



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, 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 / 1-167 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 Black Diamond / 92nd Engineer Battalion (USA)—Kandahar Airfield; retrograde operations in southern Afghanistan<sup>39</sup>

TF Outlaw / 120th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Jack Ritter, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; route clearance in southern Afghanistan<sup>40</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>41</sup>

TF SAW / 307th Engineer Battalion (Lt. Col. Brett Sylvia, USA)—Camp Leatherneck; route clearance in southwestern and western Afghanistan<sup>42</sup>

TF True Grit / Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 15 (Cmdr. Anthony Spindler, USN)—Camp Leatherneck; construction support in Helmand Province<sup>43</sup>

TF ODIN (Enhanced) (Col. Adam Hinsdale, USA)—Bagram Airfield; surveillance support in eastern and southern Afghanistan<sup>44</sup>

TF ODIN-A (USA)—Bagram Airfield and Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support<sup>45</sup>

TF Condor (USA)—Bagram Airfield and Kandahar Airfield; surveillance support<sup>46</sup>

**Regional Command Capital (Brig. Gen. Levent Gozkaya, Turkey)—Camp Warehouse, Kabul; operating in Kabul Province<sup>47</sup>**

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 provinces<sup>48</sup>**

TF Bullwhip / U/I Military Police Battalion—Camp Julien, Kabul; advising Afghan police in northern RC-East<sup>49</sup>

TF Spartan / 793rd Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Stephen Gabavics, USA)—U/I location; advising Afghan police in southern RC-East<sup>50</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>51</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 Commandos / 2nd Security Force Assistance Brigade, 10th Mountain Division (Col. Dennis Sullivan, USA)—FOB Sharana; operating in Paktika Province<sup>52</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>53</sup>

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-North<sup>54</sup>

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 forces<sup>55</sup>

TF Mousquetaire / BATHELICO (France)—Kabul International Airport; aviation support in Kabul and Kapisa Provinces<sup>56</sup>

U/I infantry battalion or regiment (France)—Camp Warehouse, Kabul; quick reaction force<sup>57</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>58</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>59</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 Vanguard / 4th Security Force Assistance Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division (Col. Kimo Gallahue, USA)—FOB Shank, Logar; operating in Logar and Wardak Provinces<sup>60</sup>

TF Nashmi / TF 222 (Jordan)—FOB Shank; operating in Logar Province<sup>61</sup>

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 Province<sup>62</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>63</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>64</sup>**

Nordic-Baltic Transition Support Unit—Camp Northern Lights, Mazar-e-Sharif; operating in RC-North<sup>65</sup>

Partnering and Advisory Task Force Kunduz (Germany)—FOB Kunduz; operating in southern Kunduz Province<sup>66</sup>

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 Afghanistan<sup>67</sup>

TF Garry Owen / 3-7 Cavalry (Lt. Col. Lance Varney, USA)—FOB Kunduz; operating in northern Kunduz Province<sup>68</sup>

**Regional Command South / 3rd Infantry Division (Maj. Gen. Robert “Abe” Abrams, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; operating in Kandahar, Uruzgan, and Zabul Provinces<sup>69</sup>**

Combined Team Uruzgan (Col. Simon Stuart, Australia)—Camp Holland, Tarin Kowt; operating in Uruzgan Province<sup>70</sup>

Mentoring Task Force 6 / 7 Royal Australian Regiment (Lt. Col. Malcolm Wells, Australia)—Camp Holland; operating in Uruzgan Province<sup>71</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 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 Province<sup>72</sup>

Maneuver Battalion 2 / 33rd Mountain Battalion (Romania)—FOB Bullard, Shah Joy District; operating along Highway 1 in Zabul Province<sup>73</sup>

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>74</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 Falcon / 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade (Col. Allan Pepin, USA)—Kandahar Airfield; aviation support in southern and western Afghanistan<sup>75</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 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>76</sup>

TF Ripcord / 503rd Military Police Battalion (Lt. Col. Terry Nihart, USA)—Camp Nathan Smith; Afghan police advisors<sup>77</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>78</sup>**

TF Helmand / 4th Mechanized Brigade (Brig. Bob Bruce, UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; operating in central Helmand Province<sup>79</sup>

Brigade Advisory Group / 1 Royal Regiment of Scotland (Lt. Col. Ben Wrench, UK)—Camp Tombstone; Afghan army advisors<sup>80</sup>

Joint Engineer Group / 21 Engineer Regiment (UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; brigade engineer support<sup>81</sup>

Joint Fires Group / 4 Regiment Royal Artillery (UK)—U/I location; brigade artillery support<sup>82</sup>

Transition Support Unit Lashkar Gah / 1 Duke of Lancaster's Regiment (UK)—Camp Lashkar Gah; operating in Lashkar Gah District<sup>83</sup>

Transition Support Unit Nad-e-Ali / 1 Mercian Regiment (UK)—FOB Shawqat; operating in Nad-e-Ali District<sup>84</sup>

Transition Support Unit Nahr-e-Saraj / 40 Commando (Lt. Col. Matt Jackson, UK)—FOB Price, Gereshk; operating in central Nahr-e-Saraj District<sup>85</sup>

Royal Dragoon Guards (UK)—Camp Bastion; elements advising Afghan police<sup>86</sup>

Queen's Royal Lancers (UK)—Camp Bastion; elements advising Afghan police and conducting airfield security<sup>87</sup>

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

Team 15 / 1 Royal Life Guards (Col. Anders Pedersen, Denmark)—Camp Bastion; training Afghan forces<sup>88</sup>

Regimental Combat Team 7 (Col. Austin Renforth, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; operating in northern and southern Helmand Province and Nimruz Province<sup>89</sup>

2/7 Marines (Lt. Col. Donald Tomich, USMC)—FOB Jackson, Sangin; operating in northern Helmand Province<sup>90</sup>

3/9 Marines (USMC)—FOB Geronimo, Nawa; operating in southern Helmand Province<sup>91</sup>

12th Light Infantry Battalion (Georgia)—U/I location<sup>92</sup>

32nd Light Infantry Battalion (Georgia)—COP Shukvani; operating in Musa Qala District<sup>93</sup>

2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward) (Brig. Gen. Gary Thomas, USMC)—Camp Leatherneck; aviation support in Helmand and Nimruz Provinces<sup>94</sup>

Marine Attack Squadron 231 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; fixed-wing close air support<sup>95</sup>

Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 361 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; heavy transport aviation<sup>96</sup>

Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 169 (USMC)—Camp Bastion; attack aviation<sup>97</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>98</sup>

II (Army Cooperation) Squadron Royal Air Force (UK)—Kandahar Airfield; close air support for TF Helmand<sup>99</sup>

39 Squadron Royal Air Force (UK)—Kandahar Airfield; drone support for TF Helmand<sup>100</sup>

**Regional Command West / “Julia” Alpine Brigade (Brig. Gen. Ignazio Gamba, Italy)—Camp Arena, Herat; operating in Badghis, Farah, Ghor, and Herat Provinces<sup>101</sup>**

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 Afghanistan<sup>102</sup>

*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

<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 Paktika 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-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.)

<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 warthognews.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, CJATF-435, “Navy Military Police Battalion Changes Command, Swaps Crew,” May 13, 2011.