commander of CTU is an Australian officer, who relieved American leadership in October 2012, much of CTU's headquarters is formed from 2nd BCT, 3rd ID, an American brigade headquarters whose commander

acts as CTU's deputy commander. See CTU Facebook page.

⁶⁷ MTF-6 relieved MTF-5 in late November 2012. See CTU Facebook page.

⁶⁸ 2nd Maneuver Battalion relieved 21st Mountain Battalion in January or early February 2013.

⁶⁹ 33rd Mountain Battalion relieved 280th Mechanized Infantry Battalion in late July or early August 2012. Romanian Ministry of National Defense press release, August 20, 2012.

⁷⁰ 4th SBCT, 2nd ID relieved 3rd SBCT, 2nd ID in late November 2012. See brigade Facebook page.

⁷¹ 3rd CAB relieved 25th CAB in January-February 2013.

⁷² 1st SBCT, 1st AD relieved 2nd SBCT, 2nd ID in early January 2013. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.

⁷³ 503rd MP Battalion relieved 385th MP Battalion in May 2012. See DVIDS.

⁷⁴ II MEF (Forward) took over as RC-Southwest in late February 2013.

⁷⁵ 1st Mechanized Brigade relieved 4th Mechanized Brigade in April 2013.

⁷⁶ 4 Rifles relieved 1 Scots in early April 2013.

⁷⁷ 22 Engineer Regiment relieved 21 Engineer Regiment in April 2013. See regiment Facebook page.

⁷⁸ 1 Regiment RHA relieved 4 Regiment RA in April 2013.

⁷⁹ 2 RTR relieved 1 LANCS in April 2013.

⁸⁰ 2 LANCS relieved 1 Mercian Regiment in Nad-e-Ali in April 2013.

⁸¹ 1 RRF relieved 40 Commando in April 2013.

⁸² Team 15 relieved Team 14 in February 2013. It is expected to be the last Danish battalion in Afghanistan.

⁸³ RCT-7 relieved RCT-6 in late October 2012. See regimental Facebook page.

⁸⁴ 3/4 Marines relieves 2/7 Marines in April 2013.

⁸⁵ 2/8 Marines relieved 3/9 in May 2013.

⁸⁶ 3rd CEB deployed in April 2013.

⁸⁷ The 33rd and 42nd Georgian battalions deployed in April 2013.

⁸⁸ 2nd MAW (Forward) relieved 3rd MAW (Forward) in late February 2013.

⁸⁹ VMA-231 is an AV-8B squadron that relieved VMA-211 in December 2012.

⁹⁰ HMH-361 is a CH-53E squadron that relieved HMH-362 in fall 2012.

⁹¹ HMLA-169 is an AH-1W and UH-1Y squadron that relieved HMLA-469 in November 2012.

⁹² VMM-264 is an MV-22B squadron that was in Afghanistan as of April 2013.

⁹³ JHF(A) is made up of British Army, Royal Air Force, and Royal Navy units. It operates a variety of attack and lift helicopters.

⁹⁴ II(AC) Squadron, a Tornado GR4 squadron, relieved IX(B) Squadron in March 2013.

⁹⁵ 39 Squadron is a Reaper UAV squadron.

⁹⁶ The "Julia" Brigade relieved the "Taurinense" Brigade as RC-West in March 2013.

⁹⁷ 3-144 Infantry relieved 2-108 Infantry in September 2012. See battalion Facebook page.



COALITION COMBAT AND ADVISORY FORCES IN AFGHANISTAN

AFGHANISTAN ORDER OF BATTLE

BY WESLEY MORGAN JULY 2013

This document describes the composition and placement of U.S. and other Western combat and advisory forces in Afghanistan down to battalion level. It includes the following categories of units: maneuver (i.e. infantry, armor, and cavalry) units, which in most cases are responsible for advising or partnering with Afghan troops in particular districts or provinces; artillery units; aviation units, both rotary and fixed-wing; military police units; most types of engineer and explosive ordnance disposal units; and “white” special operations forces. It does not include “black” special operations units or other units such as logistical, transportation, medical, and intelligence units or Provincial Reconstruction Teams.

International Security Assistance Force / United States Forces Afghanistan (Gen. Joseph Dunford, USMC) ISAF Headquarters, Kabul

Special Operations Joint Task Force Afghanistan / NATO Special Operations Component Command Afghanistan (Maj. Gen. Raymond Thomas III, USA) Camp Integrity, Kabul¹

Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force—Afghanistan (USA)—Bagram Airfield; village stability operations, advisors to Afghan Defense Ministry special operations forces, and other missions²

Special Operations Task Force—East (USA)—Bagram Airfield; operating in eastern Afghanistan

Special Operations Task Force—South (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; operating in Kandahar Province

Special Operations Task Force—South-East (USN)—U/I location; operating in Uruzgan and Zabul Provinces

Special Operations Task Force—West (USMC)—Camp Lawton, Herat; operating in western Afghanistan and Helmand Province

TF 1-26 Infantry (Lt. Col. William Jacobs, USA)—Camp Mike Spann, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in northern Afghanistan³

TF 3-69 Armor (Lt. Col. Orestees Davenport, USA)—FOB Sharana; operating in Paktika Province⁴

ISAF Special Operations Forces / Special Operations Command and Control Element (Brig. Mark Smethurst, Australia)—Kabul; advisors to Afghan Interior Ministry special operations forces⁵

Regional Special Operations Task Groups—located around Afghanistan⁶

Combined Joint Special Operations Aviation Component—Afghanistan (USAF/USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support to SOJTF-A special operations forces⁷

9th Air and Space Expeditionary Task Force Afghanistan (Maj. Gen. H.D. Polumbo, USAF) Kabul International Airport; oversees U.S. Air Force units in Afghanistan⁸

451st Air Expeditionary Wing (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; air support in southern and western Afghanistan

26th Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Camp Bastion; medical evacuation support⁹

361st Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support¹⁰

480th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; close air support¹¹

772nd Expeditionary Airlift Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; transport support¹²

455th Air Expeditionary Wing (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; air support in eastern and northern Afghanistan

4th Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support¹³

83rd Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; medical evacuation support¹⁴

62nd Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Bagram, Kandahar, and Jalalabad Airfields; surveillance support¹⁵

74th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; close air support¹⁶

774th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; transport support¹⁷

Marine Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron (USMC)—Bagram Airfield; counter-IED mission¹⁸

Combined Joint Interagency Task Force 435 (Lt. Gen. Keith Huber, USA) Kabul; responsible for rule-of-law and detention operations

TF Titan / 333rd Military Police Brigade (Brig. Gen. Philip Churn, USA)—Parwan Detention Facility; detention operations¹⁹

Task Group Trident / Navy Military Police Battalion—Afghanistan (USN)—Parwan Detention Facility; detainee guard force²⁰

U/I Military Police Battalion (USA)—Parwan Detention Facility²¹

NATO Training Mission Afghanistan / Combined Security Transition Command Afghanistan (Lt. Gen. Ken Tovo, USA) Camp Eggers, Kabul; responsible for training Afghan security forces²²

U/I infantry battalion (Canada)—Camp Alamo, Kabul, and other locations; training Afghan forces and national and regional training centers²³

TF Guam / 1-294 Infantry (USA)—Camp Eggers, Kabul; NTM-A security force²⁴

ISAF Joint Command / III Corps (Lt. Gen. Mark Milley, USA) Kabul International Airport; countrywide operational headquarters²⁵

Combined Joint Task Force Paladin / 52nd Ordnance Group (USA)—Bagram Airfield; overseeing counter-IED operations countrywide²⁶

TF Paladin East (USA)—Bagram Airfield; counter-IED operations in eastern Afghanistan

TF Paladin South / 3rd EOD Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; counter-IED operations in southern Afghanistan²⁷

TF Paladin Southwest (USN)—Camp Leatherneck, Helmand; counter-IED operations in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces²⁸

Joint Task Force Triple Nickel / 555th Engineer Brigade (Col. Nicholas Katers, USA)—Bagram Airfield; overseeing engineer operations countrywide²⁹

TF Trojan Horse / 8th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Mark Gerald, USA)—FOB Shank, Logar; engineer support in N2KL and in Ghazni, Logar, and Wardak Provinces³⁰

TF Iron Fist / 4th Engineer Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; construction support in Kandahar Province³¹

TF Black Diamond / 92nd Engineer Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; retrograde operations in southern Afghanistan³²

TF War Horse / 122nd Engineer Battalion (USA)—FOB Sharana; route clearance in Paktya, Paktika, and Khost Provinces³³

TF SAW / 307th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Brett Sylvia, USA)—Camp Leatherneck; route clearance in southwestern and western Afghanistan³⁴

TF Dynamite / 878th Engineer Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; route clearance in southern Afghanistan³⁵

TF True Grit / Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 15 (Cmdr. Anthony Spindler, USN)—Camp Leatherneck; construction support in Helmand Province³⁶

TF ODIN (Enhanced) (Col. Adam Hinsdale, USA)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support in eastern and southern Afghanistan³⁷

TF ODIN-A (USA)—Bagram Airfield and Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support³⁸

TF Condor (USA)—Bagram Airfield and Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support³⁹

Regional Command Capital (Brig. Gen. Ali Riza Kugu, Turkey) Camp Warehouse, Kabul; operating in Kabul Province⁴⁰

1st Battalion Motorized Task Force (Turkey)—Camp Dogan, Kabul

2nd Battalion Motorized Task Force (Turkey)—Camp Gazi, Kabul

Regional Command East / 101st Airborne Division (Maj. Gen. James McConville, USA) Bagram Airfield; operating in fourteen eastern provinces⁴¹

TF Bullwhip / U/I Military Police Battalion—Camp Julien, Kabul; advising Afghan police in northern RC-East⁴²

TF Spartan / 793rd Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Stephen Gabavics, USA)—U/I location; advising Afghan police in southern RC-East⁴³

TF Bastogne / 1st Security Force Assistance Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Col. J.P. McGee, USA)—Jalalabad Airfield; operating in Kunar, Nangarhar, and Nuristan Provinces⁴⁴

TF Bulldog / 1-327 Infantry (USA)—FOB Finley-Shields; operating in Nangarhar Province

TF No Slack / 2-327 Infantry (Lt. Col. Brian Sullivan, USA)—FOB Joyce, Chawkey District; operating in Kunar Province

TF 2-320 Field Artillery (USA)—U/I location; brigade artillery support and advisor teams

TF Commandos / 2nd Security Force Assistance Brigade, 10th Mountain Division (Col. Dennis Sullivan, USA)—FOB Sharana; operating in Paktika Province⁴⁵

TF Golden Dragons / 2-14 Infantry (Lt. Col. Robert Fouche, USA)—FOB Orgun; operating in eastern Paktika Province

TF Allons / 2-15 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Christopher Wendland, USA)—FOB Sharana; brigade artillery support

TF Wolverine / 1-89 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Robert Griggs, USA)—FOB Sharana; operating in western Paktika Province

TF Currahee / 4th Security Force Assistance Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Col. Val Keaveny, USA)—FOB Salerno, Khost; operating in Khost and Paktya Provinces⁴⁶

TF 1-61 Cavalry (USA)—Camp Clark, Khost; operating in western Khost Province

TF 1-506 Infantry (USA)—U/I location; operating in Paktya Province

TF 2-506 Infantry (USA)—FOB Salerno; operating in eastern Khost Province

TF 4-320 Field Artillery (USA)—U/I location; brigade artillery support

TF Falcon / 10th Combat Aviation Brigade (Col. David Francis, USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support in eastern and northern Afghanistan⁴⁷

TF Tigershark / 1-10 Attack Aviation (USA)—FOB Salerno; aviation support in Khost and Paktya Provinces

TF Knighthawk / 2-10 Assault Aviation (USA)—FOB Shank; aviation support in Logar and Wardak Provinces

TF Phoenix / 3-10 General Support Aviation (USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support in Bamyan, Laghman, Panjshir, and Parwan Provinces

TF Iron Warriors / 1-104 Attack Aviation and 2-501 General Support Aviation (USA)—Camp Marmal, Mazar-e-Sharif; aviation support in RC-North⁴⁸

TF Dragon / 1-501 Attack Aviation (Lt. Col. Glen Heape, USA)—Jalalabad Airfield; aviation support in Kunar, Nangarhar, and Nuristan Provinces

TF Long Knife / 4th Security Force Assistance Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division (Col. Bill Benson, USA)—FOB Gamberi; operating in Kapisa, Laghman, and Parwan Provinces⁴⁹

TF Headhunter / 1-9 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Jose Polanco, USA)—Bagram Airfield; operating in Parwan Province

TF Thunderhorse / 2-12 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Monte Rone, USA)—FOB Mehtar Lam; operating in Laghman Province

TF Black Dragon / 5-82 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. William Johnson, USA)—FOB Gamberi; brigade artillery support

TF Vanguard / 4th Security Force Assistance Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division (Col. Kimo Gallahue, USA)—FOB Shank, Logar; operating in Logar and Wardak Provinces⁵⁰

TF Nashmi / TF 222 (Jordan)—FOB Shank; operating in Logar Province⁵¹

TF Cottonbaler / 3-7 Infantry (Lt. Col. Gregory Bell, USA)—FOB Shank; operating in Logar Province

TF 6-8 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Justin Hadley, USA)—FOB Shank; operating in Logar Province

TF China / 3-15 Infantry (Lt. Col. Joel Smith, USA)—U/I location; operating in Wardak Province

TF Patriot / 1-76 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Lee Overby, USA)—FOB Shank; brigade artillery support

TF Warrior / 1st Security Force Assistance Brigade, 10th Mountain Division (Col. Stephen Michael, USA)—FOB Warrior; operating in southern and eastern Ghazni Province⁵²

TF 3-6 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Mike Oeschger, USA)—U/I location

TF 2-22 Infantry (USA)—FOB Warrior; operating in southern Ghazni Province

TF Summit / 1-87 Infantry (Lt. Col. Daniel Morgan, USA)—FOB Arian; operating in eastern Ghazni Province

TF White Eagle (Poland)—FOB Ghazni; operating in northern Ghazni Province⁵³

Battle Group Alpha (Poland)—FOB Ghazni; operating in northern Ghazni Province

Battle Group Bravo (Poland)—U/I location; operating in northern Ghazni Province

Regional Command North (Maj. Gen. Jorg Vollmer, Germany) Camp Marmal, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in nine northern provinces⁵⁴

Nordic-Baltic Transition Support Unit—Camp Northern Lights, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in RC-North⁵⁵

Partnering and Advisory Task Force Kunduz (Germany)—FOB Kunduz; operating in southern Kunduz Province⁵⁶

Partnering and Advisory Task Force Mazar-e-Sharif (Germany)—Camp Marmal; operating in Balkh Province

Expeditionary Air Wing Mazar-e-Sharif (Germany)—Camp Marmal; fixed- and rotary-wing aviation support for northern Afghanistan⁵⁷

TF Raider / 6-4 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Michael Zernickow, USA)—FOB Kunduz; operating in northern Kunduz Province⁵⁸

Regional Command South / 3rd Infantry Division (Maj. Gen. Robert “Abe” Abrams, USA) Kandahar Airfield; operating in Kandahar, Uruzgan, and Zabul Provinces⁵⁹

Combined Team Uruzgan (Col. Simon Stuart, Australia)—Camp Holland, Tarin Kowt; operating in Uruzgan Province⁶⁰

Mentoring Task Force 7 / 2nd Cavalry Regiment (Lt. Col. Michael Bye, Australia)—Camp Holland; operating in Uruzgan Province⁶¹

TF Dragoon / 4th Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division (Col. Michael Getchell, USA)—FOB Masum Ghar, Panjwayi; operating in southern and eastern Kandahar Province⁶²

TF Manchu / 4-9 Infantry (Lt. Col. James Dooghan, USA)—FOB Zangabad; operating in Panjwayi District

TF Viking / 2-12 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. William Downing, USA)—FOB Lindsey; operating east of Kandahar City

TF Tomahawk / 2-23 Infantry (Lt. Col. Tom Feltey, USA)—FOB Spin Boldak; operating in Spin Boldak District

TF Duke / 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division (Col. James Crider, USA)—FOB Apache, Qalat; operating in Zabul Province

TF Blackhawk / 2-1 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Chuck Lombardo, USA)—FOB Apache; operating in Zabul Province

TF Ramrod / 2-2 Infantry (USA)—FOB Apache; Afghan army advisors in Zabul Province

TF I-4I Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Thomas Hawn, USA)—FOB Lagman, Qalat; operating in Zabul Province

Maneuver Battalion I (Romania)—FOB Apache, Qalat; operating along Highway I in Zabul Province⁶³

TF Falcon / 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade (Col. Allan Pepin, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in southern and western Afghanistan⁶⁴

TF Viper / 1-3 Attack Aviation (Lt. Col. Kelly Hines, USA)—FOB Wolverine, Zabul; aviation support in Zabul Province

TF Knighthawk / 2-3 General Support Aviation (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in Kandahar Province

TF Brawler / 4-3 Assault Aviation (USA)—FOB Tarin Kowt; aviation support in Uruzgan Province

TF Lighthorse / 3-17 Air Cavalry (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in Kandahar Province

TF Ready First / 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division (Col. Kenneth Adgie, USA)—Camp Nathan Smith; operating in Kandahar City and northern and western Kandahar Province⁶⁵

TF Blackhawk / 6-1 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Kevin Wallace, USA)—Camp Nathan Smith; operating in Kandahar City

TF 2-3 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Paul Weyrauch, USA)—FOB Frontenac; operating in Shah Wali Kot District

TF Buffalo / 4-17 Infantry (Lt. Col. James Van Atta, USA)—Camp Nathan Smith; operating in Arghandab District

TF Spartan / 1-36 Infantry (Lt. Col. Kevin Admiral, USA)—FOB Azizullah; operating in Maywand District

TF Rifle / 3-4I Infantry (Lt. Col. Tom Anderson, USA)—FOB Pasab; operating in Zhari District

Regional Command Southwest / II Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward) (Maj. Gen. Lee Miller, USMC) Camp Leatherneck; operating in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces⁶⁶

TF Helmand / 1st Mechanized Brigade (Brig. Rupert Jones, UK)—Camp Bastion; operating in central Helmand Province⁶⁷

Brigade Advisory Group / 4 Rifles (Lt. Col. Tom Bewick, UK)—Camp Tombstone; Afghan army advisors⁶⁸

Joint Engineer Group / 22 Engineer Regiment (Lt. Col. Jason Kerr, UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; brigade engineer support⁶⁹

Joint Fires Group / 1 Regiment Royal Horse Artillery (UK)—U/I location; brigade artillery support⁷⁰

Police Mentoring and Advisory Group / 2 Royal Regiment of Scotland (Lt. Col. Robin Lindsay, UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; Afghan police advisors

Transition Support Unit Lashkar Gah / 2nd Royal Tank Regiment (UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; operating in Lashkar Gah District⁷¹

Transition Support Unit Nad-e-Ali / 2 Duke of Lancaster's Regiment (Lt. Col. Neil Unsworth, UK)—FOB Shawqat; operating in Nad-e-Ali District⁷²

Transition Support Unit Nahr-e-Saraj / 1 Royal Regiment of Fusiliers (Lt. Col. John Swift, UK)—FOB Price, Gereshk; operating in Nahr-e-Saraj District⁷³

Household Cavalry (UK)—Camp Bastion; elements acting as Brigade Reconnaissance Force

Team 15 / 1 Royal Life Guards (Col. Anders Pedersen, Denmark)—Camp Bastion; training Afghan forces⁷⁴

Regimental Combat Team 7 (Col. Austin Renforth, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; operating in northern and southern Helmand Province and Nimruz Province⁷⁵

3/4 Marines (USMC)—FOB Jackson, Sangin; operating in northern Helmand Province⁷⁶

2/8 Marines (USMC)—FOB Geronimo, Nawa; operating in southern Helmand Province⁷⁷

3rd Combat Engineer Battalion (USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; engineer support⁷⁸

33rd Light Infantry Battalion (Georgia)—COP Shukvani; operating in Musa Qala District⁷⁹

42nd Light Infantry Battalion (Georgia)—U/I location

2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward) (Brig. Gen. Gary Thomas, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; aviation support in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces⁸⁰

Marine Attack Squadron 231 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; fixed-wing close air support⁸¹

Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 361 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; heavy transport aviation⁸²

Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 169 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; attack aviation⁸³

Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 264 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; medium transport aviation⁸⁴

Joint Aviation Group (UK)—Camp Leatherneck; headquarters for British aviation units

Joint Helicopter Force Afghanistan (UK)—Camp Leatherneck; aviation support for TF Helmand⁸⁵

31 Squadron Royal Air Force (UK)—Kandahar Airfield; close air support for TF Helmand⁸⁶

39 Squadron Royal Air Force (UK)—Kandahar Airfield; drone support for TF Helmand⁸⁷

Regional Command West / “Julia” Alpine Brigade (Brig. Gen. Ignazio Gamba, Italy) Camp Arena, Herat; operating in Badghis, Farah, Ghor, and Herat Provinces⁸⁸

Transition Support Unit Badghis (Spain)—Qala-e-Naw; operating in Badghis Province

Transition Support Unit Center / 7th Alpine Regiment (Italy)—FOB La Marmora, Shindand; operating in southern Herat Province

Transition Support Unit South / 8th Alpine Regiment (Italy)—Camp El Alamein, Farah; operating in western Farah Province

TF Fenice / 5th Aviation Regiment (Italy)—Herat Airfield; aviation support in western Afghanistan

TF Genio / 2nd Engineer Regiment (Italy)—Camp Arena, Herat; engineer support for western Afghanistan

Major changes since June 1, 2013:

—Relief of 1st BCT, 3rd ID by 3rd BCT, 1st ID in Zabul Province

NOTES

¹ Established in the summer of 2012, SOJTF-A/NSOCC-A is a two-star headquarters that oversees all three allied SOF commands in Afghanistan: CJSOTF-A, ISAF SOF, and the “black” special operations forces of the U.S. Joint Special Operations Command task force. See USSOCOM Fact Book 2013.

² CJSOTF-A is headquartered by troops from the 3rd Special Forces Group. Its core tasks are to advise the Afghan National Army’s special operations forces (the Afghan commando kandaks and Special Forces) and to train and advise the local police forces associated with the Village Stability Operations program. CJSOTF-A controls six battalion-level task forces: two built around Army Special Forces battalions, two around Army infantry battalions, one around a Marine special operations battalion, and one around a Navy SEAL team. Navy Combat Camera Command Detachment 1210, “CJSOTF-A Presentation,” June 2012.

³ 1-26 Infantry relieved 2-7 Infantry in June 2013. TF Balkh mixes conventional and special operations troops, and some of its companies are in southern and eastern Afghanistan with other task forces. See battalion Facebook page.

⁴ 3-69 Armor deployed in November 2012. TF Paktika mixes conventional and special operations troops. See battalion Facebook page.

⁵ Established in 2007, ISAF SOF is a one-star, brigade-level headquarters that oversees most non-U.S. special operations forces in Afghanistan as well as one U.S. special operations unit, TF 10. Command of ISAF SOF appears to rotate between British and Australian officers; Brig. Mark Smethurst was in command as of March 2012.

⁶ The ISAF SOTGs, some battalion-level and some company-level, support the various regional commands, often by advising elite Afghan Interior Ministry units like the Provincial Response Companies, the Kabul-based Crisis Response Unit, and TF 333 and TF 444, and are designated as numbered task forces. For example, press reports mention TF 10 (a company from the U.S. 10th Special Forces Group) in RC-Capital; TF 45 (Italian SOF) in RC-West; TF 47 (German SOF) in RC-North; TF 49 and TF 50 (Polish SOF) in Ghazni and other areas in RC-East; TF 42, TF 196, and TF 528 (British SOF) in Helmand; and TF 66 (Australian SOF) in Uruzgan and Kandahar. (Units that have since withdrawn included France’s TF 32 and the Netherlands’ TF 637.)

⁷ CJSOAC-A is composed of helicopter, fixed-wing, and unmanned aviation units from the U.S. Air Force Special Operations Command, the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, and conventional U.S. Army aviation units.

⁸ 9th AETF-A does not fall under ISAF command, but its commander is dual-hatted as Deputy Commander (Air) of USFOR-A. It exercises only partial control of the wings and squadrons below it; day-to-day tactical control of those units is exercised by U.S. Air Force Central’s Combined Air and Space Operations Center in the Persian Gulf.

- ⁹ 26th ERQS is an HH-60G rescue helicopter squadron.
- ¹⁰ 361st ERS is an MC-12 squadron. Kandahar Airfield web site.
- ¹¹ This F-16 squadron deployed in April 2013.
- ¹² 772nd EAS is a C-130 squadron. Kandahar Airfield web site.
- ¹³ 4th ERS is an MC-12 squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.
- ¹⁴ 83rd ERQS is an HH-60G rescue helicopter squadron.
- ¹⁵ 62nd ERS is an MQ-1 and MQ-9 drone squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.
- ¹⁶ 74th EFS is an A-10C squadron that deployed in April 2013. See warthognews.blogspot.com.
- ¹⁷ 774th EAS is a C-130 squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.
- ¹⁸ VMAQ-3 relieved VMAQ-2 in early October 2012. It is an EA-6B squadron.
- ¹⁹ 333rd MP Brigade relieved 42nd MP Brigade in November 2012. See brigade Facebook page.
- ²⁰ MCC(SW) Maria Yager, CJIATF-435, "Navy Military Police Battalion Changes Command, Swaps Crew," May 13, 2011.
- ²¹ This battalion deployed in early 2012.
- ²² Lt. Gen. Ken Tovo took command of NTM-A/CSTC-A in April 2013. His deputy commander for operations is a Canadian officer.
- ²³ This Quebec-based battalion, likely from the Royal 22e Regiment, relieved 2 RCR in October 2012. See Operation Attention web site.
- ²⁴ 1-294 relieved 1-167 Infantry in early May 2013.
- ²⁵ V Corps relieved I Corps as the headquarters of the IJC in June 2012.
- ²⁶ 52nd Ordnance Group relieved the Navy's EOD Group Two as CJTF Paladin in May 2013.
- ²⁷ 3rd EOD Battalion relieved 192nd EOD Battalion in late August 2012.
- ²⁸ EODMU-6 left Afghanistan in August 2011 and had returned as of July 2012.
- ²⁹ JTF Empire relieved the 18th Engineer Brigade, which had been responsible for only northern and eastern Afghanistan, in June 2012. Staff Sgt. Derek Smith, "411th Engineers Assume Control of Operations in Afghanistan," DVIDS, June 12, 2012.
- ³⁰ 8th Engineer Battalion relieved 1st Engineer Battalion in June 2013. See battalion Facebook page.
- ³¹ 4th Engineer Battalion relieved 20th Engineer Battalion in June 2013. See JTF Triple Nickel newsletter.
- ³² 92nd Engineer Battalion relieved 62nd Engineer Battalion in March 2013. See battalion Facebook page.
- ³³ 122nd Engineer Battalion relieved 178th Engineer Battalion in May 2013.
- ³⁴ 307th Engineer Battalion relieved 507th Engineer Battalion in March 2013.
- ³⁵ 878th Engineer Battaliod relieved 120th Engineer Battalion in April 2013.
- ³⁶ NMCB-15 relieved NMCB-133 in March 2013.
- ³⁷ ODIN stands for Observe-Detect-Identify-Neutralize. TF ODIN-E stood up in the summer of 2012.
- ³⁸ TF ODIN-A operates the MQ-1C and RQ-5 UAVs and various versions of the C-12 and C-35 airplanes.
- ³⁹ TF Condor operates the RQ-5 UAV and a version of the C-12 airplane.
- ⁴⁰ The current headquarters of RC-Capital arrived in November 2012. ISAF.NATO.int, "Subordinate Commands | RC-Capital."
- ⁴¹ 101st Airborne Division took over as RC-East in March 2013. See RC-East Facebook page.
- ⁴² TF Bullwhip relieved 716th MP Battalion in December 2012. See 101st Sustainment Brigade Facebook page.
- ⁴³ 793rd MP Battalion deployed in October 2012. See battalion Facebook page.
- ⁴⁴ 1st SFAB, 101st Airborne relieved 4th BCT, 4th ID and advisor teams from 2nd BCT, 101st Airborne in early December 2012. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages. A security force assistance team is typically about half the size of a brigade combat team, even if it has the same number of battalions.
- ⁴⁵ 2nd SFAB, 10th Mountain relieved elements of 4th BCT, 1st ID in mid-February 2013.
- ⁴⁶ 4th SFAB, 101st Airborne relieved 3rd BCT, 101st Airborne in May 2013. See brigade Facebook page.
- ⁴⁷ 10th CAB relieved 101st CAB in May 2013. Each of its battalion task forces combines UH-60, CH-47, AH-64, and OH-58 companies and provides direct support to a BCT. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.
- ⁴⁸ TF Iron Warriors combines elements of two battalions into a single battalion-plus task force.
- ⁴⁹ 4th SFAB, 1st Cavalry is the first SFAB to deploy, arriving in November 2012 with a total of about 1,400 soldiers (each of its battalions deployed with less than half its soldiers). The brigade relieved French units from TF LaFayette that relocated to Kabul. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.
- ⁵⁰ 4th SFAB, 3rd ID relieved 173rd Airborne BCT in March 2013. See brigade and battalion Facebook pages.

- ⁵¹TF 222 is built around an unidentified Jordanian Ranger battalion. The battalions appear to rotate in roughly December and June. Maj. Ashraf al-Adwan, “A Lasting Partnership.”
- ⁵²1st SFAB, 10th Mountain relieved elements of 4th BCT, 1st ID in mid-February 2013.
- ⁵³12th Mechanized Brigade relieved 6th Airborne Brigade as TF White Eagle around October 2012.
- ⁵⁴The current headquarters of RC-North arrived in February 2013. ISAF.NATO.int, “Subordinate Commands | RC-North.”
- ⁵⁵The Nordic-Baltic Transition Support Unit was established in March 2013 and comprises 450 Swedish, Norwegian, Finnish, and Latvian troops.
- ⁵⁶The current leadership of PATF Kunduz, from Airborne Brigade 26, took over in January 2013. See RC-North Facebook page.
- ⁵⁷See RC-North Facebook page.
- ⁵⁸6-4 Cavalry relieved 3-7 Cavalry in May 2013. See squadron Facebook page.
- ⁵⁹3rd ID relieved the 82nd Airborne as RC-South in early September 2012. See division Facebook page.
- ⁶⁰CTU is a composite headquarters made up of U.S. and Australian personnel. Although the commander of CTU is an Australian officer, who relieved American leadership in October 2012, much of CTU’s headquarters is formed from 2nd BCT, 3rd ID, an American brigade headquarters whose commander acts as CTU’s deputy commander. See CTU Facebook page.
- ⁶¹MTF-7 relieved MTF-6 in June 2013. See CTU Facebook page.
- ⁶²4th SBCT, 2nd ID relieved 3rd SBCT, 2nd ID in late November 2012. See brigade Facebook page.
- ⁶³1st Maneuver Battalion redeployed home to Romania in June 2013.
- ⁶⁴3rd CAB relieved 25th CAB in January-February 2013.
- ⁶⁵1st SBCT, 1st AD relieved 2nd SBCT, 2nd ID in early January 2013. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.
- ⁶⁶II MEF (Forward) took over as RC-Southwest in late February 2013.
- ⁶⁷1st Mechanized Brigade relieved 4th Mechanized Brigade in April 2013.
- ⁶⁸4 Rifles relieved 1 Scots in early April 2013.
- ⁶⁹22 Engineer Regiment relieved 21 Engineer Regiment in April 2013. See regiment Facebook page.
- ⁷⁰1 Regiment RHA relieved 4 Regiment RA in April 2013.
- ⁷¹2 RTR relieved 1 LANCS in April 2013.
- ⁷²2 LANCS relieved 1 Mercian Regiment in Nad-e-Ali in April 2013.
- ⁷³1 RRF relieved 40 Commando in April 2013.
- ⁷⁴Team 15 relieved Team 14 in February 2013. It is expected to be the last Danish battalion in Afghanistan.
- ⁷⁵RCT-7 relieved RCT-6 in late October 2012. See regimental Facebook page.
- ⁷⁶3/4 Marines relieves 2/7 Marines in April 2013.
- ⁷⁷2/8 Marines relieved 3/9 in May 2013.
- ⁷⁸3rd CEB deployed in April 2013.
- ⁷⁹The 33rd and 42nd Georgian battalions deployed in April 2013.
- ⁸⁰2nd MAW (Forward) relieved 3rd MAW (Forward) in late February 2013.
- ⁸¹VMA-231 is an AV-8B squadron that relieved VMA-211 in December 2012.
- ⁸²HMH-361 is a CH-53E squadron that relieved HMH-362 in fall 2012.
- ⁸³HMLA-169 is an AH-1W and UH-1Y squadron that relieved HMLA-469 in November 2012.
- ⁸⁴VMM-264 is an MV-22B squadron that was in Afghanistan as of April 2013.
- ⁸⁵JHF(A) is made up of British Army, Royal Air Force, and Royal Navy units. It operates a variety of attack and lift helicopters.
- ⁸⁶31 Squadron, Squadron, a Tornado GR4 squadron, relieved II (AC) Squadron in March 2013.
- ⁸⁷39 Squadron is a Reaper UAV squadron.
- ⁸⁸The “Julia” Brigade relieved the “Taurinense” Brigade as RC-West in March 2013.



COALITION COMBAT AND ADVISORY FORCES IN AFGHANISTAN

AFGHANISTAN ORDER OF BATTLE

BY WESLEY MORGAN AUGUST 2013

This document describes the composition and placement of U.S. and other Western combat and advisory forces in Afghanistan down to battalion level. It includes the following categories of units: maneuver (i.e. infantry, armor, and cavalry) units, which in most cases are responsible for advising or partnering with Afghan troops in particular districts or provinces; artillery units; aviation units, both rotary and fixed-wing; military police units; most types of engineer and explosive ordnance disposal units; and “white” special operations forces. It does not include “black” special operations units or other units such as logistical, transportation, medical, and intelligence units or Provincial Reconstruction Teams.

International Security Assistance Force / United States Forces Afghanistan (Gen. Joseph Dunford, USMC) ISAF Headquarters, Kabul

Special Operations Joint Task Force Afghanistan / NATO Special Operations Component Command Afghanistan (Maj. Gen. Raymond Thomas III, USA) Camp Integrity, Kabul¹

Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force—Afghanistan (USA)—Bagram Airfield; village stability operations, advisors to Afghan Defense Ministry special operations forces, and other missions²

Special Operations Task Force—East (USA)—Bagram Airfield; operating in eastern Afghanistan

Special Operations Task Force—South (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; operating in Kandahar Province

Special Operations Task Force—South-East (USN)—U/I location; operating in Uruzgan and Zabul Provinces

Special Operations Task Force—West (USMC)—Camp Lawton, Herat; operating in western Afghanistan and Helmand Province

TF 1-26 Infantry (Lt. Col. William Jacobs, USA)—Camp Mike Spann, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in northern Afghanistan³

ISAF Special Operations Forces / Special Operations Command and Control Element (UK/Australia)—Kabul; advisors to Afghan Interior Ministry special operations forces⁴

Regional Special Operations Task Groups—located around Afghanistan⁵

Combined Joint Special Operations Aviation Component—Afghanistan (USAF/USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support to SOJTF-A special operations forces⁶

9th Air and Space Expeditionary Task Force Afghanistan (Maj. Gen. Kenneth Wilsbach, USAF) Kabul International Airport; oversees U.S. Air Force units in Afghanistan⁷

451st Air Expeditionary Wing (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; air support in southern and western Afghanistan

26th Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Camp Bastion; medical evacuation support⁸

361st Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support⁹

480th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; close air support¹⁰

772nd Expeditionary Airlift Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; transport support¹¹

455th Air Expeditionary Wing (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; air support in eastern and northern Afghanistan

4th Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support¹²

83rd Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; medical evacuation support¹³

62nd Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Bagram, Kandahar, and Jalalabad Airfields; surveillance support¹⁴

74th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; close air support¹⁵

774th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; transport support¹⁶

Marine Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron (USMC)—Bagram Airfield; counter-IED mission¹⁷

Combined Joint Interagency Task Force 435 (Lt. Gen. Keith Huber, USA) Kabul; responsible for rule-of-law and detention operations

TF Vigilant / 18th Military Police Brigade (Col. Jan Apo, USA)—Parwan Detention Facility; detention operations¹⁸

Task Group Trident / Navy Military Police Battalion—Afghanistan (USN)—Parwan Detention Facility; detainee guard force¹⁹

U/I Military Police Battalion (USA)—Parwan Detention Facility²⁰

NATO Training Mission Afghanistan / Combined Security Transition Command Afghanistan (Lt. Gen. Ken Tovo, USA) Camp Eggers, Kabul; responsible for training Afghan security forces²¹

U/I infantry battalion (Canada)—Camp Alamo, Kabul, and other locations; training Afghan forces and national and regional training centers²²

TF Guam / 1-294 Infantry (USA)—Camp Eggers, Kabul; NTM-A security force²³

ISAF Joint Command / III Corps (Lt. Gen. Mark Milley, USA) Kabul International Airport; countrywide operational headquarters²⁴

Combined Joint Task Force Paladin / 52nd Ordnance Group (Col. Marue QuickUSA)—Bagram Airfield; overseeing counter-IED operations countrywide²⁵

TF Paladin East (USA)—Bagram Airfield; counter-IED operations in eastern Afghanistan

TF Paladin South / 242nd EOD Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; counter-IED operations in southern Afghanistan²⁶

Joint Task Force Triple Nickel / 555th Engineer Brigade (Col. Nicholas Katers, USA)—Bagram Airfield; overseeing engineer operations countrywide²⁷

TF Trojan Horse / 8th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Mark Gerald, USA)—FOB Shank, Logar; engineer support in N2KL and in Ghazni, Logar, and Wardak Provinces²⁸

TF Iron Fist / 4th Engineer Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; construction support in Kandahar Province²⁹

TF Black Diamond / 92nd Engineer Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; retrograde operations in southern Afghanistan³⁰

TF War Horse / 122nd Engineer Battalion (USA)—FOB Sharana; route clearance in Paktya, Paktika, and Khost Provinces³¹

TF SAW / 307th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Brett Sylvia, USA)—Camp Leatherneck; route clearance in southwestern and western Afghanistan³²

TF Dynamite / 878th Engineer Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; route clearance in southern Afghanistan³³

TF True Grit / Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 15 (Cmdr. Anthony Spindler, USN)—Camp Leatherneck; construction support in Helmand Province³⁴

TF ODIN (Enhanced) (Col. Neil Hersey, USA)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support in eastern and southern Afghanistan³⁵

TF ODIN-A (USA)—Bagram Airfield and Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support³⁶

TF Condor (USA)—Bagram Airfield and Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support³⁷

TF Black Jack / 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division (Col. Robert Whittle, USA)—Bagram Airfield; theater reserve force³⁸

TF Black Knight / 1-5 Cavalry (USA)—FOB Airborne, Wardak; companies spread throughout southern RC-East

TF 1-8 Cavalry (USA)—U/I location

TF Dark Knight / 4-9 Cavalry (USA)—U/I location

TF Red Dragon / 3-82 Field Artillery (USA)—U/I location

Regional Command Capital (Brig. Gen. Ali Riza Kugu, Turkey) Camp Warehouse, Kabul; operating in Kabul Province³⁹

1st Battalion Motorized Task Force (Turkey)—Camp Dogan, Kabul

2nd Battalion Motorized Task Force (Turkey)—Camp Gazi, Kabul

Regional Command East / 101st Airborne Division (Maj. Gen. James McConville, USA) Bagram Airfield; operating in fourteen eastern provinces⁴⁰

TF Bullwhip / U/I Military Police Battalion—Camp Julien, Kabul; advising Afghan police in northern RC-East⁴¹

TF Spartan / 793rd Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Stephen Gabavics, USA)—U/I location; advising Afghan police in southern RC-East⁴²

TF Commandos / 2nd Security Force Assistance Brigade, 10th Mountain Division (Col. Dennis Sullivan, USA)—FOB Sharana; operating in Paktika Province⁴³

TF Golden Dragons / 2-14 Infantry (Lt. Col. Robert Fouche, USA)—FOB Orgun; operating in eastern Paktika Province

TF Allons / 2-15 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Christopher Wendland, USA)—FOB Sharana; brigade artillery support

TF Wolverine / 1-89 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Robert Griggs, USA)—FOB Sharana; operating in western Paktika Province

TF Currahee / 4th Security Force Assistance Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Col. Val Keaveny, USA)—FOB Salerno, Khost; operating in Khost and Paktya Provinces⁴⁴

TF 1-61 Cavalry (USA)—Camp Clark, Khost; operating in western Khost Province

TF 1-506 Infantry (USA)—U/I location; operating in Paktya Province

TF 2-506 Infantry (USA)—FOB Salerno; operating in eastern Khost Province

TF 4-320 Field Artillery (USA)—U/I location; brigade artillery support

TF Falcon / 10th Combat Aviation Brigade (Col. David Francis, USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support in eastern and northern Afghanistan⁴⁵

TF Tigershark / 1-10 Attack Aviation (USA)—FOB Salerno; aviation support in Khost and Paktya Provinces

TF Knighthawk / 2-10 Assault Aviation (USA)—FOB Shank; aviation support in Logar and Wardak Provinces

TF Phoenix / 3-10 General Support Aviation (USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support in Bamyán, Laghman, Panjshir, and Parwan Provinces

TF Iron Warriors / 1-104 Attack Aviation and 2-501 General Support Aviation (USA)—Camp Marmal, Mazar-e-Sharif; aviation support in RC-North⁴⁶

TF Dragon / 1-501 Attack Aviation (Lt. Col. Glen Heape, USA)—Jalalabad Airfield; aviation support in Kunar, Nangarhar, and Nuristan Provinces

TF Patriot / 4th Security Force Assistance Brigade, 10th Mountain Division (Col. Mario Diaz, USA)—FOB Gamberi; operating in Kapisa, Kunar, Laghman, Nangarhar, and Parwan Provinces⁴⁷

TF Thunder / 5-25 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Matthew Condry, USA)—FOB Mehtar Lam; operating in Laghman Province

TF 2-4 Infantry (Lt. Col. Paul Cunningham, USA)—FOB Tagab; operating in Kapisa province

TF 2-30 Infantry (Lt. Col. Alan Boyer, USA)—Jalalabad Airfield; operating in Nangarhar Province

TF Slugger / 3-89 Cavalry (Lt. Col. James Deore, USA)—FOB Wright, Asadabad; operating in Kunar Province

TF Vanguard / 4th Security Force Assistance Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division (Col. Kimo Gallahue, USA)—FOB Shank, Logar; operating in Logar and Wardak Provinces⁴⁸

TF Nashmi / TF 222 (Jordan)—FOB Shank; operating in Logar Province⁴⁹

TF Cottonbaler / 3-7 Infantry (Lt. Col. Gregory Bell, USA)—FOB Shank; operating in Logar Province

TF 6-8 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Justin Hadley, USA)—FOB Shank; operating in Logar Province

TF China / 3-15 Infantry (Lt. Col. Joel Smith, USA)—U/I location; operating in Wardak Province

TF Patriot / 1-76 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Lee Overby, USA)—FOB Shank; brigade artillery support

TF Warrior / 1st Security Force Assistance Brigade, 10th Mountain Division (Col. Stephen Michael, USA)—FOB Warrior; operating in southern and eastern Ghazni Province⁵⁰

TF 3-6 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Mike Oeschger, USA)—U/I location

TF 2-22 Infantry (USA)—FOB Warrior; operating in southern Ghazni Province

TF Summit / 1-87 Infantry (Lt. Col. Daniel Morgan, USA)—FOB Arian; operating in eastern Ghazni Province

TF White Eagle / 25th Air Cavalry Brigade (Brig. Gen. Marek Sokoowski, Poland)—FOB Ghazni; operating in northern Ghazni Province⁵¹

Battle Group Alpha (Poland)—FOB Ghazni; operating in northern Ghazni Province

Regional Command North (Maj. Gen. Jorg Vollmer, Germany) Camp Marmal, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in nine northern provinces⁵²

Nordic-Baltic Transition Support Unit—Camp Northern Lights, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in RC-North⁵³

Partnering and Advisory Task Force Kunduz (Germany)—FOB Kunduz; operating in southern Kunduz Province⁵⁴

Partnering and Advisory Task Force Mazar-e-Sharif (Germany)—Camp Marmal; operating in Balkh Province

Expeditionary Air Wing Mazar-e-Sharif (Germany)—Camp Marmal; fixed- and rotary-wing aviation support for northern Afghanistan⁵⁵

TF Raider / 6-4 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Michael Zernickow, USA)—FOB Kunduz; operating in northern Kunduz Province⁵⁶

Regional Command South / 4th Infantry Division (Maj. Gen. Paul LaCamera, USA) Kandahar Airfield; operating in Kandahar, Uruzgan, and Zabul Provinces⁵⁷

Combined Team Uruzgan (Col. Simon Stuart, Australia)—Camp Holland, Tarin Kowt; operating in Uruzgan Province⁵⁸

Mentoring Task Force 7 / 2nd Cavalry Regiment (Lt. Col. Michael Bye, Australia)—Camp Holland; operating in Uruzgan Province⁵⁹

TF Dragoon / 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment (Col. Douglas Sims, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; operating in southern and eastern Kandahar Province⁶⁰

TF War Eagle / 1-2 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Phillip Gage, USA)—FOB Zangabad; operating in Panjwayi District

TF 4-2 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Christopher Budihias, USA)—FOB Lindsey; operating east of Kandahar City

TF Centaur / 1-6 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Henry McNeilly, USA)—FOB Spin Boldak; operating in Spin Boldak District

TF Duke / 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division (Col. James Crider, USA)—FOB Apache, Qalat; operating in Zabul Province

TF Ramrod / 2-2 Infantry (USA)—FOB Apache; Afghan army advisors in Zabul Province

Maneuver Battalion 1 (Romania)—FOB Apache, Qalat; operating along Highway 1 in Zabul Province⁶¹

TF Falcon / 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade (Col. Allan Pepin, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in southern and western Afghanistan⁶²

TF Viper / 1-3 Attack Aviation (Lt. Col. Kelly Hines, USA)—FOB Wolverine, Zabul; aviation support in Zabul Province

TF Knighthawk / 2-3 General Support Aviation (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in Kandahar Province

TF Brawler / 4-3 Assault Aviation (USA)—FOB Tarin Kowt; aviation support in Uruzgan Province

TF Lighthorse / 3-17 Air Cavalry (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in Kandahar Province

TF Ready First / 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division (Col. Kenneth Adgie, USA)—Camp Nathan Smith; operating in Kandahar City and northern and western Kandahar Province⁶³

TF Blackhawk / 6-1 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Kevin Wallace, USA)—Camp Nathan Smith; operating in Kandahar City

TF Chesapeake / 115th Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Andrew Collins, USA)—FOB Walton; operating in Kandahar City⁶⁴

TF 2-3 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Paul Weyrauch, USA)—FOB Frontenac; operating in Shah Wali Kot District

TF Spartan / 1-36 Infantry (Lt. Col. Kevin Admiral, USA)—FOB Azizullah; operating in Maywand District

TF Rifle / 3-41 Infantry (Lt. Col. Tom Anderson, USA)—FOB Pasab; operating in Zhari District

Regional Command Southwest / II Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward) (Maj. Gen. Lee Miller, USMC) Camp Leatherneck; operating in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces⁶⁵

TF Helmand / 1st Mechanized Brigade (Brig. Rupert Jones, UK)—Camp Bastion; operating in central Helmand Province⁶⁶

Brigade Advisory Group / 4 Rifles (Lt. Col. Tom Bewick, UK)—Camp Tombstone; Afghan army advisors⁶⁷

Joint Engineer Group / 22 Engineer Regiment (Lt. Col. Jason Kerr, UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; brigade engineer support⁶⁸

Joint Fires Group / 1 Regiment Royal Horse Artillery (UK)—U/I location; brigade artillery support⁶⁹

Police Mentoring and Advisory Group / 2 Royal Regiment of Scotland (Lt. Col. Robin Lindsay, UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; Afghan police advisors

Transition Support Unit Lashkar Gah / 2nd Royal Tank Regiment (UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; operating in Lashkar Gah District⁷⁰

Transition Support Unit Nad-e-Ali / 2 Duke of Lancaster's Regiment (Lt. Col. Neil Unsworth, UK)—FOB Shawqat; operating in Nad-e-Ali District⁷¹

Transition Support Unit Nahr-e-Saraj / 1 Royal Regiment of Fusiliers (Lt. Col. John Swift, UK)—FOB Price, Gereshk; operating in Nahr-e-Saraj District⁷²

Household Cavalry (UK)—Camp Bastion; elements acting as Brigade Reconnaissance Force

Regimental Combat Team 7 (Col. Austin Renforth, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; operating in northern and southern Helmand Province and Nimruz Province⁷³

3/4 Marines (USMC)—FOB Jackson, Sangin; operating in northern Helmand Province⁷⁴

2/8 Marines (USMC)—Camp Dwyer, Garmsir; operating in southern Helmand Province⁷⁵

3rd Combat Engineer Battalion (USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; engineer support⁷⁶

33rd Light Infantry Battalion (Georgia)—COP Shukvani; operating in Musa Qala District⁷⁷

42nd Light Infantry Battalion (Georgia)—Camp Leatherneck; base security

2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward) (Brig. Gen. Gary Thomas, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; aviation support in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces⁷⁸

Marine Attack Squadron 231 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; fixed-wing close air support⁷⁹

Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 361 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; heavy transport aviation⁸⁰

Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 169 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; attack aviation⁸¹

Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 264 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; medium transport aviation⁸²

Joint Aviation Group (UK)—Camp Leatherneck; headquarters for British aviation units

Joint Helicopter Force Afghanistan (UK)—Camp Leatherneck; aviation support for TF Helmand⁸³

12 (Bomber) Squadron Royal Air Force (UK)—Kandahar Airfield; close air support for TF Helmand⁸⁴

39 Squadron Royal Air Force (UK)—Kandahar Airfield; drone support for TF Helmand⁸⁵

Regional Command West / “Julia” Alpine Brigade (Brig. Gen. Ignazio Gamba, Italy) Camp Arena, Herat; operating in Badghis, Farah, Ghor, and Herat Provinces⁸⁶

Transition Support Unit Badghis (Spain)—Qala-e-Naw; operating in Badghis Province

Transition Support Unit Center / 7th Alpine Regiment (Italy)—FOB La Marmora, Shindand; operating in southern Herat Province

Transition Support Unit South / 8th Alpine Regiment (Italy)—Camp El Alamein, Farah; operating in western Farah Province

TF Fenice / 5th Aviation Regiment (Italy)—Herat Airfield; aviation support in western Afghanistan

TF Genio / 2nd Engineer Regiment (Italy)—Camp Arena, Herat; engineer support for western Afghanistan

Major changes since July 1, 2013:

- Relief of 3rd Infantry Division by 4th Infantry Division as RC-South
- Relief of 4th SFAB, 1st Cavalry and 1st SFAB, 101st Airborne by 4th SFAB, 10th Mountain in RC-East
- Relief of 4th SFAB, 2nd ID by 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment in RC-South
- Relief of 333rd MP Brigade by 18th MP Brigade at Bagram
- Arrival of 2nd BCT, 1st Cavalry Division as theater reserve
- Departure of final Danish contingent from RC-Southwest

NOTES

¹ Established in the summer of 2012, SOJTF-A/NSOCC-A is a two-star headquarters that oversees all three allied SOF commands in Afghanistan: CJSOTF-A, ISAF SOF, and the “black” special operations forces of the U.S. Joint Special Operations Command task force. See USSOCOM Fact Book 2013.

² CJSOTF-A is headquartered by troops from the 3rd Special Forces Group. Its core tasks are to advise the Afghan National Army’s special operations forces (the Afghan commando kandaks and Special Forces) and to train and advise the local police forces associated with the Village Stability Operations program. CJSOTF-A controls six battalion-level task forces: two built around Army Special Forces battalions, two around Army infantry battalions, one around a Marine special operations battalion, and one around a Navy SEAL team. Navy Combat Camera Command Detachment 1210, “CJSOTF-A Presentation,” June 2012.

³ 1-26 Infantry relieved 2-7 Infantry in June 2013. TF Balkh mixes conventional and special operations troops, and some of its companies are in southern and eastern Afghanistan with other task forces. See battalion Facebook page.

⁴ Established in 2007, ISAF SOF is a one-star, brigade-level headquarters that oversees most non-U.S. special operations forces in Afghanistan as well as one U.S. special operations unit, TF 10. Command of ISAF SOF appears to rotate between British and Australian officers; Brig. Mark Smethurst was in command as of March 2012.

⁵ The ISAF SOTGs, some battalion-level and some company-level, support the various regional commands, often by advising elite Afghan Interior Ministry units like the Provincial Response Companies, the Kabul-based Crisis Response Unit, and TF 333 and TF 444, and are designated as numbered task forces. For example, press reports mention TF 10 (a company from the U.S. 10th Special Forces Group) in RC-Capital; TF 45 (Italian SOF) in RC-West; TF 47 (German SOF) in RC-North; TF 49 and TF 50 (Polish SOF) in Ghazni and other areas in RC-East; TF 42, TF 196, and TF 528 (British SOF) in Helmand; and TF 66 (Australian SOF) in Uruzgan and Kandahar. (Units that have since withdrawn included France’s TF 32 and the Netherlands’ TF 637.)

⁶ CJSOAC-A is composed of helicopter, fixed-wing, and unmanned aviation units from the U.S. Air Force Special Operations Command, the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, and conventional U.S. Army aviation units.

⁷ 9th AETF-A does not fall under ISAF command, but its commander is dual-hatted as Deputy Commander (Air) of USFOR-A. It exercises only partial control of the wings and squadrons below it; day-to-day tactical control of those units is exercised by U.S. Air Force Central’s Combined Air and Space Operations Center in the Persian Gulf.

⁸ 26th ERQS is an HH-60G rescue helicopter squadron.

⁹ 361st ERS is an MC-12 squadron. Kandahar Airfield web site.

¹⁰ This F-16 squadron deployed in April 2013.

¹¹ 772nd EAS is a C-130 squadron. Kandahar Airfield web site.

¹² 4th ERS is an MC-12 squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.

¹³ 83rd ERQS is an HH-60G rescue helicopter squadron.

- ¹⁴ 62nd ERS is an MQ-1 and MQ-9 drone squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.
- ¹⁵ 74th EFS is an A-10C squadron that deployed in April 2013. See warthognews.blogspot.com.
- ¹⁶ 774th EAS is a C-130 squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.
- ¹⁷ VMAQ-3 relieved VMAQ-2 in early October 2012. It is an EA-6B squadron.
- ¹⁸ 18th MP Brigade relieved 333rd MP Brigade in July 2013. See brigade Facebook page.
- ¹⁹ MCC(SW) Maria Yager, CJIATF-435, “Navy Military Police Battalion Changes Command, Swaps Crew,” May 13, 2011.
- ²⁰ This battalion deployed in early 2012.
- ²¹ Lt. Gen. Ken Tovo took command of NTM-A/CSTC-A in April 2013. His deputy commander for operations is a Canadian officer.
- ²² This Quebec-based battalion, likely from the Royal 22e Regiment, relieved 2 RCR in October 2012. See Operation Attention web site.
- ²³ 1-294 relieved 1-167 Infantry in early May 2013.
- ²⁴ V Corps relieved I Corps as the headquarters of the IJC in June 2012.
- ²⁵ 52nd Ordnance Group relieved the Navy’s EOD Group Two as CJTF Paladin in May 2013.
- ²⁶ 242nd EOD Battalion relieved 3rd EOD Battalion in July 2013.
- ²⁷ JTF Empire relieved the 18th Engineer Brigade, which had been responsible for only northern and eastern Afghanistan, in June 2012. Staff Sgt. Derek Smith, “411th Engineers Assume Control of Operations in Afghanistan,” DVIDS, June 12, 2012.
- ²⁸ 8th Engineer Battalion relieved 1st Engineer Battalion in June 2013. See battalion Facebook page.
- ²⁹ 4th Engineer Battalion relieved 20th Engineer Battalion in June 2013. See JTF Triple Nickel newsletter.
- ³⁰ 92nd Engineer Battalion relieved 62nd Engineer Battalion in March 2013. See battalion Facebook page.
- ³¹ 122nd Engineer Battalion relieved 178th Engineer Battalion in May 2013.
- ³² 307th Engineer Battalion relieved 507th Engineer Battalion in March 2013.
- ³³ 878th Engineer Battaliod relieved 120th Engineer Battalion in April 2013.
- ³⁴ NMCB-15 relieved NMCB-133 in March 2013.
- ³⁵ ODIN stands for Observe-Detect-Identify-Neutralize. The current leadership of TF ODIN-E arrived in July 2013.
- ³⁶ TF ODIN-A operates the MQ-1C and RQ-5 UAVs and various versions of the C-12 and C-35 airplanes. The current TF ODIN-A rotation deployed in May 2013.
- ³⁷ TF Condor operates the RQ-5 UAV and a version of the C-12 airplane.
- ³⁸ 2nd BCT, 1st Cavalry Division deployed in July 2013. See brigade Facebook page.
- ³⁹ The current headquarters of RC-Capital arrived in November 2012. ISAF.NATO.int, “Subordinate Commands | RC-Capital.”
- ⁴⁰ 101st Airborne Division took over as RC-East in March 2013. See RC-East Facebook page.
- ⁴¹ TF Bullwhip relieved 716th MP Battalion in December 2012. See 101st Sustainment Brigade Facebook page.
- ⁴² 793rd MP Battalion deployed in October 2012. See battalion Facebook page.
- ⁴³ 2nd SFAB, 10th Mountain relieved elements of 4th BCT, 1st ID in mid-February 2013.
- ⁴⁴ 4th SFAB, 101st Airborne relieved 3rd BCT, 101st Airborne in May 2013. See brigade Facebook page.
- ⁴⁵ 10th CAB relieved 101st CAB in May 2013. Each of its battalion task forces combines UH-60, CH-47, AH-64, and OH-58 companies and provides direct support to a BCT. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.
- ⁴⁶ TF Iron Warriors combines elements of two battalions into a single battalion-plus task force.
- ⁴⁷ 4th SFAB, 10th Mountain relieved 4th SFAB, 1st Cav and 1st SFAB, 101st Airborne in July 2013. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.
- ⁴⁸ 4th SFAB, 3rd ID relieved 173rd Airborne BCT in March 2013. See brigade and battalion Facebook pages.
- ⁴⁹ TF 222 is built around an unidentified Jordanian Ranger battalion. The battalions appear to rotate in roughly December and June. Maj. Ashraf al-Adwan, “A Lasting Partnership.”
- ⁵⁰ 1st SFAB, 10th Mountain relieved elements of 4th BCT, 1st ID in mid-February 2013.
- ⁵¹ 25th Air Cavalry Brigade relieved 12th Mechanized Brigade as TF White Eagle in May 2013.
- ⁵² The current headquarters of RC-North arrived in February 2013. ISAF.NATO.int, “Subordinate Commands | RC-North.”
- ⁵³ The Nordic-Baltic Transition Support Unit was established in March 2013 and comprises 450 Swedish, Norwegian, Finnish, and Latvian troops.
- ⁵⁴ The current leadership of PATF Kunduz, from Airborne Brigade 26, took over in January 2013. See RC-North Facebook page.
- ⁵⁵ See RC-North Facebook page.
- ⁵⁶ 6-4 Cavalry relieved 3-7 Cavalry in May 2013. See squadron Facebook page.

- ⁵⁷ 4th ID relieved 3rd ID as RC-South in early July 2013. See division Facebook page.
- ⁵⁸ CTU is a composite headquarters made up of U.S. and Australian personnel. Although the commander of CTU is an Australian officer, who relieved American leadership in October 2012, much of CTU's headquarters is formed from the U.S. 79th BCT headquarters. See CTU Facebook page.
- ⁵⁹ MTF-7 relieved MTF-6 in June 2013. See CTU Facebook page.
- ⁶⁰ 2nd Cavalry Regiment relieved 4th SBCT, 2nd ID in July 2013. See regimental Facebook page.
- ⁶¹ 1st Maneuver Battalion redeployed home to Romania in June 2013.
- ⁶² 3rd CAB relieved 25th CAB in January-February 2013.
- ⁶³ 1st SBCT, 1st AD relieved 2nd SBCT, 2nd ID in early January 2013. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.
- ⁶⁴ 115th MP Battalion deployed in January-February 2013. See task force Facebook page.
- ⁶⁵ II MEF (Forward) took over as RC-Southwest in late February 2013.
- ⁶⁶ 1st Mechanized Brigade relieved 4th Mechanized Brigade in April 2013.
- ⁶⁷ 4 Rifles relieved 1 Scots in early April 2013.
- ⁶⁸ 22 Engineer Regiment relieved 21 Engineer Regiment in April 2013. See regiment Facebook page.
- ⁶⁹ 1 Regiment RHA relieved 4 Regiment RA in April 2013.
- ⁷⁰ 2 RTR relieved 1 LANCS in April 2013.
- ⁷¹ 2 LANCS relieved 1 Mercian Regiment in Nad-e-Ali in April 2013.
- ⁷² 1 RRF relieved 40 Commando in April 2013.
- ⁷³ RCT-7 relieved RCT-6 in late October 2012. See regimental Facebook page.
- ⁷⁴ 3/4 Marines relieves 2/7 Marines in April 2013.
- ⁷⁵ 2/8 Marines relieved 3/9 in May 2013.
- ⁷⁶ 3rd CEB deployed in April 2013.
- ⁷⁷ The 33rd and 42nd Georgian battalions deployed in April 2013.
- ⁷⁸ 2nd MAW (Forward) relieved 3rd MAW (Forward) in late February 2013.
- ⁷⁹ VMA-231 is an AV-8B squadron that relieved VMA-211 in December 2012.
- ⁸⁰ HMH-361 is a CH-53E squadron that relieved HMH-362 in fall 2012.
- ⁸¹ HMLA-169 is an AH-1W and UH-1Y squadron that relieved HMLA-469 in November 2012.
- ⁸² VMM-264 is an MV-22B squadron that was in Afghanistan as of April 2013.
- ⁸³ JHF(A) is made up of British Army, Royal Air Force, and Royal Navy units. It operates a variety of attack and lift helicopters.
- ⁸⁴ 12 Squadron, a Tornado GR4 squadron, relieved 31 Squadron in July 2013.
- ⁸⁵ 39 Squadron is a Reaper UAV squadron.
- ⁸⁶ The "Julia" Brigade relieved the "Taurinense" Brigade as RC-West in March 2013.



COALITION COMBAT AND ADVISORY FORCES IN AFGHANISTAN

AFGHANISTAN ORDER OF BATTLE

BY WESLEY MORGAN SEPTEMBER 2013

This document describes the composition and placement of U.S. and other Western combat and advisory forces in Afghanistan down to battalion level. It includes the following categories of units: maneuver (i.e. infantry, armor, and cavalry) units, which in most cases are responsible for advising or partnering with Afghan troops in particular districts or provinces; artillery units; aviation units, both rotary and fixed-wing; military police units; most types of engineer and explosive ordnance disposal units; and “white” special operations forces. It does not include “black” special operations units or other units such as logistical, transportation, medical, and intelligence units or Provincial Reconstruction Teams.

International Security Assistance Force / United States Forces—Afghanistan (Gen. Joseph Dunford, USMC)—ISAF Headquarters, Kabul

Special Operations Joint Task Force—Afghanistan / NATO Special Operations Component Command—Afghanistan (Maj. Gen. Raymond Thomas III, USA)—Camp Integrity, Kabul¹

Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force—Afghanistan (USA)—Bagram Airfield; village stability operations, advisors to Afghan Defense Ministry special operations forces, and other missions²

Special Operations Task Force—East (USA)—Bagram Airfield; operating in eastern Afghanistan

Special Operations Task Force—South (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; operating in Kandahar Province

Special Operations Task Force—South-East (USN)—U/I location; operating in Uruzgan and Zabol Provinces

Special Operations Task Force—West (USMC)—Camp Lawton, Herat; operating in western Afghanistan and Helmand Province

TF 1-26 Infantry (Lt. Col. William Jacobs, USA)—Camp Mike Spann, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in northern Afghanistan³

ISAF Special Operations Forces / Special Operations Command and Control Element (UK/Australia)—Kabul; advisors to Afghan Interior Ministry special operations forces⁴

Regional Special Operations Task Groups—located around Afghanistan⁵

Combined Joint Special Operations Aviation Component—Afghanistan (USAF/USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support to SOJTF-A special operations forces⁶

9th Air and Space Expeditionary Task Force—Afghanistan (Maj. Gen. Kenneth Wilsbach, USAF)—Kabul International Airport; oversees U.S. Air Force units in Afghanistan⁷

451st Air Expeditionary Wing (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; air support in southern and western Afghanistan

26th Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Camp Bastion; medical evacuation support⁸

361st Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support⁹

480th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; close air support¹⁰

772nd Expeditionary Airlift Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; transport support¹¹

455th Air Expeditionary Wing (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; air support in eastern and northern Afghanistan

4th Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support¹²

83rd Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; medical evacuation support¹³

62nd Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Bagram, Kandahar, and Jalalabad Airfields; surveillance support¹⁴

74th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; close air support¹⁵

774th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; transport support¹⁶

Marine Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron (USMC)—Bagram Airfield; counter-IED mission¹⁷

Combined Joint Interagency Task Force 435 (Lt. Gen. Keith Huber, USA)—Kabul; responsible for rule-of-law and detention operations

TF Vigilant / 18th Military Police Brigade (Col. Jan Apo, USA)—Parwan Detention Facility; detention operations¹⁸

Task Group Trident / Navy Military Police Battalion—Afghanistan (USN)—Parwan Detention Facility; detainee guard force¹⁹

U/I Military Police Battalion (USA)—Parwan Detention Facility²⁰

NATO Training Mission—Afghanistan / Combined Security Transition Command—Afghanistan (Lt. Gen. Ken Tovo, USA)—Camp Eggers, Kabul; responsible for training Afghan security forces²¹

U/I infantry battalion (Canada)—Camp Alamo, Kabul, and other locations; training Afghan forces and national and regional training centers²²

TF Guam / 1-294 Infantry (USA)—Camp Eggers, Kabul; NTM-A security force²³

ISAF Joint Command / III Corps (Lt. Gen. Mark Milley, USA)—Kabul International Airport; countrywide operational headquarters²⁴

Combined Joint Task Force Paladin / 52nd Ordnance Group (Col. Marue QuickUSA)—Bagram Airfield; overseeing counter-IED operations countrywide²⁵

TF Paladin East / 184th EOD Battalion (Lt. Col. Donald Smith, USA)—Bagram Airfield; counter-IED operations in eastern Afghanistan²⁶

TF Paladin South / 242nd EOD Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; counter-IED operations in southern Afghanistan²⁷

Joint Task Force Triple Nickel / 555th Engineer Brigade (Col. Nicholas Katers, USA)—Bagram Airfield; overseeing engineer operations countrywide²⁸

TF Trojan Horse / 8th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Mark Gerald, USA)—FOB Shank, Logar; engineer support in N2KL and in Ghazni, Logar, and Wardak Provinces²⁹

TF Iron Fist / 4th Engineer Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; construction support in Kandahar Province³⁰

TF Black Diamond / 92nd Engineer Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; retrograde operations in southern Afghanistan³¹

TF War Horse / 122nd Engineer Battalion (USA)—FOB Sharana; route clearance in Paktya, Paktika, and Khost Provinces³²

TF SAW / 307th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Brett Sylvia, USA)—Camp Leatherneck; route clearance in southwestern and western Afghanistan³³

TF Dynamite / 878th Engineer Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; route clearance in southern Afghanistan³⁴

TF True Grit / Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 15 (Cmdr. Anthony Spindler, USN)—Camp Leatherneck; construction support in Helmand Province³⁵

TF Pacemaker / 864th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. John Henderson, USA)—FOB Sharana; withdrawal and deconstruction operations³⁶

TF ODIN (Enhanced) (Col. Neil Hersey, USA)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support in eastern and southern Afghanistan³⁷

TF ODIN-A (USA)—Bagram Airfield and Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support³⁸

TF Condor (USA)—Bagram Airfield and Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support³⁹

TF Black Jack / 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division (Col. Robert Whittle, USA)—Bagram Airfield; theater reserve force⁴⁰

TF Black Knight / 1-5 Cavalry (USA)—FOB Airborne, Wardak; companies spread throughout southern RC-East

TF Mustang / 1-8 Cavalry (USA)—U/I location

TF Red Dragon / 3-82 Field Artillery (USA)—Bagram Airfield; operating in Parwan Province

Regional Command Capital (Brig. Gen. Ali Riza Kugu, Turkey)—Camp Warehouse, Kabul; operating in Kabul Province⁴¹

1st Battalion Motorized Task Force (Turkey)—Camp Dogan, Kabul

2nd Battalion Motorized Task Force (Turkey)—Camp Gazi, Kabul

Regional Command East / 101st Airborne Division (Maj. Gen. James McConville, USA)—Bagram Airfield; operating in fourteen eastern provinces⁴²

TF Commandos / 2nd Security Force Assistance Brigade, 10th Mountain Division (Col. Dennis Sullivan, USA)—FOB Sharana; operating in Paktika Province⁴³

TF Golden Dragons / 2-14 Infantry (Lt. Col. Robert Fouche, USA)—FOB Orgun; operating in eastern Paktika Province

TF Allons / 2-15 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Christopher Wendland, USA)—FOB Sharana; brigade artillery support

TF Wolverine / 1-89 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Robert Griggs, USA)—FOB Sharana; operating in western Paktika Province

TF Currahee / 4th Security Force Assistance Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Col. Val Keaveny, USA)—FOB Salerno, Khost; operating in Khost and Paktya Provinces⁴⁴

TF 1-61 Cavalry (USA)—Camp Clark, Khost; operating in western Khost Province

TF 1-506 Infantry (USA)—U/I location; operating in Paktya Province

TF 2-506 Infantry (USA)—FOB Salerno; operating in eastern Khost Province

TF 4-320 Field Artillery (USA)—U/I location; brigade artillery support

TF Falcon / 10th Combat Aviation Brigade (Col. David Francis, USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support in eastern and northern Afghanistan⁴⁵

TF Tigershark / 1-10 Attack Aviation (USA)—FOB Salerno; aviation support in Khost and Paktya Provinces

TF Knighthawk / 2-10 Assault Aviation (USA)—FOB Shank; aviation support in Logar and Wardak Provinces

TF Phoenix / 3-10 General Support Aviation (USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support in Bamyan, Laghman, Panjshir, and Parwan Provinces

TF Reaper / 1-135 Attack Aviation (Lt. Col. James Schreffler, USA)—Camp Marmal, Mazar-e-Sharif; aviation support in RC-North⁴⁶

TF Dragon / 1-501 Attack Aviation (Lt. Col. Glen Heape, USA)—Jalalabad Airfield; aviation support in Kunar, Nangarhar, and Nuristan Provinces

TF Patriot / 4th Security Force Assistance Brigade, 10th Mountain Division (Col. Mario Diaz, USA)—FOB Gamberi; operating in Kapisa, Kunar, Laghman, Nangarhar, and Parwan Provinces⁴⁷

TF Thunder / 5-25 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Matthew Condry, USA)—FOB Mehtar Lam; operating in Laghman Province

TF 2-4 Infantry (Lt. Col. Paul Cunningham, USA)—FOB Tagab; operating in Kapisa province

TF Dark Knight / 4-9 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Rob Smith, USA)—Jalalabad Airfield; operating in Nangarhar Province⁴⁸

TF Boar / 2-30 Infantry (Lt. Col. Alan Boyer, USA)—Jalalabad Airfield; operating in Nangarhar Province

TF Slugger / 3-89 Cavalry (Lt. Col. James Deore, USA)—FOB Wright, Asadabad; operating in Kunar Province

TF Vanguard / 4th Security Force Assistance Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division (Col. Kimo Gallahue, USA)—FOB Shank, Logar; operating in Logar and Wardak Provinces⁴⁹

TF Nashmi / TF 222 (Jordan)—FOB Shank; operating in Logar Province⁵⁰

TF Cottonbaler / 3-7 Infantry (Lt. Col. Gregory Bell, USA)—FOB Shank; operating in Logar Province

TF 6-8 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Justin Hadley, USA)—FOB Shank; operating in Logar Province

TF China / 3-15 Infantry (Lt. Col. Joel Smith, USA)—U/I location; operating in Wardak Province

TF Patriot / 1-76 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Lee Overby, USA)—FOB Shank; brigade artillery support

TF Warrior / 1st Security Force Assistance Brigade, 10th Mountain Division (Col. Stephen Michael, USA)—FOB Warrior; operating in southern and eastern Ghazni Province⁵¹

TF 3-6 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Mike Oeschger, USA)—U/I location

TF 2-22 Infantry (USA)—FOB Warrior; operating in southern Ghazni Province

TF Summit / 1-87 Infantry (Lt. Col. Daniel Morgan, USA)—FOB Arian; operating in eastern Ghazni Province

TF White Eagle / 25th Air Cavalry Brigade (Brig. Gen. Marek Sokoowski, Poland)—FOB Ghazni; operating in northern Ghazni Province⁵²

Battle Group Alpha (Poland)—FOB Ghazni; operating in northern Ghazni Province

Regional Command North (Maj. Gen. Jorg Vollmer, Germany)—Camp Marmal, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in nine northern provinces⁵³

Nordic-Baltic Transition Support Unit—Camp Northern Lights, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in RC-North⁵⁴

Partnering and Advisory Task Force Kunduz (Germany)—FOB Kunduz; operating in southern Kunduz Province⁵⁵

Partnering and Advisory Task Force Mazar-e-Sharif (Germany)—Camp Marmal; operating in Balkh Province

Expeditionary Air Wing Mazar-e-Sharif (Germany)—Camp Marmal; fixed- and rotary-wing aviation support for northern Afghanistan⁵⁶

TF Raider / 6-4 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Michael Zernickow, USA)—FOB Kunduz; operating in northern Kunduz Province⁵⁷

Regional Command South / 4th Infantry Division (Maj. Gen. Paul LaCamera, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; operating in Kandahar, Uruzgan, and Zabul Provinces⁵⁸

Combined Team Uruzgan (Col. Simon Stuart, Australia)—Camp Holland, Tarin Kowt; operating in Uruzgan Province⁵⁹

Mentoring Task Force 7 / 2nd Cavalry Regiment (Lt. Col. Michael Bye, Australia)—Camp Holland; operating in Uruzgan Province⁶⁰

TF Dragoon / 2nd Cavalry Regiment (Col. Douglas Sims, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; operating in Kandahar Province⁶¹

TF War Eagle / 1-2 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Phillip Gage, USA)—FOB Zangabad; operating in Panjwayi District

TF Cougar / 2-2 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Charles Svelan, USA)—U/I location

TF Wolfpack / 3-2 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Eric Smith, USA)—FOB Pasab; operating in Maywand and Zhari Districts

TF 4-2 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Christopher Budihis, USA)—FOB Lindsey; operating east of Kandahar City

TF Centaur / 1-6 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Henry McNeilly, USA)—FOB Spin Boldak; operating in Spin Boldak District

TF Hell / Fires Squadron, 2nd Cavalry Regiment (Lt. Col. Steven Fandrich, USA)—FOB Walton; operating in Kandahar City

TF Duke / 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division (Col. James Crider, USA)—FOB Apache, Qalat; operating in Zabul Province

TF Ramrod / 2-2 Infantry (USA)—FOB Apache; Afghan army advisors in Zabul Province

Maneuver Battalion 1 (Romania)—FOB Apache, Qalat; operating along Highway 1 in Zabul Province⁶²

TF Demon / 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division (Col. Matthew Lewis, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in southern and western Afghanistan⁶³

TF Gunfighters / 1-1 Attack Aviation (USA)—FOB Tarin Kowt; aviation support in Uruzgan and Zabul Provinces

TF Fighting Eagle / 2-1 General Support Aviation (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in Kandahar Province

TF Nightmares / 3-1 Assault Aviation (USA)—Shindand Airfield; aviation support in RC-West

TF Saber / 1-6 Air Cavalry (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in Kandahar Province

Regional Command Southwest / II Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward) (Maj. Gen. Lee Miller, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; operating in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces⁶⁴

3/4 Marines (USMC)—FOB Jackson, Sangin; operating in northern Helmand Province⁶⁵

2/8 Marines (USMC)—Camp Dwyer, Garmsir; operating in southern Helmand Province⁶⁶

3rd Combat Engineer Battalion (USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; engineer support⁶⁷

33rd Light Infantry Battalion (Georgia)—COP Shukvani; operating in Musa Qala District⁶⁸

42nd Light Infantry Battalion (Georgia)—Camp Leatherneck; base security

TF Helmand / 1st Mechanized Brigade (Brig. Rupert Jones, UK)—Camp Bastion; operating in central Helmand Province⁶⁹

Brigade Advisory Group / 4 Rifles (Lt. Col. Tom Bewick, UK)—Camp Tombstone; Afghan army advisors⁷⁰

Joint Engineer Group / 22 Engineer Regiment (Lt. Col. Jason Kerr, UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; brigade engineer support⁷¹

Joint Fires Group / 1 Regiment Royal Horse Artillery (UK)—U/I location; brigade artillery support⁷²

Police Mentoring and Advisory Group / 2 Royal Regiment of Scotland (Lt. Col. Robin Lindsay, UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; Afghan police advisors

Transition Support Unit Lashkar Gah / 2nd Royal Tank Regiment (UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; operating in Lashkar Gah District⁷³

Transition Support Unit Nad-e-Ali / 2 Duke of Lancaster's Regiment (Lt. Col. Neil Unsworth, UK)—FOB Shawqat; operating in Nad-e-Ali District⁷⁴

Transition Support Unit Nahr-e-Saraj / 1 Royal Regiment of Fusiliers (Lt. Col. John Swift, UK)—FOB Price, Gereshk; operating in Nahr-e-Saraj District⁷⁵

Household Cavalry (UK)—Camp Bastion; elements acting as Brigade Reconnaissance Force

2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward) (Brig. Gen. Gary Thomas, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; aviation support in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces⁷⁶

Marine Attack Squadron 311 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; fixed-wing close air support⁷⁷

Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 461 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; heavy transport aviation⁷⁸

Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 167 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; attack aviation⁷⁹

Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 264 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; medium transport aviation⁸⁰

Joint Aviation Group (UK)—Camp Leatherneck; headquarters for British aviation units

Joint Helicopter Force Afghanistan (UK)—Camp Leatherneck; aviation support for TF Helmand⁸¹

12 (Bomber) Squadron Royal Air Force (UK)—Kandahar Airfield; close air support for TF Helmand⁸²

39 Squadron Royal Air Force (UK)—Kandahar Airfield; drone support for TF Helmand⁸³

Regional Command West / “Julia” Alpine Brigade (Brig. Gen. Ignazio Gamba, Italy)—Camp Arena, Herat; operating in Badghis, Farah, Ghor, and Herat Provinces⁸⁴

Transition Support Unit Badghis (Spain)—Qala-e-Naw; operating in Badghis Province

Transition Support Unit Center / 7th Alpine Regiment (Italy)—FOB La Marmora, Shindand; operating in southern Herat Province

Transition Support Unit South / 8th Alpine Regiment (Italy)—Camp El Alamein, Farah; operating in western Farah Province

TF Fenice / 5th Aviation Regiment (Italy)—Herat Airfield; aviation support in western Afghanistan

TF Genio / 2nd Engineer Regiment (Italy)—Camp Arena, Herat; engineer support for western Afghanistan

Major changes since August 1, 2013:

—Relief of 3rd CAB by 1st CAB, 1st ID in RC-South

—Departure of 1st BCT, 1st AD from RC-South

NOTES

¹ Established in the summer of 2012, SOJTF-A/NSOCC-A is a two-star headquarters that oversees all three allied SOF commands in Afghanistan: CJSOTF-A, ISAF SOF, and the “black” special operations forces of the U.S. Joint Special Operations Command task force. See USSOCOM Fact Book 2013. Maj. Gen. Scott Miller may already have replaced Maj. Gen. Thomas as SOJTF-A commander.

² CJSOTF-A is headquartered by troops from the 3rd Special Forces Group. Its core tasks are to advise the Afghan National Army’s special operations forces (the Afghan commando kandaks and Special Forces) and to train and advise the local police forces associated with the Village Stability Operations program. CJSOTF-A controls six battalion-level task forces: two built around Army Special Forces battalions, two around Army infantry battalions, one around a Marine special operations battalion, and one around a Navy SEAL team. Navy Combat Camera Command Detachment 1210, “CJSOTF-A Presentation,” June 2012.

³ I-26 Infantry relieved 2-7 Infantry in June 2013. TF Balkh mixes conventional and special operations troops, and some of its companies are in southern and eastern Afghanistan with other task forces. See battalion Facebook page.

⁴ Established in 2007, ISAF SOF is a one-star, brigade-level headquarters that oversees most non-U.S. special operations forces in Afghanistan as well as one U.S. special operations unit, TF 10. Command of ISAF SOF appears to rotate between British and Australian officers; Brig. Mark Smethurst was in command as of March 2012.

⁵ The ISAF SOTGs, some battalion-level and some company-level, support the various regional commands, often by advising elite Afghan Interior Ministry units like the Provincial Response Companies, the Kabul-based Crisis Response Unit, and TF 333 and TF 444, and are designated as numbered task forces. For example, press reports mention TF 10 (a company from the U.S. 10th Special Forces Group) in RC-Capital; TF 45 (Italian SOF) in RC-West; TF 47 (German SOF) in RC-North; TF 49 and TF 50 (Polish SOF) in Ghazni and other areas in RC-East; TF 42, TF 196, and TF 528 (British SOF) in Helmand; and TF 66 (Australian SOF) in Uruzgan and Kandahar. (Units that have since withdrawn included France’s TF 32 and the Netherlands’ TF 637.)

⁶ CJSOAC-A is composed of helicopter, fixed-wing, and unmanned aviation units from the U.S. Air Force Special Operations Command, the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, and conventional U.S. Army aviation units.

⁷ 9th AETF-A does not fall under ISAF command, but its commander is dual-hatted as Deputy Commander (Air) of USFOR-A. It exercises only partial control of the wings and squadrons below it; day-to-day tactical control of those units is exercised by U.S. Air Force Central’s Combined Air and Space Operations Center in the Persian Gulf.

⁸ 26th ERQS is an HH-60G rescue helicopter squadron.

⁹ 361st ERS is an MC-12 squadron. Kandahar Airfield web site.

¹⁰ This F-16 squadron deployed in April 2013.

¹¹ 772nd EAS is a C-130 squadron. Kandahar Airfield web site.

¹² 4th ERS is an MC-12 squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.

- ¹³ 83rd ERQS is an HH-60G rescue helicopter squadron.
- ¹⁴ 62nd ERS is an MQ-1 and MQ-9 drone squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.
- ¹⁵ 74th EFS is an A-10C squadron that deployed in April 2013. See warthognews.blogspot.com.
- ¹⁶ 774th EAS is a C-130 squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.
- ¹⁷ VMAQ-3 relieved VMAQ-2 in early October 2012. It is an EA-6B squadron.
- ¹⁸ 18th MP Brigade relieved 333rd MP Brigade in July 2013. See brigade Facebook page.
- ¹⁹ MCC(SW) Maria Yager, CJIATF-435, "Navy Military Police Battalion Changes Command, Swaps Crew," May 13, 2011.
- ²⁰ This battalion deployed in early 2012.
- ²¹ Lt. Gen. Ken Tovo took command of NTM-A/CSTC-A in April 2013. His deputy commander for operations is a Canadian officer.
- ²² This Quebec-based battalion, likely from the Royal 22e Regiment, relieved 2 RCR in October 2012. See Operation Attention web site.
- ²³ I-294 relieved I-167 Infantry in early May 2013.
- ²⁴ V Corps relieved I Corps as the headquarters of the IJC in June 2012.
- ²⁵ 52nd Ordnance Group relieved the Navy's EOD Group Two as CJTF Paladin in May 2013.
- ²⁶ 184th EOD Battalion relieved 84th EOD Battalion in March 2013.
- ²⁷ 242nd EOD Battalion relieved 3rd EOD Battalion in July 2013.
- ²⁸ JTF Empire relieved the 18th Engineer Brigade, which had been responsible for only northern and eastern Afghanistan, in June 2012. Staff Sgt. Derek Smith, "411th Engineers Assume Control of Operations in Afghanistan," DVIDS, June 12, 2012.
- ²⁹ 8th Engineer Battalion relieved 1st Engineer Battalion in June 2013. See battalion Facebook page.
- ³⁰ 4th Engineer Battalion relieved 20th Engineer Battalion in June 2013. See JTF Triple Nickel newsletter.
- ³¹ 92nd Engineer Battalion relieved 62nd Engineer Battalion in March 2013. See battalion Facebook page.
- ³² 122nd Engineer Battalion relieved 178th Engineer Battalion in May 2013.
- ³³ 307th Engineer Battalion relieved 507th Engineer Battalion in March 2013.
- ³⁴ 878th Engineer Battalion relieved 120th Engineer Battalion in April 2013.
- ³⁵ NMCB-15 relieved NMCB-133 in March 2013.
- ³⁶ 864th Engineer Battalion deployed in February 2013. The battalion falls under the CENTCOM Materiel Recovery Element, not ISAF, but is listed here for clarity's sake.
- ³⁷ ODIN stands for Observe-Detect-Identify-Neutralize. The current leadership of TF ODIN-E arrived in July 2013.
- ³⁸ TF ODIN-A operates the MQ-1C and RQ-5 UAVs and various versions of the C-12 and C-35 airplanes. The current TF ODIN-A rotation deployed in May 2013.
- ³⁹ TF Condor operates the RQ-5 UAV and a version of the C-12 airplane.
- ⁴⁰ 2nd BCT, 1st Cavalry Division deployed in July 2013. See brigade Facebook page.
- ⁴¹ The current headquarters of RC-Capital arrived in November 2012. ISAF.NATO.int, "Subordinate Commands | RC-Capital."
- ⁴² 101st Airborne Division took over as RC-East in March 2013. See RC-East Facebook page.
- ⁴³ 2nd SFAB, 10th Mountain relieved elements of 4th BCT, 1st ID in mid-February 2013.
- ⁴⁴ 4th SFAB, 101st Airborne relieved 3rd BCT, 101st Airborne in May 2013. See brigade Facebook page.
- ⁴⁵ 10th CAB relieved 101st CAB in May 2013. Each of its battalion task forces combines UH-60, CH-47, AH-64, and OH-58 companies and provides direct support to a BCT. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.
- ⁴⁶ I-135 Aviation relieved I-104 Aviation in August 2013.
- ⁴⁷ 4th SFAB, 10th Mountain relieved 4th SFAB, 1st Cavalry Division and 1st SFAB, 101st Airborne in July 2013. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.
- ⁴⁸ 4-9 Cavalry is detached from 2nd BCT, 1st Cavalry Division.
- ⁴⁹ 4th SFAB, 3rd ID relieved 173rd Airborne BCT in March 2013. See brigade and battalion Facebook pages.
- ⁵⁰ TF 222 is built around an unidentified Jordanian Ranger battalion. The battalions appear to rotate in roughly December and June. Maj. Ashraf al-Adwan, "A Lasting Partnership."
- ⁵¹ 1st SFAB, 10th Mountain relieved elements of 4th BCT, 1st ID in mid-February 2013.
- ⁵² 25th Air Cavalry Brigade relieved 12th Mechanized Brigade as TF White Eagle in May 2013.
- ⁵³ The current headquarters of RC-North arrived in February 2013. ISAF.NATO.int, "Subordinate Commands | RC-North."
- ⁵⁴ The Nordic-Baltic Transition Support Unit was established in March 2013 and comprises 450 Swedish, Norwegian, Finnish, and Latvian troops.
- ⁵⁵ The current leadership of PATF Kunduz, from Airborne Brigade 26, took over in January 2013. See RC-North Facebook page.
- ⁵⁶ See RC-North Facebook page.
- ⁵⁷ 6-4 Cavalry relieved 3-7 Cavalry in May 2013. See squadron Facebook page.
- ⁵⁸ 4th ID relieved 3rd ID as RC-South in early July 2013. See division Facebook page.
- ⁵⁹ CTU is a composite headquarters made up of U.S. and Australian personnel. Although the commander of CTU is an Australian officer, who relieved American leadership in October

2012, much of CTU's headquarters is formed from the U.S. 79th BCT headquarters. See CTU Facebook page.

⁶⁰ MTF-7 relieved MTF-6 in June 2013. See CTU Facebook page.

⁶¹ 2nd Cavalry Regiment relieved 4th SBCT, 2nd ID in July 2013. See regimental Facebook page.

⁶² 1st Maneuver Battalion redeployed home to Romania in June 2013.

⁶³ 1st CAB, 1st ID relieved 3rd CAB in August 2013.

⁶⁴ II MEF (Forward) took over as RC-Southwest in late February 2013.

⁶⁵ 3/4 Marines relieves 2/7 Marines in April 2013.

⁶⁶ 2/8 Marines relieved 3/9 in May 2013.

⁶⁷ 3rd CEB deployed in April 2013.

⁶⁸ The 33rd and 42nd Georgian battalions deployed in April 2013.

⁶⁹ 1st Mechanized Brigade relieved 4th Mechanized Brigade in April 2013.

⁷⁰ 4 Rifles relieved 1 Scots in early April 2013.

⁷¹ 22 Engineer Regiment relieved 21 Engineer Regiment in April 2013. See regiment Facebook page.

⁷² 1 Regiment RHA relieved 4 Regiment RA in April 2013.

⁷³ 2 RTR relieved 1 LANCS in April 2013.

⁷⁴ 2 LANCS relieved 1 Mercian Regiment in Nad-e-Ali in April 2013.

⁷⁵ 1 RRF relieved 40 Commando in April 2013.

⁷⁶ 2nd MAW (Forward) relieved 3rd MAW (Forward) in late February 2013.

⁷⁷ VMA-311 is an AV-8B squadron that relieved VMA-231 in the spring of 2013.

⁷⁸ HMMH-461 is a CH-53E squadron that relieved HMMH-361 in February 2013.

⁷⁹ HMLA-167 is an AH-1W and UH-1Y squadron that relieved HMLA-169 in May 2013.

⁸⁰ VMM-264 is an MV-22B squadron that was in Afghanistan as of April 2013.

⁸¹ JHF(A) is made up of British Army, Royal Air Force, and Royal Navy units. It operates a variety of attack and lift helicopters.

⁸² 12 Squadron, a Tornado GR4 squadron, relieved 31 Squadron in July 2013.

⁸³ 39 Squadron is a Reaper UAV squadron.

⁸⁴ The "Julia" Brigade relieved the "Taurinense" Brigade as RC-West in March 2013.



COALITION COMBAT AND ADVISORY FORCES IN AFGHANISTAN

AFGHANISTAN ORDER OF BATTLE

BY WESLEY MORGAN OCTOBER 2013

This document describes the composition and placement of U.S. and other Western combat and advisory forces in Afghanistan down to battalion level. It includes the following categories of units: maneuver (i.e. infantry, armor, and cavalry) units, which in most cases are responsible for advising or partnering with Afghan troops in particular districts or provinces; artillery units; aviation units, both rotary and fixed-wing; military police units; most types of engineer and explosive ordnance disposal units; and “white” special operations forces. It does not include “black” special operations units or other units such as logistical, transportation, medical, and intelligence units or Provincial Reconstruction Teams.

International Security Assistance Force / United States Forces—Afghanistan (Gen. Joseph Dunford, USMC)—ISAF Headquarters, Kabul

Special Operations Joint Task Force—Afghanistan / NATO Special Operations Component Command—Afghanistan (Maj. Gen. Scott Miller, USA)—Camp Integrity, Kabul¹

Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force—Afghanistan (Col. Patrick Roberson, USA)—Bagram Airfield; village stability operations, advisors to Afghan Defense Ministry special operations forces, and other missions²

Special Operations Task Force—East (USA)—Bagram Airfield; operating in eastern Afghanistan

Special Operations Task Force—South (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; operating in Kandahar Province

Special Operations Task Force—South-East (USN)—U/I location; operating in Uruzgan and Zabul Provinces

Special Operations Task Force—West (USMC)—Camp Lawton, Herat; operating in western Afghanistan and Helmand Province

TF I-26 Infantry (Lt. Col. William Jacobs, USA)—Camp Mike Spann, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in northern Afghanistan³

ISAF Special Operations Forces (UK/Australia)—Kabul; advisors to Afghan Interior Ministry special operations forces⁴

Regional Special Operations Task Groups—located around Afghanistan⁵

Combined Joint Special Operations Aviation Component—Afghanistan (USAF/USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support to SOJTF-A special operations forces⁶

9th Air and Space Expeditionary Task Force—Afghanistan (Maj. Gen. Kenneth Wilsbach, USAF)—Kabul International Airport; oversees U.S. Air Force units in Afghanistan⁷

451st Air Expeditionary Wing (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; air support in southern and western Afghanistan

26th Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Camp Bastion; medical evacuation support⁸

361st Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support⁹

480th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; close air support¹⁰

772nd Expeditionary Airlift Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; transport support¹¹

455th Air Expeditionary Wing (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; air support in eastern and northern Afghanistan

4th Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support¹²

83rd Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; medical evacuation support¹³

62nd Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Bagram, Kandahar, and Jalalabad Airfields; surveillance support¹⁴

74th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; close air support¹⁵

774th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; transport support¹⁶

Marine Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron (USMC)—Bagram Airfield; counter-IED mission¹⁷

Combined Joint Interagency Task Force 435 (Lt. Gen. Keith Huber, USA)—Kabul; responsible for rule-of-law and detention operations

TF Vigilant / 18th Military Police Brigade (Col. Jan Apo, USA)—Parwan Detention Facility; detention operations¹⁸

Task Group Trident / Navy Military Police Battalion—Afghanistan (USN)—Parwan Detention Facility; detainee guard force¹⁹

U/I Military Police Battalion (USA)—Parwan Detention Facility²⁰

NATO Training Mission—Afghanistan / Combined Security Transition Command—Afghanistan (Lt. Gen. Ken Tovo, USA)—Camp Eggers, Kabul; responsible for training Afghan security forces²¹

U/I infantry battalion (Canada)—Camp Alamo, Kabul, and other locations; training Afghan forces and national and regional training centers²²

TF Guam / 1-294 Infantry (USA)—Camp Eggers, Kabul; NTM-A security force²³

ISAF Joint Command / III Corps (Lt. Gen. Mark Milley, USA)—Kabul International Airport; countrywide operational headquarters²⁴

Combined Joint Task Force Paladin / 52nd Ordnance Group (Col. Marue QuickUSA)—Bagram Airfield; overseeing counter-IED operations countrywide²⁵

TF Paladin East / 184th EOD Battalion (Lt. Col. Donald Smith, USA)—Bagram Airfield; counter-IED operations in eastern Afghanistan²⁶

TF Paladin South / 242nd EOD Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; counter-IED operations in southern Afghanistan²⁷

Joint Task Force Triple Nickel / 555th Engineer Brigade (Col. Nicholas Katers, USA)—Bagram Airfield; overseeing engineer operations countrywide²⁸

TF Trojan Horse / 8th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Mark Geraldi, USA)—FOB Shank, Logar; engineer support in N2KL and in Ghazni, Logar, and Wardak Provinces²⁹

TF Iron Fist / 4th Engineer Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; construction support in Kandahar Province³⁰

TF Black Diamond / 92nd Engineer Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; retrograde operations in southern Afghanistan³¹

TF War Horse / 122nd Engineer Battalion (USA)—FOB Sharana; route clearance in Paktya, Paktika, and Khost Provinces³²

TF SAW / 307th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Brett Sylvia, USA)—Camp Leatherneck; route clearance in southwestern and western Afghanistan³³

TF Dynamite / 878th Engineer Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; route clearance in southern Afghanistan³⁴

Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 28 (USN)—Camp Leatherneck; construction support in Helmand Province³⁵

TF Pacemaker / 864th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. John Henderson, USA)—Bagram Airfield; withdrawal and deconstruction operations³⁶

TF ODIN (Enhanced) (Col. Neil Hersey, USA)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support in eastern and southern Afghanistan³⁷

TF ODIN-A (USA)—Bagram Airfield and Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support³⁸

TF Condor (USA)—Bagram Airfield and Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support³⁹

TF Black Jack / 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division (Col. Robert Whittle, USA)—Bagram Airfield; theater reserve force⁴⁰

TF Black Knight / 1-5 Cavalry (USA)—FOB Airborne, Wardak; companies spread throughout southern RC-East

TF Mustang / 1-8 Cavalry (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; companies spread throughout RC-South

TF Red Dragon / 3-82 Field Artillery (USA)—Bagram Airfield; operating in Parwan Province

Regional Command Capital (Brig. Gen. Ali Riza Kugu, Turkey)—Camp Warehouse, Kabul; operating in Kabul Province⁴¹

1st Battalion Motorized Task Force (Turkey)—Camp Dogan, Kabul

2nd Battalion Motorized Task Force (Turkey)—Camp Gazi, Kabul

Regional Command East / 101st Airborne Division (Maj. Gen. James McConville, USA)—Bagram Airfield; operating in fourteen eastern provinces⁴²

TF Currahee / 4th Security Force Assistance Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Col. Val Keaveny, USA)—FOB Salerno, Khost; operating in Khost and Paktya Provinces⁴³

TF 1-61 Cavalry (USA)—Camp Clark, Khost; operating in western Khost Province

TF 1-506 Infantry (USA)—U/I location; operating in Paktya Province

TF 2-506 Infantry (USA)—FOB Salerno; operating in eastern Khost Province

TF 4-320 Field Artillery (USA)—U/I location; brigade artillery support

TF Falcon / 10th Combat Aviation Brigade (Col. David Francis, USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support in eastern and northern Afghanistan⁴⁴

TF Tigershark / 1-10 Attack Aviation (USA)—Jalalabad Airfield; aviation support in northern RC-East

TF Knighthawk / 2-10 Assault Aviation (USA)—FOB Shank; aviation support in southern RC-East

TF Phoenix / 3-10 General Support Aviation (USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support throughout RC-East

TF Reaper / 1-135 Attack Aviation (Lt. Col. James Schreffler, USA)—Camp Marmal, Mazar-e-Sharif; aviation support in RC-North⁴⁵

TF Patriot / 4th Security Force Assistance Brigade, 10th Mountain Division (Col. Mario Diaz, USA)—FOB Gamberi; operating in Kapisa, Kunar, Laghman, Nangarhar, and Parwan Provinces⁴⁶

TF Thunder / 5-25 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Matthew Condry, USA)—FOB Mehtar Lam; operating in Laghman Province

TF 2-4 Infantry (Lt. Col. Paul Cunningham, USA)—FOB Tagab; operating in Kapisa province

TF Dark Knight / 4-9 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Rob Smith, USA)—Jalalabad Airfield; operating in Nangarhar Province⁴⁷

TF Boar / 2-30 Infantry (Lt. Col. Alan Boyer, USA)—Jalalabad Airfield; operating in Nangarhar Province

TF Slugger / 3-89 Cavalry (Lt. Col. James Deore, USA)—FOB Wright, Asadabad; operating in Kunar Province

TF Vanguard / 4th Security Force Assistance Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division (Col. Kimo Gallahue, USA)—FOB Shank, Logar; operating in Logar and Wardak Provinces⁴⁸

TF Nashmi / TF 222 (Jordan)—FOB Shank; operating in Logar Province⁴⁹

TF Cottonbaler / 3-7 Infantry (Lt. Col. Gregory Bell, USA)—FOB Shank; operating in Logar Province

TF 6-8 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Justin Hadley, USA)—FOB Shank; operating in Logar Province

TF China / 3-15 Infantry (Lt. Col. Joel Smith, USA)—U/I location; operating in Wardak Province

TF Patriot / 1-76 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Lee Overby, USA)—FOB Shank; brigade artillery support

TF Warrior / 1st Security Force Assistance Brigade, 10th Mountain Division (Col. Stephen Michael, USA)—FOB Warrior; operating in southern and eastern Ghazni Province⁵⁰

TF 3-6 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Mike Oeschger, USA)—U/I location

TF 2-22 Infantry (USA)—FOB Warrior; operating in southern Ghazni Province

TF Summit / 1-87 Infantry (Lt. Col. Daniel Morgan, USA)—FOB Arian; operating in eastern Ghazni Province

TF White Eagle / 25th Air Cavalry Brigade (Brig. Gen. Marek Sokoowski, Poland)—FOB Ghazni; operating in northern Ghazni Province⁵¹

Battle Group Alpha (Poland)—FOB Ghazni; operating in northern Ghazni Province

Regional Command North (Maj. Gen. Jorg Vollmer, Germany)—Camp Marmal, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in nine northern provinces⁵²

Nordic-Baltic Transition Support Unit—Camp Northern Lights, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in RC-North⁵³

Partnering and Advisory Task Force Kunduz (Germany)—FOB Kunduz; operating in southern Kunduz Province⁵⁴

Partnering and Advisory Task Force Mazar-e-Sharif (Germany)—Camp Marmal; operating in Balkh Province

Expeditionary Air Wing Mazar-e-Sharif (Germany)—Camp Marmal; fixed- and rotary-wing aviation support for northern Afghanistan⁵⁵

TF Raider / 6-4 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Michael Zernickow, USA)—FOB Kunduz; operating in northern Kunduz Province⁵⁶

Regional Command South / 4th Infantry Division (Maj. Gen. Paul LaCamera, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; operating in Kandahar, Uruzgan, and Zabul Provinces⁵⁷

Combined Team Uruzgan (Col. Simon Stuart, Australia)—Camp Holland, Tarin Kowt; operating in Uruzgan Province⁵⁸

Mentoring Task Force 7 / 2nd Cavalry Regiment (Lt. Col. Michael Bye, Australia)—Camp Holland; operating in Uruzgan Province⁵⁹

TF Dragoon / 2nd Cavalry Regiment (Col. Douglas Sims, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; operating in Kandahar Province⁶⁰

TF War Eagle / 1-2 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Phillip Gage, USA)—FOB Zangabad; operating in Panjwayi District

TF Cougar / 2-2 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Charles Svelan, USA)—FOB Frontenac; operating in Shah Wali Kot District

TF Wolfpack / 3-2 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Eric Smith, USA)—FOB Pasab; operating in Maywand and Zhari Districts

TF 4-2 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Christopher Budihias, USA)—FOB Lindsey; operating east of Kandahar City

TF Centaur / 1-6 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Henry McNeilly, USA)—FOB Spin Boldak; operating in Spin Boldak District

TF Hell / Fires Squadron, 2nd Cavalry Regiment (Lt. Col. Steven Fandrich, USA)—FOB Walton; operating in Kandahar City

TF Duke / 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division (Col. James Crider, USA)—FOB Apache, Qalat; operating in Zabul Province

TF Ramrod / 2-2 Infantry (USA)—FOB Apache; Afghan army advisors in Zabul Province

Maneuver Battalion I (Romania)—FOB Apache, Qalat; operating along Highway I in Zabul Province⁶¹

TF Demon / 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division (Col. Matthew Lewis, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in southern and western Afghanistan⁶²

TF Gunfighters / 1-1 Attack Aviation (USA)—FOB Tarin Kowt; aviation support in Uruzgan and Zabul Provinces

TF Fighting Eagle / 2-1 General Support Aviation (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in Kandahar Province

TF Nightmares / 3-1 Assault Aviation (USA)—Shindand Airfield; aviation support in RC-West

TF Saber / 1-6 Air Cavalry (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in Kandahar Province

Regional Command Southwest / II Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward) (Maj. Gen. Lee Miller, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; operating in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces⁶³

3/4 Marines (USMC)—FOB Jackson, Sangin; operating in northern Helmand Province⁶⁴

2/8 Marines (USMC)—Camp Dwyer, Garmsir; operating in southern Helmand Province⁶⁵

3rd Combat Engineer Battalion (USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; engineer support⁶⁶

33rd Light Infantry Battalion (Georgia)—COP Shukvani; operating in Musa Qala District⁶⁷

42nd Light Infantry Battalion (Georgia)—Camp Leatherneck; base security

TF Helmand / 1st Mechanized Brigade (Brig. Rupert Jones, UK)—Camp Bastion; operating in central Helmand Province⁶⁸

Brigade Advisory Group / 4 Rifles (Lt. Col. Tom Bewick, UK)—Camp Tombstone; Afghan army advisors⁶⁹

Joint Engineer Group / 22 Engineer Regiment (Lt. Col. Jason Kerr, UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; brigade engineer support⁷⁰

Joint Fires Group / 1 Regiment Royal Horse Artillery (UK)—U/I location; brigade artillery support⁷¹

Police Mentoring and Advisory Group / 2 Royal Regiment of Scotland (Lt. Col. Robin Lindsay, UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; Afghan police advisors

Transition Support Unit Lashkar Gah / 2nd Royal Tank Regiment (UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; operating in Lashkar Gah District⁷²

Transition Support Unit Nahr-e-Saraj / 1 Royal Regiment of Fusiliers (Lt. Col. John Swift, UK)—FOB Price, Gereshk; operating in Nahr-e-Saraj District⁷³

Household Cavalry (UK)—Camp Bastion; elements acting as Brigade Reconnaissance Force

2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward) (Brig. Gen. Gary Thomas, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; aviation support in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces⁷⁴

Marine Attack Squadron 311 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; fixed-wing close air support⁷⁵

Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 462 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; heavy transport aviation⁷⁶

Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 167 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; attack aviation⁷⁷

Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 165 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; medium transport aviation⁷⁸

Joint Aviation Group (UK)—Camp Leatherneck; headquarters for British aviation units

Joint Helicopter Force Afghanistan (UK)—Camp Leatherneck; aviation support for TF Helmand⁷⁹

12 (Bomber) Squadron Royal Air Force (UK)—Kandahar Airfield; close air support for TF Helmand⁸⁰

39 Squadron Royal Air Force (UK)—Kandahar Airfield; drone support for TF Helmand⁸¹

Regional Command West / “Aosta” Mechanized Brigade (Brig. Gen. Michele Pellegrino, Italy)—Camp Arena, Herat; operating in Badghis, Farah, Ghor, and Herat Provinces⁸²

Transition Support Unit Badghis (Spain)—Qala-e-Naw; operating in Badghis Province

Transition Support Unit Center / 183rd Parachute Regiment (Italy)—FOB La Marmora, Shindand; operating in southern Herat Province

Transition Support Unit South / 6th Bersaglieri Regiment (Italy)—Camp El Alamein, Farah; operating in western Farah Province

TF Fenice / 1st Aviation Regiment (Italy)—Herat Airfield; aviation support in western Afghanistan

TF Genio / 4th Engineer Regiment (Italy)—Camp Arena, Herat; engineer support for western Afghanistan

—Departure of 2nd SFAB, 10th Mountain Division from RC-East

NOTES

¹ Established in the summer of 2012, SOJTF-A/NSOCC-A is a two-star headquarters that oversees all three allied SOF commands in Afghanistan: CJSOTF-A, ISAF SOF, and the “black” special operations forces of the U.S. Joint Special Operations Command task force. See USSOCOM Fact Book 2013.

² CJSOTF-A is headquartered by troops from the 3rd Special Forces Group. Its core tasks are to advise the Afghan National Army’s special operations forces (the Afghan commando kandaks and Special Forces) and to train and advise the local police forces associated with the Village Stability Operations program. CJSOTF-A controls six battalion-level task forces: two built around Army Special Forces battalions, two around Army infantry battalions, one around a Marine special operations battalion, and one around a Navy SEAL team. Navy Combat Camera Command Detachment 1210, “CJSOTF-A Presentation,” June 2012.

³ I-26 Infantry relieved 2-7 Infantry in June 2013. TF Balkh mixes conventional and special operations troops, and some of its companies are in southern and eastern Afghanistan with other task forces. See battalion Facebook page.

⁴ Established in 2007, ISAF SOF is a one-star, brigade-level headquarters that oversees most non-U.S. special operations forces in Afghanistan as well as one U.S. special operations unit, TF 10. Command of ISAF SOF appears to rotate between British and Australian officers; Brig. Mark Smethurst was in command as of March 2012.

⁵ The ISAF SOTGs, some battalion-level and some company-level, support the various regional commands, often by advising elite Afghan Interior Ministry units like the Provincial Response Companies, the Kabul-based Crisis Response Unit, and TF 333 and TF 444, and are designated as numbered task forces. For example, press reports mention TF 10 (a company from the U.S. 10th Special Forces Group) in RC-Capital; TF 45 (Italian SOF) in RC-West; TF 47 (German SOF) in RC-North; TF 49 and TF 50 (Polish SOF) in Ghazni and other areas in RC-East; TF 42, TF 196, and TF 528 (British SOF) in Helmand; and TF 66 (Australian SOF) in Uruzgan and Kandahar. (Units that have since withdrawn included France’s TF 32 and the Netherlands’ TF 637.)

⁶ CJSOAC-A is composed of helicopter, fixed-wing, and unmanned aviation units from the U.S. Air Force Special Operations Command, the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, and conventional U.S. Army aviation units.

⁷ 9th AETF-A does not fall under ISAF command, but its commander is dual-hatted as Deputy Commander (Air) of USFOR-A. It exercises only partial control of the wings and squadrons below it; day-to-day tactical control of those units is exercised by U.S. Air Force Central’s Combined Air and Space Operations Center in the Persian Gulf.

⁸ 26th ERQS is an HH-60G rescue helicopter squadron.

⁹ 361st ERS is an MC-12 squadron. Kandahar Airfield web site.

¹⁰ This F-16 squadron deployed in April 2013.

¹¹ 772nd EAS is a C-130 squadron. Kandahar Airfield web site.

¹² 4th ERS is an MC-12 squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.

¹³ 83rd ERQS is an HH-60G rescue helicopter squadron.

¹⁴ 62nd ERS is an MQ-1 and MQ-9 drone squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.

¹⁵ 74th EFS is an A-10C squadron that deployed in April 2013. See warthognews.blogspot.com.

¹⁶ 774th EAS is a C-130 squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.

¹⁷ VMAQ-3 relieved VMAQ-2 in early October 2012. It is an EA-6B squadron.

¹⁸ 18th MP Brigade relieved 333rd MP Brigade in July 2013. See brigade Facebook page.

¹⁹ MCC(SW) Maria Yager, CJATF-435, “Navy Military Police Battalion Changes Command, Swaps Crew,” May 13, 2011.

²⁰ This battalion deployed in early 2012.

²¹ Lt. Gen. Ken Tovo took command of NTM-A/CSTC-A in April 2013. His deputy commander for operations is a Canadian officer.

²² This Quebec-based battalion, likely from the Royal 22e Regiment, relieved 2 RCR in October 2012. See Operation Attention web site.

²³ I-294 relieved I-167 Infantry in early May 2013.

²⁴ V Corps relieved I Corps as the headquarters of the IJC in June 2012.

²⁵ 52nd Ordnance Group relieved the Navy’s EOD Group Two as CJTF Paladin in May 2013.

²⁶ 184th EOD Battalion relieved 84th EOD Battalion in March 2013.

²⁷ 242nd EOD Battalion relieved 3rd EOD Battalion in July 2013.

²⁸ JTF Triple Nickle relieved JTF Empire in February 2013.

²⁹ 8th Engineer Battalion relieved 1st Engineer Battalion in June 2013. See battalion Facebook page.

³⁰ 4th Engineer Battalion relieved 20th Engineer Battalion in June 2013. See JTF Triple Nickel newsletter.

³¹ 92nd Engineer Battalion relieved 62nd Engineer Battalion in March 2013. See battalion Facebook page.

³² 122nd Engineer Battalion relieved 178th Engineer Battalion in May 2013.

³³ 307th Engineer Battalion relieved 507th Engineer Battalion in March 2013.

³⁴ 878th Engineer Battalion relieved 120th Engineer Battalion in April 2013.

³⁵ NMCB-28 relieved NMCB-15 in September 2013.

³⁶ 864th Engineer Battalion deployed in February 2013. The battalion falls under the CENTCOM Materiel Recovery Element, not ISAF, but is listed here for clarity's sake.

³⁷ ODIN stands for Observe-Detect-Identify-Neutralize. The current leadership of TF ODIN-E arrived in July 2013.

³⁸ TF ODIN-A operates the MQ-1C and RQ-5 UAVs and various versions of the C-12 and C-35 airplanes. The current TF ODIN-A rotation deployed in May 2013.

³⁹ TF Condor operates the RQ-5 UAV and a version of the C-12 airplane.

⁴⁰ 2nd BCT, 1st Cavalry Division deployed in July 2013. See brigade Facebook page.

⁴¹ The current headquarters of RC-Capital arrived in November 2012. ISAF.NATO.int, "Subordinate Commands | RC-Capital."

⁴² 101st Airborne Division took over as RC-East in March 2013. See RC-East Facebook page.

⁴³ 4th SFAB, 101st Airborne relieved 3rd BCT, 101st Airborne in May 2013. See brigade Facebook page.

⁴⁴ 10th CAB relieved 101st CAB in May 2013. Each of its battalion task forces combines UH-60, CH-47, AH-64, and OH-58 companies and provides direct support to a BCT. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.

⁴⁵ I-135 Aviation relieved I-104 Aviation in August 2013.

⁴⁶ 4th SFAB, 10th Mountain relieved 4th SFAB, 1st Cavalry Division and 1st SFAB, 101st Airborne in July 2013. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.

⁴⁷ 4-9 Cavalry is detached from 2nd BCT, 1st Cavalry Division.

⁴⁸ 4th SFAB, 3rd ID relieved 173rd Airborne BCT in March 2013. See brigade and battalion Facebook pages.

⁴⁹ TF 222 is built around an unidentified Jordanian Ranger battalion. The battalions appear to rotate in roughly December and June. Maj. Ashraf al-Adwan, "A Lasting Partnership."

⁵⁰ 1st SFAB, 10th Mountain relieved elements of 4th BCT, 1st ID in mid-February 2013.

⁵¹ 25th Air Cavalry Brigade relieved 12th Mechanized Brigade as TF White Eagle in May 2013.

⁵² The current headquarters of RC-North arrived in February 2013. ISAF.NATO.int, "Subordinate Commands | RC-North."

⁵³ The Nordic-Baltic Transition Support Unit was established in March 2013 and comprises 450 Swedish, Norwegian, Finnish, and Latvian troops.

⁵⁴ The current leadership of PATF Kunduz, from Airborne Brigade 26, took over in January 2013. See RC-North Facebook page.

⁵⁵ See RC-North Facebook page.

⁵⁶ 6-4 Cavalry relieved 3-7 Cavalry in May 2013. See squadron Facebook page.

⁵⁷ 4th ID relieved 3rd ID as RC-South in early July 2013. See division Facebook page.

⁵⁸ CTU is a composite headquarters made up of U.S. and Australian personnel. Although the commander of CTU is an Australian officer, who relieved American leadership in October 2012, much of CTU's headquarters is formed from the U.S. 79th BCT headquarters. See CTU Facebook page.

⁵⁹ MTF-7 relieved MTF-6 in June 2013. See CTU Facebook page.

⁶⁰ 2nd Cavalry Regiment relieved 4th SBCT, 2nd ID in July 2013. See regimental Facebook page.

⁶¹ 1st Maneuver Battalion redeployed home to Romania in June 2013.

⁶² 1st CAB, 1st ID relieved 3rd CAB in August 2013.

⁶³ II MEF (Forward) took over as RC-Southwest in late February 2013.

⁶⁴ 3/4 Marines relieves 2/7 Marines in April 2013.

⁶⁵ 2/8 Marines relieved 3/9 in May 2013.

⁶⁶ 3rd CEB deployed in April 2013.

⁶⁷ The 33rd and 42nd Georgian battalions deployed in April 2013.

⁶⁸ 1st Mechanized Brigade relieved 4th Mechanized Brigade in April 2013.

⁶⁹ 4 Rifles relieved 1 Scots in early April 2013.

⁷⁰ 22 Engineer Regiment relieved 21 Engineer Regiment in April 2013. See regiment Facebook page.

⁷¹ 1 Regiment RHA relieved 4 Regiment RA in April 2013.

⁷² 2 RTR relieved 1 LANCS in April 2013.

⁷³ 1 RRF relieved 40 Commando in April 2013.

⁷⁴ 2nd MAW (Forward) relieved 3rd MAW (Forward) in late February 2013.

⁷⁵ VMA-311 is an AV-8B squadron that relieved VMA-231 in the spring of 2013.

⁷⁶ HMM-462 is a CH-53E squadron that relieved HMM-461 in August 2013.

⁷⁷ HMLA-167 is an AH-1W and UH-1Y squadron that relieved HMLA-169 in May 2013.

⁷⁸ VMM-165 is an MV-22B squadron that was in Afghanistan as of August 2013.

⁷⁹ JHF(A) is made up of British Army, Royal Air Force, and Royal Navy units. It operates a variety of attack and lift helicopters.

⁸⁰ 12 Squadron, a Tornado GR4 squadron, relieved 31 Squadron in July 2013.

⁸¹ 39 Squadron is a Reaper UAV squadron.

⁸² The "Aosta" Brigade relieved the "Julia" Brigade as RC-West in September 2013.



COALITION COMBAT AND ADVISORY FORCES IN AFGHANISTAN

AFGHANISTAN ORDER OF BATTLE

BY WESLEY MORGAN NOVEMBER 2013

This document describes the composition and placement of U.S. and other Western combat and advisory forces in Afghanistan down to battalion level. It includes the following categories of units: maneuver (i.e. infantry, armor, and cavalry) units, which in most cases are responsible for advising or partnering with Afghan troops in particular districts or provinces; artillery units; aviation units, both rotary and fixed-wing; military police units; most types of engineer and explosive ordnance disposal units; and “white” special operations forces. It does not include “black” special operations units or other units such as logistical, transportation, medical, and intelligence units or Provincial Reconstruction Teams.

International Security Assistance Force / United States Forces—Afghanistan (Gen. Joseph Dunford, USMC)—ISAF Headquarters, Kabul

Kabul Support Unit / Royal Scots Dragoon Guards (Lt. Col. Ben Cattermole, UK)—Kabul; security force supporting ISAF Headquarters and British facilities¹

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

Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force—Afghanistan (Col. Patrick Roberson, USA)—Bagram Airfield; village stability operations, advisors to Afghan Defense Ministry special operations forces, and other missions³

Special Operations Task Force—East (USA)—Bagram Airfield; operating in eastern Afghanistan

Special Operations Task Force—South (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; operating in Kandahar Province

Special Operations Task Force—South-East (USN)—U/I location; operating in Uruzgan and Zabol Provinces

Special Operations Task Force—West (USMC)—Camp Lawton, Herat; operating in western Afghanistan and Helmand Province

TF 1-26 Infantry (Lt. Col. William Jacobs, USA)—Camp Mike Spann, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in northern Afghanistan⁴

ISAF Special Operations Forces (UK/Australia)—Kabul; advisors to Afghan Interior Ministry special operations forces⁵

Regional Special Operations Task Groups—located around Afghanistan⁶

Combined Joint Special Operations Aviation Component—Afghanistan (USAF/USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support to SOJTF-A special operations forces⁷

9th Air and Space Expeditionary Task Force—Afghanistan (Maj. Gen. Kenneth Wilsbach, USAF)—Kabul International Airport; oversees U.S. Air Force units in Afghanistan⁸

451st Air Expeditionary Wing (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; air support in southern and western Afghanistan

26th Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Camp Bastion; medical evacuation support⁹

361st Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support¹⁰

480th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; close air support¹¹

772nd Expeditionary Airlift Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; transport support¹²

455th Air Expeditionary Wing (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; air support in eastern and northern Afghanistan

4th Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support¹³

83rd Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; medical evacuation support¹⁴

62nd Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Bagram, Kandahar, and Jalalabad Airfields; surveillance support¹⁵

74th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; close air support¹⁶

774th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; transport support¹⁷

Marine Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron (USMC)—Bagram Airfield; counter-IED mission¹⁸

Combined Joint Interagency Task Force 435 (Lt. Gen. Keith Huber, USA)—Kabul; responsible for rule-of-law and detention operations

TF Vigilant / 18th Military Police Brigade (Col. Jan Apo, USA)—Parwan Detention Facility; detention operations¹⁹

Task Group Trident / Navy Military Police Battalion—Afghanistan (USN)—Parwan Detention Facility; detainee guard force²⁰

U/I Military Police Battalion (USA)—Parwan Detention Facility²¹

NATO Training Mission—Afghanistan / Combined Security Transition Command—Afghanistan (Lt. Gen. Ken Tovo, USA)—Camp Eggers, Kabul; responsible for training Afghan security forces²²

U/I infantry battalion (Canada)—Camp Alamo, Kabul, and other locations; training Afghan forces and national and regional training centers²³

TF Guam / 1-294 Infantry (USA)—Camp Eggers, Kabul; NTM-A security force²⁴

ISAF Joint Command / III Corps (Lt. Gen. Mark Milley, USA)—Kabul International Airport; countrywide operational headquarters²⁵

Combined Joint Task Force Paladin / 52nd Ordnance Group (Col. Marue Quick USA)—Bagram Airfield; overseeing counter-IED operations countrywide²⁶

TF Paladin East / 184th EOD Battalion (Lt. Col. Donald Smith, USA)—Bagram Airfield; counter-IED operations in eastern Afghanistan²⁷

TF Paladin South / 242nd EOD Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; counter-IED operations in southern Afghanistan²⁸

Joint Task Force Sapper / 130th Engineer Brigade (Col. Diana Holland, USA)—Bagram Airfield; overseeing engineer operations countrywide²⁹

TF Trojan Horse / 8th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Mark Gerald, USA)—FOB Shank, Logar; engineer support in N2KL and in Ghazni, Logar, and Wardak Provinces³⁰

TF Iron Fist / 4th Engineer Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; construction support in Kandahar Province³¹

TF Bayonet / 65th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. David Acker, USA)—Camp Leatherneck; route clearance in southern and western Afghanistan³²

TF Black Diamond / 489th Engineer Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; retrograde operations in southern Afghanistan³³

TF War Horse / 122nd Engineer Battalion (USA)—FOB Sharana; route clearance in Paktya, Paktika, and Khost Provinces³⁴

TF Dynamite / 878th Engineer Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; route clearance in southern Afghanistan³⁵

Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 28 (USN)—Kandahar Airfield; construction support in southern Afghanistan³⁶

133rd Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Dean Preston, USA)—Bagram Airfield; withdrawal and deconstruction operations³⁷

TF ODIN (Enhanced) (Col. Neil Hersey, USA)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support in eastern and southern Afghanistan³⁸

TF ODIN-A (USA)—Bagram Airfield and Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support³⁹

TF Condor (USA)—Bagram Airfield and Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support⁴⁰

TF Black Jack / 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division (Col. Robert Whittle, USA)—Bagram Airfield; theater reserve force⁴¹

TF Black Knight / 1-5 Cavalry (USA)—FOB Airborne, Wardak; companies spread throughout southern RC-East

TF Mustang / 1-8 Cavalry (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; companies spread throughout RC-South

TF Red Dragon / 3-82 Field Artillery (USA)—Bagram Airfield; operating in Parwan Province

Regional Command Capital (Brig. Gen. Ali Riza Kugu, Turkey)—Camp Warehouse, Kabul; operating in Kabul Province⁴²

1st Battalion Motorized Task Force (Turkey)—Camp Dogan, Kabul

2nd Battalion Motorized Task Force (Turkey)—Camp Gazi, Kabul

Regional Command East / 101st Airborne Division (Maj. Gen. James McConville, USA)—Bagram Airfield; operating in fourteen eastern provinces⁴³

TF Currahee / 4th Security Force Assistance Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Col. Val Keaveny, USA)—FOB Lightning, Gardez⁴⁴

TF 1-61 Cavalry (USA)—Camp Clark, Khost; operating in western Khost Province

TF 1-506 Infantry (USA)—U/I location; operating in Paktya Province

TF 4-320 Field Artillery (USA)—U/I location; brigade artillery support

TF Falcon / 10th Combat Aviation Brigade (Col. David Francis, USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support in eastern and northern Afghanistan⁴⁵

TF Tigershark / 1-10 Attack Aviation (USA)—Jalalabad Airfield; aviation support in northern RC-East

TF Knighthawk / 2-10 Assault Aviation (USA)—FOB Shank; aviation support in southern RC-East

TF Phoenix / 3-10 General Support Aviation (USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support throughout RC-East

TF Reaper / 1-135 Attack Aviation (Lt. Col. James Schreffler, USA)—Camp Marmal, Mazar-e-Sharif; aviation support in RC-North⁴⁶

TF Patriot / 4th Security Force Assistance Brigade, 10th Mountain Division (Col. Mario Diaz, USA)—FOB Gamberi; operating in Kapisa, Kunar, Laghman, Nangarhar, and Parwan Provinces⁴⁷

TF Thunder / 5-25 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Matthew Condry, USA)—FOB Mehtar Lam; operating in Laghman Province

TF 2-4 Infantry (Lt. Col. Paul Cunningham, USA)—FOB Tagab; operating in Kapisa province

TF Dark Knight / 4-9 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Rob Smith, USA)—Jalalabad Airfield; operating in Nangarhar Province⁴⁸

TF Boar / 2-30 Infantry (Lt. Col. Alan Boyer, USA)—Jalalabad Airfield; operating in Nangarhar Province

TF Slugger / 3-89 Cavalry (Lt. Col. James Deore, USA)—FOB Wright, Asadabad; operating in Kunar Province

TF Vanguard / 4th Security Force Assistance Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division (Col. Kimo Gallahue, USA)—FOB Shank, Logar; operating in Logar and Wardak Provinces⁴⁹

TF Nashmi / TF 222 (Jordan)—FOB Shank; operating in Logar Province⁵⁰

TF Mustang / 6-8 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Justin Hadley, USA)—FOB Shank; operating in Logar Province

TF China / 3-15 Infantry (Lt. Col. Joel Smith, USA)—U/I location; operating in Wardak Province

TF White Eagle / 25th Air Cavalry Brigade (Brig. Gen. Marek Sokoowski, Poland)—FOB Ghazni; operating in northern Ghazni Province⁵¹

Battle Group Alpha (Poland)—FOB Ghazni; operating in northern Ghazni Province

Regional Command North (Maj. Gen. Jorg Vollmer, Germany)—Camp Marmal, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in nine northern provinces⁵²

Nordic-Baltic Transition Support Unit—Camp Northern Lights, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in RC-North⁵³

Partnering and Advisory Task Force Kunduz (Germany)—FOB Kunduz; operating in southern Kunduz Province⁵⁴

Partnering and Advisory Task Force Mazar-e-Sharif (Germany)—Camp Marmal; operating in Balkh Province

Expeditionary Air Wing Mazar-e-Sharif (Germany)—Camp Marmal; fixed- and rotary-wing aviation support for northern Afghanistan⁵⁵

TF Raider / 6-4 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Michael Zernickow, USA)—U/I location; operating in RC-North⁵⁶

Regional Command South / 4th Infantry Division (Maj. Gen. Paul LaCamera, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; operating in Kandahar, Uruzgan, and Zabul Provinces⁵⁷

Combined Team Uruzgan (Col. Simon Stuart, Australia)—Camp Holland, Tarin Kowt; operating in Uruzgan Province⁵⁸

Mentoring Task Force 7 / 2nd Cavalry Regiment (Lt. Col. Michael Bye, Australia)—Camp Holland; operating in Uruzgan Province⁵⁹

TF Dragoon / 2nd Cavalry Regiment (Col. Douglas Sims, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; operating in Kandahar Province⁶⁰

TF War Eagle / 1-2 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Phillip Gage, USA)—FOB Zangabad; operating in Panjwayi District

TF Cougar / 2-2 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Charles Svelan, USA)—FOB Frontenac; operating in Shah Wali Kot District

TF Wolfpack / 3-2 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Eric Smith, USA)—FOB Pasab; operating in Maywand and Zhari Districts

TF 4-2 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Christopher Budahas, USA)—FOB Lindsey; operating east of Kandahar City

TF Centaur / 1-6 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Henry McNeilly, USA)—FOB Spin Boldak; operating in Spin Boldak District

TF Hell / Fires Squadron, 2nd Cavalry Regiment (Lt. Col. Steven Fandrich, USA)—FOB Walton; operating in Kandahar City

TF Duke / 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division (Col. James Crider, USA)—FOB Apache, Qalat; operating in Zabul Province

TF Ramrod / 2-2 Infantry (USA)—FOB Apache; Afghan army advisors in Zabul Province

Maneuver Battalion 1 (Romania)—FOB Apache, Qalat; operating along Highway 1 in Zabul Province⁶¹

TF Demon / 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division (Col. Matthew Lewis, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in southern and western Afghanistan⁶²

TF Gunfighters / 1-1 Attack Aviation (USA)—FOB Tarin Kowt; aviation support in Uruzgan and Zabul Provinces

TF Fighting Eagle / 2-1 General Support Aviation (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in Kandahar Province

TF Nightmares / 3-1 Assault Aviation (USA)—Shindand Airfield; aviation support in RC-West

TF Saber / 1-6 Air Cavalry (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in Kandahar Province

Regional Command Southwest / II Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward) (Maj. Gen. Lee Miller, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; operating in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces⁶³

3/7 Marines (USMC)—FOB Jackson, Sangin; operating in northern Helmand Province⁶⁴

2/8 Marines (USMC)—Camp Dwyer, Garmsir; operating in southern Helmand Province⁶⁵

3rd Combat Engineer Battalion (USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; engineer support⁶⁶

Batumi Light Infantry Battalion (Georgia)—COP Eredvi, Musa Qala; operating in Musa Qala District⁶⁷

31st Light Infantry Battalion (Georgia)—Camp Leatherneck; base security

TF Helmand / 7th Armoured Brigade (Brig. James Woodham, UK)—Camp Bastion; operating in central Helmand Province⁶⁸

Brigade Advisory Team / 3 Mercian Regiment (UK)—Camp Tombstone; Afghan army advisors⁶⁹

Joint Engineer Group / 32 Engineer Regiment (UK)—U/I location; brigade engineer support⁷⁰

Joint Fires Group / 3 Regiment Royal Horse Artillery (UK)—U/I location; brigade artillery support⁷¹

Joint ISTAR Group / 9th/12th Royal Lancers (UK)—Camp Bastion; brigade surveillance and reconnaissance support

Manoeuvre Battlegroup / 4 Royal Regiment of Scotland (UK)—Camp Bastion and MOB Price, Gereshk; base security

Transition Support Unit Lashkar Gah / 2 Royal Anglian Regiment (Lt. Col. Nigel Johnson, UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; operating in Lashkar Gah District⁷²

2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward) (Brig. Gen. Gary Thomas, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; aviation support in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces⁷³

Marine Attack Squadron 311 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; fixed-wing close air support⁷⁴

Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 462 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; heavy transport aviation⁷⁵

Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 167 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; attack aviation⁷⁶

Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 165 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; medium transport aviation⁷⁷

Joint Aviation Group (UK)—Camp Leatherneck; headquarters for British aviation units

Joint Helicopter Force Afghanistan (UK)—Camp Leatherneck; aviation support for TF Helmand⁷⁸

12 (Bomber) Squadron Royal Air Force (UK)—Kandahar Airfield; close air support for TF Helmand⁷⁹

39 Squadron Royal Air Force (UK)—Kandahar Airfield; drone support for TF Helmand⁸⁰

Regional Command West / “Aosta” Mechanized Brigade (Brig. Gen. Michele Pellegrino, Italy)—Camp Arena, Herat; operating in Badghis, Farah, Ghor, and Herat Provinces⁸¹

Transition Support Unit Badghis (Spain)—Qala-e-Naw; operating in Badghis Province

Transition Support Unit Center / 183rd Parachute Regiment (Italy)—FOB La Marmora, Shindand; operating in southern Herat Province

Transition Support Unit South / 6th Bersaglieri Regiment (Italy)—Camp El Alamein, Farah; operating in western Farah Province

TF Fenice / 1st Aviation Regiment (Italy)—Herat Airfield; aviation support in western Afghanistan

TF Genio / 4th Engineer Regiment (Italy)—Camp Arena, Herat; engineer support for western Afghanistan

Major changes since October 1, 2013:

—Relief of 1st Mechanized Brigade by 7th Armoured Brigade as TF Helmand

—Relief of 555th Engineer Brigade by 130th Engineer Brigade

—Departure of 1st SFAB, 10th Mountain Division from RC-East

NOTES

¹The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards deployed as the first Kabul Support Unit in August 2013 (see regimental newsletter). Their exact chain of command is unclear.

²Established in the summer of 2012, SOJTF-A/NSOCC-A is a two-star headquarters that oversees all three allied SOF commands in Afghanistan: CJSOTF-A, ISAF SOF, and the “black” special operations forces of the U.S. Joint Special Operations Command task force. See USSOCOM Fact Book 2013.

³CJSOTF-A is headquartered by troops from the 3rd Special Forces Group. Its core tasks are to advise the Afghan National Army’s special operations forces (the Afghan commando kandaks and Special Forces) and to train and advise the local police forces associated with the Village Stability Operations program. CJSOTF-A controls six battalion-level task forces: two built around Army Special Forces battalions, two around Army infantry battalions, one around a Marine special operations battalion, and one around a Navy SEAL team. Navy Combat Camera Command Detachment 1210, “CJSOTF-A Presentation,” June 2012.

⁴1-26 Infantry relieved 2-7 Infantry in June 2013. TF Balkh mixes conventional and special operations troops, and some of its companies are in southern, eastern, and western Afghanistan with other task forces. See battalion Facebook page.

⁵Established in 2007, ISAF SOF is a one-star, brigade-level headquarters that oversees most non-U.S. special operations forces in Afghanistan as well as one U.S. special operations unit, TF 10. Command of ISAF SOF appears to rotate between British and Australian officers; Brig. Mark Smethurst was in command as of March 2012.

⁶The ISAF SOTGs, some battalion-level and some company-level, support the various regional commands, often by advising elite Afghan Interior Ministry units like the Provincial Response Companies, the Kabul-based Crisis Response Unit, and TF 333 and TF 444, and are designated as numbered task forces. For example, press reports mention TF 10 (a company from the U.S. 10th Special Forces Group) in RC-Capital; TF 45 (Italian SOF) in RC-West; TF 47 (German SOF) in RC-North; TF 49 and TF 50 (Polish SOF) in Ghazni and other areas in RC-East; TF 42, TF 196, and TF 528 (British SOF) in Helmand; and TF 66 (Australian SOF) in Uruzgan and Kandahar. (Units that have since withdrawn included France’s TF 32 and the Netherlands’ TF 637.)

⁷CJSOAC-A is composed of helicopter, fixed-wing, and unmanned aviation units from the U.S. Air Force Special Operations Command, the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, and conventional U.S. Army aviation units.

⁸9th AETF-A does not fall under ISAF command, but its commander is dual-hatted as Deputy Commander (Air) of USFOR-A. It exercises only partial control of the wings and squadrons below it; day-to-day tactical control of those units is exercised by U.S. Air Force Central’s Combined Air and Space Operations Center in the Persian Gulf.

⁹26th ERQS is an HH-60G rescue helicopter squadron.

¹⁰361st ERS is an MC-12 squadron. Kandahar Airfield web site.

¹¹This F-16 squadron deployed in April 2013.

- ¹² 772nd EAS is a C-130 squadron. Kandahar Airfield web site.
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- ¹⁶ 74th EFS is an A-10C squadron that deployed in April 2013. See warthognews.blogspot.com.
- ¹⁷ 774th EAS is a C-130 squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.
- ¹⁸ VMAQ-3 relieved VMAQ-2 in early October 2012. It is an EA-6B squadron.
- ¹⁹ 18th MP Brigade relieved 333rd MP Brigade in July 2013. See brigade Facebook page.
- ²⁰ MCC(SW) Maria Yager, CJIATF-435, “Navy Military Police Battalion Changes Command, Swaps Crew,” May 13, 2011.
- ²¹ This battalion deployed in early 2012.
- ²² Lt. Gen. Ken Tovo took command of NTM-A/CSTC-A in April 2013. His deputy commander for operations is a Canadian officer.
- ²³ This Quebec-based battalion, likely from the Royal 22e Regiment, relieved 2 RCR in October 2012. See Operation Attention web site.
- ²⁴ 1-294 relieved 1-167 Infantry in early May 2013.
- ²⁵ V Corps relieved I Corps as the headquarters of the IJC in June 2012.
- ²⁶ 52nd Ordnance Group relieved the Navy’s EOD Group Two as CJTF Paladin in May 2013.
- ²⁷ 184th EOD Battalion relieved 84th EOD Battalion in March 2013.
- ²⁸ 242nd EOD Battalion relieved 3rd EOD Battalion in July 2013.
- ²⁹ JTF Sapper relieved JTF Triple Nickel in October 2013.
- ³⁰ 8th Engineer Battalion relieved 1st Engineer Battalion in June 2013. See battalion Facebook page.
- ³¹ 4th Engineer Battalion relieved 20th Engineer Battalion in June 2013. See JTF Triple Nickel newsletter.
- ³² 65th Engineer Battalion relieved 307th Engineer Battalion in October 2013.
- ³³ 489th Engineer Battalion relieved 92nd Engineer Battalion in October 2013. See battalion Facebook page.
- ³⁴ 122nd Engineer Battalion relieved 178th Engineer Battalion in May 2013.
- ³⁵ 878th Engineer Battalion relieved 120th Engineer Battalion in April 2013.
- ³⁶ NMCB-28 relieved NMCB-15 in September 2013.
- ³⁷ 133rd Engineer Battalion relieved 864th Engineer Battalion in October 2013. The battalion falls under the CENTCOM Materiel Recovery Element, not ISAF, but is listed here for clarity’s sake.
- ³⁸ ODIN stands for Observe-Detect-Identify-Neutralize. The current leadership of TF ODIN-E arrived in July 2013.
- ³⁹ TF ODIN-A operates the MQ-1C and RQ-5 UAVs and various versions of the C-12 and C-35 airplanes. The current TF ODIN-A rotation deployed in May 2013.
- ⁴⁰ TF Condor operates the RQ-5 UAV and a version of the C-12 airplane.
- ⁴¹ 2nd BCT, 1st Cavalry Division deployed in July 2013. See brigade Facebook page.
- ⁴² The current headquarters of RC-Capital arrived in November 2012. ISAF.NATO.int, “Subordinate Commands | RC-Capital.”
- ⁴³ 101st Airborne Division took over as RC-East in March 2013. See RC-East Facebook page.
- ⁴⁴ 4th SFAB, 101st Airborne relieved 3rd BCT, 101st Airborne in May 2013. See brigade Facebook page.
- ⁴⁵ 10th CAB relieved 101st CAB in May 2013. Each of its battalion task forces combines UH-60, CH-47, AH-64, and OH-58 companies and provides direct support to a BCT. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.
- ⁴⁶ 1-135 Aviation relieved 1-104 Aviation in August 2013.
- ⁴⁷ 4th SFAB, 10th Mountain relieved 4th SFAB, 1st Cavalry Division and 1st SFAB, 101st Airborne in July 2013. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.
- ⁴⁸ 4-9 Cavalry is detached from 2nd BCT, 1st Cavalry Division.
- ⁴⁹ 4th SFAB, 3rd ID relieved 173rd Airborne BCT in March 2013. See brigade and battalion Facebook pages.
- ⁵⁰ TF 222 is built around an unidentified Jordanian Ranger battalion. The battalions appear to rotate in roughly December and June. Maj. Ashraf al-Adwan, “A Lasting Partnership.”
- ⁵¹ 25th Air Cavalry Brigade relieved 12th Mechanized Brigade as TF White Eagle in May 2013.
- ⁵² The current headquarters of RC-North arrived in February 2013. ISAF.NATO.int, “Subordinate Commands | RC-North.”
- ⁵³ The Nordic-Baltic Transition Support Unit was established in March 2013 and comprises 450 Swedish, Norwegian, Finnish, and Latvian troops.
- ⁵⁴ The current leadership of PATF Kunduz, from Airborne Brigade 26, took over in January 2013. See RC-North Facebook page.
- ⁵⁵ See RC-North Facebook page.

⁵⁶ 6-4 Cavalry relieved 3-7 Cavalry in May 2013. See squadron Facebook page.

⁵⁷ 4th ID relieved 3rd ID as RC-South in early July 2013. See division Facebook page.

⁵⁸ CTU is a composite headquarters made up of U.S. and Australian personnel. Although the commander of CTU is an Australian officer, who relieved American leadership in October 2012, much of CTU's headquarters is formed from the U.S. 79th BCT headquarters. See CTU Facebook page.

⁵⁹ MTF-7 relieved MTF-6 in June 2013. See CTU Facebook page.

⁶⁰ 2nd Cavalry Regiment relieved 4th SBCT, 2nd ID in July 2013. See regimental Facebook page.

⁶¹ 1st Maneuver Battalion redeployed home to Romania in June 2013.

⁶² 1st CAB, 1st ID relieved 3rd CAB in August 2013.

⁶³ II MEF (Forward) took over as RC-Southwest in late February 2013.

⁶⁴ 3/7 Marines relieved 3/4 Marines in October 2013.

⁶⁵ 2/8 Marines relieved 3/9 in May 2013.

⁶⁶ 3rd CEB deployed in April 2013.

⁶⁷ The 31st and Batumi battalions relieved the 33rd and 42nd battalions in October 2013.

⁶⁸ 7th Armoured Brigade relieved 1st Mechanized Brigade in October 2013.

⁶⁹ 3 Mercians relieved 4 Rifles in early October 2013.

⁷⁰ 32 Engineer Regiment relieved 22 Engineer Regiment in October 2013.

⁷¹ 3 Regiment RHA relieved 1 Regiment RA in October 2013.

⁷² 2 RAR relieved 2 RTR in October 2013.

⁷³ 2nd MAW (Forward) relieved 3rd MAW (Forward) in late February 2013.

⁷⁴ VMA-311 is an AV-8B squadron that relieved VMA-231 in the spring of 2013.

⁷⁵ HMMH-462 is a CH-53E squadron that relieved HMMH-461 in August 2013.

⁷⁶ HMLA-167 is an AH-1W and UH-1Y squadron that relieved HMLA-169 in May 2013.

⁷⁷ VMM-165 is an MV-22B squadron that was in Afghanistan as of August 2013.

⁷⁸ JHF(A) is made up of British Army, Royal Air Force, and Royal Navy units. It operates a variety of attack and lift helicopters.

⁷⁹ 12 Squadron, a Tornado GR4 squadron, relieved 31 Squadron in July 2013.

⁸⁰ 39 Squadron is a Reaper UAV squadron.

⁸¹ The "Aosta" Brigade relieved the "Julia" Brigade as RC-West in September 2013.



COALITION COMBAT AND ADVISORY FORCES IN AFGHANISTAN

AFGHANISTAN ORDER OF BATTLE

BY WESLEY MORGAN DECEMBER 2013

This document describes the composition and placement of U.S. and other Western combat and advisory forces in Afghanistan down to battalion level. It includes the following categories of units: maneuver (i.e. infantry, armor, and cavalry) units, which in most cases are responsible for advising or partnering with Afghan troops in particular districts or provinces; artillery units; aviation units, both rotary and fixed-wing; military police units; most types of engineer and explosive ordnance disposal units; and “white” special operations forces. It does not include “black” special operations units or other units such as logistical, transportation, medical, and intelligence units or Provincial Reconstruction Teams.

International Security Assistance Force / United States Forces—Afghanistan (Gen. Joseph Dunford, USMC)—ISAF Headquarters, Kabul

Kabul Support Unit / Royal Scots Dragoon Guards (Lt. Col. Ben Cattermole, UK)—Kabul; security force supporting ISAF Headquarters and British facilities¹

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

Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force—Afghanistan (Col. Patrick Roberson, USA)—Bagram Airfield; village stability operations, advisors to Afghan Defense Ministry special operations forces, and other missions³

Special Operations Task Force—East (USA)—Bagram Airfield; operating in eastern Afghanistan

Special Operations Task Force—South (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; operating in Kandahar Province

Special Operations Task Force—South-East (USN)—U/I location; operating in Uruzgan and Zabul Provinces

Special Operations Task Force—West (USMC)—Camp Lawton, Herat; operating in western Afghanistan and Helmand Province

TF 1-26 Infantry (Lt. Col. William Jacobs, USA)—Camp Mike Spann, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in northern Afghanistan⁴

ISAF Special Operations Forces (UK/Australia)—Kabul; advisors to Afghan Interior Ministry special operations forces⁵

Regional Special Operations Task Groups—located around Afghanistan⁶

Combined Joint Special Operations Aviation Component—Afghanistan (USAF/USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support to SOJTF-A special operations forces⁷

9th Air and Space Expeditionary Task Force—Afghanistan (Maj. Gen. Kenneth Wilsbach, USAF)—Kabul International Airport; oversees U.S. Air Force units in Afghanistan⁸

451st Air Expeditionary Wing (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; air support in southern and western Afghanistan

26th Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Camp Bastion; medical evacuation support⁹

361st Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support¹⁰

480th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; close air support¹¹

772nd Expeditionary Airlift Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; transport support¹²

455th Air Expeditionary Wing (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; air support in eastern and northern Afghanistan

4th Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support¹³

83rd Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; medical evacuation support¹⁴

62nd Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Bagram, Kandahar, and Jalalabad Airfields; surveillance support¹⁵

74th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; close air support¹⁶

774th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; transport support¹⁷

Marine Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron (USMC)—Bagram Airfield; counter-IED mission¹⁸

Combined Joint Interagency Task Force 435 (Lt. Gen. Keith Huber, USA)—Kabul; responsible for rule-of-law and detention operations

TF Vigilant / 18th Military Police Brigade (Col. Jan Apo, USA)—Parwan Detention Facility; detention operations¹⁹

Task Group Trident / Navy Military Police Battalion—Afghanistan (USN)—Parwan Detention Facility; detainee guard force²⁰

U/I Military Police Battalion (USA)—Parwan Detention Facility²¹

NATO Training Mission—Afghanistan / Combined Security Transition Command—Afghanistan (Lt. Gen. Ken Tovo, USA)—Camp Eggers, Kabul; responsible for training Afghan security forces²²

U/I infantry battalion (Canada)—Camp Alamo, Kabul, and other locations; training Afghan forces and national and regional training centers²³

TF Guam / 1-294 Infantry (USA)—Camp Eggers, Kabul; NTM-A security force²⁴

ISAF Joint Command / III Corps (Lt. Gen. Mark Milley, USA)—Kabul International Airport; countrywide operational headquarters²⁵

Combined Joint Task Force Paladin / 52nd Ordnance Group (Col. Marue Quick USA)—Bagram Airfield; overseeing counter-IED operations countrywide²⁶

TF Paladin East / 184th EOD Battalion (Lt. Col. Donald Smith, USA)—Bagram Airfield; counter-IED operations in eastern Afghanistan²⁷

TF Paladin South / 242nd EOD Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; counter-IED operations in southern Afghanistan²⁸

Joint Task Force Sapper / 130th Engineer Brigade (Col. Diana Holland, USA)—Bagram Airfield; overseeing engineer operations countrywide²⁹

TF Trojan Horse / 8th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Mark Gerald, USA)—FOB Shank, Logar; engineer support in N2KL and in Ghazni, Logar, and Wardak Provinces³⁰

TF Iron Fist / 4th Engineer Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; construction support in Kandahar Province³¹

TF Bayonet / 65th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. David Acker, USA)—Camp Leatherneck; route clearance in southern and western Afghanistan³²

TF Black Diamond / 489th Engineer Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; retrograde operations in southern Afghanistan³³

TF War Horse / 122nd Engineer Battalion (USA)—FOB Sharana; route clearance in Paktya, Paktika, and Khost Provinces³⁴

TF Dynamite / 878th Engineer Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; route clearance in southern Afghanistan³⁵

Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 28 (USN)—Kandahar Airfield; construction support in southern Afghanistan³⁶

133rd Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Dean Preston, USA)—Bagram Airfield; withdrawal and deconstruction operations³⁷

TF ODIN (Enhanced) (Col. Neil Hersey, USA)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support in eastern and southern Afghanistan³⁸

TF ODIN-A (USA)—Bagram Airfield and Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support³⁹

TF Condor (USA)—Bagram Airfield and Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support⁴⁰

TF Black Jack / 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division (Col. Robert Whittle, USA)—Bagram Airfield; theater reserve force⁴¹

TF Black Knight / 1-5 Cavalry (USA)—U/I location; companies spread throughout RC-East

TF Mustang / 1-8 Cavalry (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; companies spread throughout RC-South

TF Red Dragon / 3-82 Field Artillery (USA)—Bagram Airfield; operating in Parwan Province

Regional Command Capital (Brig. Gen. Ali Riza Kugu, Turkey)—Camp Warehouse, Kabul; operating in Kabul Province⁴²

1st Battalion Motorized Task Force (Turkey)—Camp Dogan, Kabul

2nd Battalion Motorized Task Force (Turkey)—Camp Gazi, Kabul

Regional Command East / 101st Airborne Division (Maj. Gen. James McConville, USA)—Bagram Airfield; operating in fourteen eastern provinces⁴³

TF Falcon / 10th Combat Aviation Brigade (Col. David Francis, USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support in eastern and northern Afghanistan⁴⁴

TF Tigershark / 1-10 Attack Aviation (USA)—Jalalabad Airfield; aviation support in northern RC-East

TF Knighthawk / 2-10 Assault Aviation (USA)—FOB Shank; aviation support in southern RC-East

TF Phoenix / 3-10 General Support Aviation (USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support throughout RC-East

TF Reaper / 1-135 Attack Aviation (Lt. Col. James Schreffler, USA)—Camp Marmal, Mazar-e-Sharif; aviation support in RC-North⁴⁵

TF Patriot / 4th Security Force Assistance Brigade, 10th Mountain Division (Col. Mario Diaz, USA)—FOB Gamberi; operating in northern RC-East⁴⁶

TF Thunder / 5-25 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Matthew Condry, USA)—FOB Mehtar Lam; operating in Laghman Province

TF 2-4 Infantry (Lt. Col. Paul Cunningham, USA)—FOB Tagab; operating in Kapisa province

TF Dark Knight / 4-9 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Rob Smith, USA)—Jalalabad Airfield; operating in Nangarhar Province⁴⁷

TF Boar / 2-30 Infantry (Lt. Col. Alan Boyer, USA)—Jalalabad Airfield; operating in Nangarhar Province

TF Slugger / 3-89 Cavalry (Lt. Col. James Deore, USA)—FOB Wright, Asadabad; operating in Kunar Province

TF Spartan / 3rd Security Force Assistance Brigade, 10th Mountain Division (Col. Sam Whitehurst, USA)—U/I location; operating in southern RC-East⁴⁸

TF 4-25 Field Artillery (USA)—Camp Clark, Khost; operating in Khost Province

TF Chosin / 1-32 Infantry (Lt. Col. Theo Moore, USA)—FOB Airborne, Maydan Shahr; operating in Wardak Province

TF Titan / 3-71 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Angel Mesa, USA)—

TF Catamount / 2-87 Infantry (Lt. Col. Brian Beckno, USA)—FOB Shank; operating in Logar Province

TF White Eagle / 25th Air Cavalry Brigade (Brig. Gen. Marek Sokoowski, Poland)—FOB Ghazni; operating in northern Ghazni Province⁴⁹

Battle Group Alpha (Poland)—FOB Ghazni; operating in northern Ghazni Province

Regional Command North (Maj. Gen. Jorg Vollmer, Germany)—Camp Marmal, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in nine northern provinces⁵⁰

Nordic-Baltic Transition Support Unit—Camp Northern Lights, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in RC-North⁵¹

Partnering and Advisory Task Force Kunduz (Germany)—FOB Kunduz; operating in southern Kunduz Province⁵²

Partnering and Advisory Task Force Mazar-e-Sharif (Germany)—Camp Marmal; operating in Balkh Province

Expeditionary Air Wing Mazar-e-Sharif (Germany)—Camp Marmal; fixed- and rotary-wing aviation support for northern Afghanistan⁵³

TF Raider / 6-4 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Michael Zernickow, USA)—U/I location; operating in RC-North⁵⁴

Regional Command South / 4th Infantry Division (Maj. Gen. Paul LaCamera, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; operating in Kandahar, Uruzgan, and Zabul Provinces⁵⁵

Combined Team Uruzgan (Col. Simon Stuart, Australia)—Camp Holland, Tarin Kowt; operating in Uruzgan Province⁵⁶

Mentoring Task Force 7 / 2nd Cavalry Regiment (Lt. Col. Michael Bye, Australia)—Camp Holland; operating in Uruzgan Province⁵⁷

TF Dragoon / 2nd Cavalry Regiment (Col. Douglas Sims, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; operating in Kandahar Province⁵⁸

TF War Eagle / 1-2 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Phillip Gage, USA)—FOB Zangabad; operating in Panjwayi District

TF Cougar / 2-2 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Charles Svelan, USA)—FOB Frontenac; operating in Shah Wali Kot District

TF Wolfpack / 3-2 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Eric Smith, USA)—FOB Pasab; operating in Maywand and Zhari Districts

TF 4-2 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Christopher Budihas, USA)—FOB Lindsey; operating east of Kandahar City

TF Centaur / 1-6 Field Artillery (Lt. Col. Henry McNeilly, USA)—FOB Spin Boldak; operating in Spin Boldak District

TF Hell / Fires Squadron, 2nd Cavalry Regiment (Lt. Col. Steven Fandrich, USA)—FOB Walton; operating in Kandahar City

TF Duke / 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division (Col. James Crider, USA)—FOB Apache, Qalat; operating in Zabul Province

TF Ramrod / 2-2 Infantry (USA)—FOB Apache; Afghan army advisors in Zabul Province

Maneuver Battalion 1 (Romania)—FOB Apache, Qalat; operating along Highway 1 in Zabul Province⁵⁹

TF Demon / 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division (Col. Matthew Lewis, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in southern and western Afghanistan⁶⁰

TF Gunfighters / 1-1 Attack Aviation (USA)—FOB Tarin Kowt; aviation support in Uruzgan and Zabul Provinces

TF Fighting Eagle / 2-1 General Support Aviation (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in Kandahar Province

TF Nightmares / 3-1 Assault Aviation (USA)—Shindand Airfield; aviation support in RC-West

TF Saber / 1-6 Air Cavalry (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in Kandahar Province

Regional Command Southwest / II Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward) (Maj. Gen. Lee Miller, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; operating in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces⁶¹

3/7 Marines (USMC)—FOB Jackson, Sangin; operating in northern Helmand Province⁶²

2/8 Marines (USMC)—Camp Dwyer, Garmsir; operating in southern Helmand Province⁶³

3rd Combat Engineer Battalion (USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; engineer support⁶⁴

Batumi Light Infantry Battalion (Georgia)—COP Eredvi, Musa Qala; operating in Musa Qala District⁶⁵

31st Light Infantry Battalion (Georgia)—Camp Leatherneck; base security

TF Helmand / 7th Armoured Brigade (Brig. James Woodham, UK)—Camp Bastion; operating in central Helmand Province⁶⁶

Brigade Advisory Team / 3 Mercian Regiment (UK)—Camp Tombstone; Afghan army advisors⁶⁷

Joint Engineer Group / 32 Engineer Regiment (UK)—U/I location; brigade engineer support⁶⁸

Joint Fires Group / 3 Regiment Royal Horse Artillery (UK)—U/I location; brigade artillery support⁶⁹

Joint ISTAR Group / 9th/12th Royal Lancers (UK)—Camp Bastion; brigade surveillance and reconnaissance support

Manoeuvre Battlegroup / 4 Royal Regiment of Scotland (UK)—Camp Bastion and MOB Price, Gereshk; base security

Transition Support Unit Lashkar Gah / 2 Royal Anglian Regiment (Lt. Col. Nigel Johnson, UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; operating in Lashkar Gah District⁷⁰

2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward) (Brig. Gen. Gary Thomas, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; aviation support in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces⁷¹

Marine Attack Squadron 311 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; fixed-wing close air support⁷²

Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 462 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; heavy transport aviation⁷³

Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 167 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; attack aviation⁷⁴

Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 165 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; medium transport aviation⁷⁵

Joint Aviation Group (UK)—Camp Leatherneck; headquarters for British aviation units

Joint Helicopter Force Afghanistan (UK)—Camp Leatherneck; aviation support for TF Helmand⁷⁶

12 (Bomber) Squadron Royal Air Force (UK)—Kandahar Airfield; close air support for TF Helmand⁷⁷

39 Squadron Royal Air Force (UK)—Kandahar Airfield; drone support for TF Helmand⁷⁸

Regional Command West / “Aosta” Mechanized Brigade (Brig. Gen. Michele Pellegrino, Italy)—Camp Arena, Herat; operating in Badghis, Farah, Ghor, and Herat Provinces⁷⁹

Transition Support Unit Badghis (Spain)—Qala-e-Naw; operating in Badghis Province

Transition Support Unit Center / 183rd Parachute Regiment (Italy)—FOB La Marmora, Shindand; operating in southern Herat Province

Transition Support Unit South / 6th Bersaglieri Regiment (Italy)—Camp El Alamein, Farah; operating in western Farah Province

TF Fenice / 1st Aviation Regiment (Italy)—Herat Airfield; aviation support in western Afghanistan

TF Genio / 4th Engineer Regiment (Italy)—Camp Arena, Herat; engineer support for western Afghanistan

Major changes since November 1, 2013:

—Relief of 4th SFAB, 3rd ID and 4th SFAB, 101st Airborne Division by 3rd SFAB, 10th Mountain Division in RC-East

NOTES

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²⁴ 1-294 relieved 1-167 Infantry in early May 2013.

²⁵ V Corps relieved I Corps as the headquarters of the IJC in June 2012.

²⁶ 52nd Ordnance Group relieved the Navy’s EOD Group Two as CJTF Paladin in May 2013.

²⁷ 184th EOD Battalion relieved 84th EOD Battalion in March 2013.

²⁸ 242nd EOD Battalion relieved 3rd EOD Battalion in July 2013.

²⁹ JTF Sapper relieved JTF Triple Nickel in October 2013.

³⁰ 8th Engineer Battalion relieved 1st Engineer Battalion in June 2013. See battalion Facebook page.

³¹ 4th Engineer Battalion relieved 20th Engineer Battalion in June 2013. See JTF Triple Nickel newsletter.

- ³² 65th Engineer Battalion relieved 307th Engineer Battalion in October 2013.
- ³³ 489th Engineer Battalion relieved 92nd Engineer Battalion in October 2013. See battalion Facebook page.
- ³⁴ 122nd Engineer Battalion relieved 178th Engineer Battalion in May 2013.
- ³⁵ 878th Engineer Battalion relieved 120th Engineer Battalion in April 2013.
- ³⁶ NMCB-28 relieved NMCB-15 in September 2013.
- ³⁷ 133rd Engineer Battalion relieved 864th Engineer Battalion in October 2013. The battalion falls under the CENTCOM Materiel Recovery Element, not ISAF, but is listed here for clarity's sake.
- ³⁸ ODIN stands for Observe-Detect-Identify-Neutralize. The current leadership of TF ODIN-E arrived in July 2013.
- ³⁹ TF ODIN-A operates the MQ-1C and RQ-5 UAVs and various versions of the C-12 and C-35 airplanes. The current TF ODIN-A rotation deployed in May 2013.
- ⁴⁰ TF Condor operates the RQ-5 UAV and a version of the C-12 airplane.
- ⁴¹ 2nd BCT, 1st Cavalry Division deployed in July 2013. See brigade Facebook page.
- ⁴² The current headquarters of RC-Capital arrived in November 2012. ISAF.NATO.int, "Subordinate Commands | RC-Capital."
- ⁴³ 101st Airborne Division took over as RC-East in March 2013. See RC-East Facebook page.
- ⁴⁴ 10th CAB relieved 101st CAB in May 2013. Each of its battalion task forces combines UH-60, CH-47, AH-64, and OH-58 companies and provides direct support to a BCT. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.
- ⁴⁵ 1-135 Aviation relieved 1-104 Aviation in August 2013.
- ⁴⁶ 4th SFAB, 10th Mountain relieved 4th SFAB, 1st Cavalry Division and 1st SFAB, 101st Airborne in July 2013. See brigade Facebook page and battalion Facebook pages.
- ⁴⁷ 4-9 Cavalry is detached from 2nd BCT, 1st Cavalry Division.
- ⁴⁸ 3rd SFAB, 10th Mountain relieved 4th SFAB, 3rd ID and 4th SFAB, 101st Airborne in November 2013. See brigade and battalion Facebook pages.
- ⁴⁹ 25th Air Cavalry Brigade relieved 12th Mechanized Brigade as TF White Eagle in May 2013.
- ⁵⁰ The current headquarters of RC-North arrived in February 2013. ISAF.NATO.int, "Subordinate Commands | RC-North."
- ⁵¹ The Nordic-Baltic Transition Support Unit was established in March 2013 and comprises 450 Swedish, Norwegian, Finnish, and Latvian troops.
- ⁵² The current leadership of PATF Kunduz, from Airborne Brigade 26, took over in January 2013. See RC-North Facebook page.
- ⁵³ See RC-North Facebook page.
- ⁵⁴ 6-4 Cavalry relieved 3-7 Cavalry in May 2013. See squadron Facebook page.
- ⁵⁵ 4th ID relieved 3rd ID as RC-South in early July 2013. See division Facebook page.
- ⁵⁶ CTU is a composite headquarters made up of U.S. and Australian personnel. Although the commander of CTU is an Australian officer, who relieved American leadership in October 2012, much of CTU's headquarters is formed from the U.S. 79th BCT headquarters. See CTU Facebook page.
- ⁵⁷ MTF-7 relieved MTF-6 in June 2013. See CTU Facebook page.
- ⁵⁸ 2nd Cavalry Regiment relieved 4th SBCT, 2nd ID in July 2013. See regimental Facebook page.
- ⁵⁹ 1st Maneuver Battalion redeployed home to Romania in June 2013.
- ⁶⁰ 1st CAB, 1st ID relieved 3rd CAB in August 2013.
- ⁶¹ II MEF (Forward) took over as RC-Southwest in late February 2013.
- ⁶² 3/7 Marines relieved 3/4 Marines in October 2013.
- ⁶³ 2/8 Marines relieved 3/9 in May 2013.
- ⁶⁴ 3rd CEB deployed in April 2013.
- ⁶⁵ The 31st and Batumi battalions relieved the 33rd and 42nd battalions in October 2013.
- ⁶⁶ 7th Armoured Brigade relieved 1st Mechanized Brigade in October 2013.
- ⁶⁷ 3 Mercians relieved 4 Rifles in early October 2013.
- ⁶⁸ 32 Engineer Regiment relieved 22 Engineer Regiment in October 2013.
- ⁶⁹ 3 Regiment RHA relieved 1 Regiment RA in October 2013.
- ⁷⁰ 2 RAR relieved 2 RTR in October 2013.
- ⁷¹ 2nd MAW (Forward) relieved 3rd MAW (Forward) in late February 2013.
- ⁷² VMA-311 is an AV-8B squadron that relieved VMA-231 in the spring of 2013.
- ⁷³ HMMH-462 is a CH-53E squadron that relieved HMMH-461 in August 2013.
- ⁷⁴ HMLA-167 is an AH-1W and UH-1Y squadron that relieved HMLA-169 in May 2013.
- ⁷⁵ VMM-165 is an MV-22B squadron that was in Afghanistan as of August 2013.
- ⁷⁶ JHF(A) is made up of British Army, Royal Air Force, and Royal Navy units. It operates a variety of attack and lift helicopters.
- ⁷⁷ 12 Squadron, a Tornado GR4 squadron, relieved 31 Squadron in July 2013.
- ⁷⁸ 39 Squadron is a Reaper UAV squadron.
- ⁷⁹ The "Aosta" Brigade relieved the "Julia" Brigade as RC-West in September 2013.