



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, Kabul<sup>1</sup>**

Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force—Afghanistan (USA)—Bagram Airfield; village stability operations, advisors to Afghan Defense Ministry special operations forces, and other missions<sup>2</sup>

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 Afghanistan<sup>3</sup>

TF Paktika / 3-69 Armor (Lt. Col. Orestees Davenport, USA)—FOB Sharana; operating in Paktika Province<sup>4</sup>

ISAF Special Operations Forces / Special Operations Command and Control Element (Brig. Mark Smethurst, Australia)—Kabul; advisors to Afghan Interior Ministry special operations forces<sup>5</sup>

Regional Special Operations Task Groups—located around Afghanistan<sup>6</sup>

Combined Joint Special Operations Aviation Component—Afghanistan (USAF/USA)—Bagram Airfield; aviation support to SOJTF-A special operations forces<sup>7</sup>

**9th Air and Space Expeditionary Task Force Afghanistan (Maj. Gen. H.D. Polumbo, USAF) Kabul International Airport; oversees U.S. Air Force units in Afghanistan<sup>8</sup>**

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

26th Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; medical evacuation support<sup>9</sup>

46th Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Camp Bastion and Kandahar Airfield; medical evacuation support<sup>10</sup>

76th Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Camp Bastion; medical evacuation support<sup>11</sup>

361st Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support<sup>12</sup>

179th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; close air support<sup>13</sup>

772nd Expeditionary Airlift Squadron (USAF)—Kandahar Airfield; transport support<sup>14</sup>

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

4th Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support<sup>15</sup>

33rd Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; medical evacuation support<sup>16</sup>

62nd Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support<sup>17</sup>

83rd Expeditionary Rescue Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; medical evacuation support<sup>18</sup>

354th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; close air support<sup>19</sup>

391st Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; close air support<sup>20</sup>

774th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron (USAF)—Bagram Airfield; transport support<sup>21</sup>

Marine Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron 3 (USMC)—Bagram Airfield; counter-IED mission<sup>22</sup>

**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 operations<sup>23</sup>

Task Group Trident / Navy Military Police Battalion—Afghanistan (USN)—Parwan Detention Facility; detainee guard force<sup>24</sup>

160th Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Terry Robey, USA)—Parwan Detention Facility<sup>25</sup>

384th Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Kevin Keen, USA)—Parwan Detention Facility; Afghan army detention advisors<sup>26</sup>

535th Military Police Battalion (USA)—Parwan Detention Facility; investigation force<sup>27</sup>

**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 centers<sup>28</sup>

TF Centurion Prime / I-167 Infantry (Lt. Col. J.R. Bass, USA)—Camp Eggers, Kabul; NTM-A security force<sup>29</sup>

Regional Support Command Capital (Col. Marlin Remigio, USA)—Camp Phoenix; training Afghan forces in Kabul<sup>30</sup>

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 headquarters<sup>31</sup>**

Combined Joint Task Force Paladin / Explosive Ordnance Disposal Group Two (Capt. Timothy Rudderow, USN)—Bagram Airfield; overseeing counter-IED operations countrywide<sup>32</sup>

TF Paladin East / 84th EOD Battalion (USA)—Bagram Airfield; counter-IED operations in eastern Afghanistan<sup>33</sup>

TF Paladin South / 3rd EOD Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; counter-IED operations in southern Afghanistan<sup>34</sup>

TF Paladin Southwest (USN)—Camp Leatherneck, Helmand; counter-IED operations in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces<sup>35</sup>

Joint Task Force Triple Nickel / 555th Engineer Brigade (Col. Nicholas Katers, USA)—Bagram Airfield; overseeing engineer operations countrywide<sup>36</sup>

TF Diehard / 1st Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Thomas Hairgrove, USA)—FOB Shank, Logar; engineer support in N2KL and in Ghazni, Logar, and Wardak Provinces<sup>37</sup>

TF Lumberjack / 20th Engineer Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; construction support in Kandahar Province<sup>38</sup>

TF Outlaw / 120th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Jack Ritter, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; route clearance in southern Afghanistan<sup>39</sup>

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 Provinces<sup>40</sup>

TF Warhammer / 507th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. William Myer, USA)—Camp Leatherneck; route clearance in southwestern and western Afghanistan<sup>41</sup>

TF Anchor / Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 133 (Cmdr. Nicholas Yamodis, USN)—Camp Leatherneck; construction support in Helmand Province<sup>42</sup>

**Regional Command Capital (Brig. Gen. Levent Gozkaya, Turkey) Camp Warehouse, Kabul; operating in Kabul Province<sup>43</sup>**

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 provinces<sup>44</sup>**

TF Bullwhip / U/I Military Police Battalion—Camp Julien, Kabul; advising Afghan police in northern RC-East<sup>45</sup>

TF Spartan / 793rd Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Stephen Gabavics, USA)—U/I location; advising Afghan police in southern RC-East<sup>46</sup>

TF Bastogne / 1st Security Force Assistance Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Col. J.P. McGee, USA)—Jalalabad Airfield; operating in Kunar, Nangarhar, and Nuristan Provinces<sup>47</sup>

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 Provinces<sup>48</sup>

TF Nashmi / TF 222 (Jordan)—FOB Shank; operating in Logar Province<sup>49</sup>

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 Province<sup>50</sup>

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 Afghanistan<sup>51</sup>

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 Afghanistan<sup>52</sup>

TF La Fayette / 7th Armored Brigade (Brig. Gen. Francisco Soriano, France)—Camp Warehouse, Kabul; overseeing withdrawal of French forces<sup>53</sup>

TF Mousquetaire / BATHELICO (France)—Kabul International Airport; aviation support in Kabul and Kapisa Provinces<sup>54</sup>

U/I infantry battalion or regiment (France)—Camp Warehouse, Kabul; quick reaction force<sup>55</sup>

TF Long Knife / 4th Security Force Assistance Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division (Col. Bill Benson, USA)—FOB Gamberi; operating in Kapisa, Laghman, and Parwan Provinces<sup>56</sup>

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 Provinces<sup>57</sup>

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 Province<sup>58</sup>

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 Province<sup>59</sup>

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 provinces<sup>60</sup>**

TF Kunduz (Germany)—FOB Kunduz; operating in eastern RC-North<sup>61</sup>

TF Mazar-e-Sharif (Germany)—Camp Marmal; operating in western RC-North<sup>62</sup>

Expeditionary Air Wing Mazar-e-Sharif (Germany)—Camp Marmal; fixed- and rotary-wing aviation support for northern Afghanistan<sup>63</sup>

TF Garry Owen / 3-7 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Lance Varney, USA)—FOB Kunduz; operating in Kunduz Province<sup>64</sup>

**Regional Command South / 3rd Infantry Division (Maj. Gen. Robert “Abe” Abrams, USA) Kandahar Airfield; operating in Kandahar, Uruzgan, and Zabul Provinces<sup>65</sup>**

Combined Team Uruzgan (Col. Simon Stuart, Australia)—Camp Holland, Tarin Kowt; operating in Uruzgan Province<sup>66</sup>

Mentoring Task Force 6 / 7 Royal Australian Regiment (Lt. Col. Malcolm Wells, Australia)—Camp Holland; operating in Uruzgan Province<sup>67</sup>

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 Province<sup>68</sup>

Maneuver Battalion 2 / 33rd Mountain Battalion (Romania)—FOB Bullard, Shah Joy District; operating along Highway 1 in Zabul Province<sup>69</sup>

TF Falcon / 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade (Col. Allan Pepin, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in southern and western Afghanistan<sup>70</sup>

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 Province<sup>71</sup>

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 Province<sup>72</sup>

TF Ripcord / 503rd Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Terry Nihart, USA)—Camp Nathan Smith; Afghan police advisors<sup>73</sup>

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 Provinces<sup>74</sup>**

TF Helmand / 4th Mechanized Brigade (Brig. Bob Bruce, UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; operating in central Helmand Province<sup>75</sup>

Brigade Advisory Group / 1 Royal Regiment of Scotland (Lt. Col. Ben Wrench, UK)—Camp Tombstone; Afghan army advisors<sup>76</sup>

Combined Force Nahr-e-Saraj (North) / 40 Commando (Lt. Col. Matt Jackson, UK)—FOB Price, Gereshk; operating in central Nahr-e-Saraj District<sup>77</sup>

Combined Force Nahr-e-Saraj (South) / 1 Scots Guards (Lt. Col. Robert Howieson, UK)—operating in southern Nahr-e-Saraj District<sup>78</sup>

Joint Engineer Group / 21 Engineer Regiment (UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; brigade engineer support<sup>79</sup>

Joint Fires Group / 4 Regiment Royal Artillery (UK)—U/I location; brigade artillery support<sup>80</sup>

Transition Support Unit Lashkar Gah / 1 Duke of Lancaster's Regiment (UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; operating in Lashkar Gah District<sup>81</sup>

Transition Support Unit Nad-e-Ali / 1 Mercian Regiment (UK)—FOB Shawqat; operating in Nad-e-Ali District<sup>82</sup>

Royal Dragoon Guards (UK)—Camp Bastion; elements advising Afghan police<sup>83</sup>

Queen's Royal Lancers (UK)—Camp Bastion; elements advising Afghan police and conducting airfield security<sup>84</sup>

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

Team 14 / Jutland Dragoon Regiment (Col. Kresten Hedegard, Denmark)—Camp Bastion; training Afghan forces<sup>85</sup>

Regimental Combat Team 7 (Col. Austin Renforth, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; operating in northern and southern Helmand Province and Nimruz Province<sup>86</sup>

2/7 Marines (Lt. Col. Donald Tomich, USMC)—FOB Jackson, Sangin; operating in northern Helmand Province<sup>87</sup>

3/9 Marines (USMC)—FOB Geronimo, Nawa; operating in southern Helmand Province<sup>88</sup>

12th Light Infantry Battalion (Georgia)—U/I location<sup>89</sup>

32nd Light Infantry Battalion (Georgia)—COP Shukvani; operating in southern Musa Qala District<sup>90</sup>

2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward) (Brig. Gen. Gary Thomas, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; aviation support in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces<sup>91</sup>

Marine Attack Squadron 231 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; fixed-wing close air support<sup>92</sup>



Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 361 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; heavy transport aviation<sup>93</sup>

Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 169 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; attack aviation<sup>94</sup>

Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 161 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; medium transport aviation<sup>95</sup>

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

Joint Helicopter Force Afghanistan (UK)—Camp Leatherneck; aviation support for TF Helmand<sup>96</sup>

IX (Bomber) Squadron Royal Air Force (UK)—Kandahar Airfield; close air support for TF Helmand<sup>97</sup>

39 Squadron Royal Air Force (UK)—Kandahar Airfield; drone support for TF Helmand<sup>98</sup>

**Regional Command West / “Taurinense” Alpine Brigade (Brig. Gen. Dario Mari Ranieri, Italy) Camp Arena, Herat; operating in Badghis, Farah, Ghor, and Herat Provinces<sup>99</sup>**

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 Afghanistan<sup>100</sup>

*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

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

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

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

<sup>5</sup> 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.

<sup>6</sup> 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.

<sup>7</sup> 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.

<sup>8</sup> 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.

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

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

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

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

<sup>13</sup> This F-16 squadron deployed in August 2012.

<sup>14</sup> 772nd EAS is a C-130 squadron. Kandahar Airfield web site.

<sup>15</sup> 4th ERS is an MC-12 squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.

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

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

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

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

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

<sup>21</sup> 774th EAS is a C-130 squadron. Bagram Airfield web site.

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

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

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

<sup>25</sup> This battalion deployed in July-August 2012.

<sup>26</sup> This battalion deployed in late August 2012.

<sup>27</sup> This battalion deployed in early 2012.

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

<sup>29</sup> 1-167 relieved 1-134 Field Artillery in late August 2012.

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

<sup>31</sup> V Corps relieved I Corps as the headquarters of the IJC in June 2012.

<sup>32</sup> 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.

<sup>33</sup> 84th EOD Battalion deployed in late March 2012. See battalion Facebook page.

<sup>34</sup> 3rd EOD Battalion relieved 192nd EOD Battalion in late August 2012.

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

<sup>36</sup> 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.

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

<sup>38</sup> 20th Engineer Battalion relieved 980th Engineer Battalion in November 2012. See JTF Empire newsletter.

<sup>39</sup> 120th Engineer Battalion relieved 223rd Engineer Battalion in September 2012.

<sup>40</sup> 178th Engineer Battalion likely relieved 578th Engineer Battalion in September 2012.

<sup>41</sup> 507th Engineer Battalion relieved 14th Engineer Battalion in July 2012.

<sup>42</sup> NMCB-133 relieved NMCB-11 in September 2012.

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

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

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

<sup>46</sup> 793rd MP Battalion deployed in October 2012. See battalion Facebook page.

<sup>47</sup> 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.

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

<sup>49</sup> 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."

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

<sup>51</sup> 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.

<sup>52</sup> 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.

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

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

<sup>55</sup> 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.

<sup>56</sup> 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.

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

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

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

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

<sup>61</sup> Paratrooper Battalion 263 took over as TF Kunduz in January 2011.

<sup>62</sup> 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.

<sup>63</sup> See RC-North Facebook page.

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