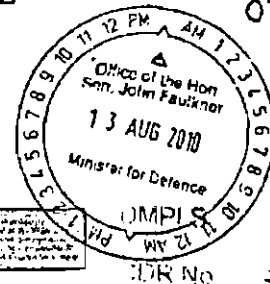


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A01442
025623

Defence Initiated
Ref:
DEP SEC S(S)/OUT/2010/93



~~MINISTERIAL SUBMISSION~~

To: Senator Faulkner

Timing: Urgent

SERIAL 941

Required by: 13 August 2010

Reason: To update you on a matter of significant media interest.

Copies to: SEC, CDF, VCDF, DEPSEC S, DEPSEC S (Ops), DEP SEC L&S, CA, CN, CAF, CJOPS, DDSI, DDIO, DDIGO, FASIP, FASMSPA, HDL.

LEAKING OF SENSITIVE ISAF INFORMATION – WIKILEAKS

Recommendation:

That you:

- i. note the attached report 'Departmental Investigation into WikiLeaks Publication of Material on Afghanistan';
NOTED / PLEASE DISCUSS
- ii. note the report finds that the WikiLeaks site has not released information that is gravely damaging to Australia's interests; [REDACTED] s33(a)(ii)
NOTED / PLEASE DISCUSS
- iii. note that Defence will issue a media release to report the findings of the Task Force;
NOTED / PLEASE DISCUSS
- iv. note that Defence is conducting further investigations into the impact of the leaked documents [REDACTED] and will provide supplementary advice once these investigations are completed; and [REDACTED] s33(a)(ii)
NOTED / PLEASE DISCUSS
- v. agree to share the report with the Opposition Defence Spokesman, Senator Johnston.
AGREED / NOT AGREED / PLEASE DISCUSS

Key Points:

- 1. You will recall from previous advice (CDF(S)/OUT/2010/562, SEC(S)/OUT/2010/133) that on 25 July 2010, approximately 92,000 classified US documents were published on the website 'WikiLeaks' relating to ISAF activities between January 2004 and December 2009.
- 2. Defence has investigated the leaked documents to determine the potential impact on Australian interests and personnel, [REDACTED] s33(a)(ii)
[REDACTED] The attached report provides our findings.
- 3. The content published by WikiLeaks does not reveal any significant details about operational incidents involving Australians beyond that already publically released. There is, however, one escalation of force incident that resulted in the death of an Afghan National

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Police officer (described in the attached report) for which WikiLeaks materials reveal detail that was not included in Australian media releases. There are also a number of incidents reported by WikiLeaks that Defence reported through the chain of command, but did not publicly release due to their tactical and routine nature.

- 4. Defence also investigated whether WikiLeaks published any information that could put Afghan nationals at risk of retribution for their work with Australian forces. The investigation found that no Afghans with whom Australia has worked are identifiable, other than those who work with Australia openly, such as officials and community figures.
- 5. Defence is undertaking further work to assess the likely impact of the leaked documents [REDACTED] [REDACTED] This will take several weeks and Defence will provide further advice once the work is concluded.
- 6. Given Caretaker provisions are in force, it is recommended you share the attached report with the Opposition Defence Spokesman, Senator Johnston.
- 7. WikiLeaks has foreshadowed the publication of a further 15,000 documents, which the Task Force will investigate, should the publication occur.

s33(a)(ii)

Sensitivity:

- 8. High. This reporting could adversely affect public perceptions of the ISAF campaign, ADF operations in Afghanistan [REDACTED]

s33(a)(ii)

Resources:

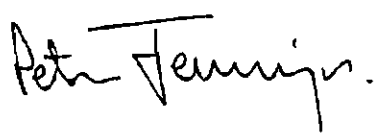
- 9. Not applicable.

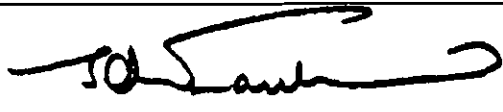
Consultation:

- 10. HQJOC, Public Affairs, Military Strategic Commitments and International Policy Division were consulted in the preparation of this submission.

Attachment:

- A. Departmental Investigations into WikiLeaks Publication of Material on Afghanistan

Approved by: PETER JENNINGS Deputy Secretary Strategy	
13 Aug 10 Contact Officer Name: Fleur Hill	Phone: 6265 4132

 JOHN FAULKNER 15/8 12010

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AGPsec 5

**Senator the Hon John Faulkner
Minister for Defence**

Senator the Hon David Johnston
Shadow Minister for Defence
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

15 AUG 2010

Dear Senator Johnston

David,

I write to you, in accordance with the caretaker conventions, concerning the Defence review of operational documents leaked to WikiLeaks. A copy of the review is attached for your information.

Defence has investigated the leaked documents to determine the potential impact on Australian interests and personnel, [REDACTED]

s33(a)(ii)

Overall, the content published by WikiLeaks does not reveal any significant details about operational incidents involving Australians beyond that already publically released.

Defence investigated whether WikiLeaks published any information that could put Afghan nationals at risk of retribution for their work with Australian forces. Fortunately, the investigation found that no Afghans with whom Australia has worked are identifiable, other than those who work with Australia openly, such as officials and community figures.

Defence is undertaking further work to assess the likely impact of the leaked documents [REDACTED] which will still take several weeks to complete.

s33(a)(ii)

Defence will be issuing a media release of the review shortly.

Yours sincerely

JOHN FAULKNER

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Departmental Investigation into WikiLeaks Publication of Material on Afghanistan

Executive Summary

Following WikiLeaks' publication of close to 92,000 documents, claimed to be classified International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) reporting, the Department of Defence convened a Task Force to investigate the material. The Task Force, headed by Deputy Secretary Strategy, has now completed its initial analysis of the leaked materials, as they relate to Australia.

The following are the key findings of the Task Force.

- The WikiLeaks site has not released any information that is gravely damaging to Australia's interests or national security.
- The site has, however, [REDACTED] on operations in Afghanistan. s33(a)(ii)
- The content published by WikiLeaks does not reveal any significant supplementary details about operational incidents involving Australians beyond the detail already released to the Australian public.
 - There is, however, one escalation of force incident that resulted in the death of an Afghan National Police officer (described in this report) for which WikiLeaks materials reveal detail that was not included in Australian media releases.
 - There are a number of incidents reported by WikiLeaks that Defence reported through the chain of command, but did not publicly release due to their low-level, tactical, routine nature.
- The investigation found that no Afghans with whom Australia has worked are identifiable from the leaked documents, other than those who work with Australia openly, such as officials and community figures.
- Some content on the WikiLeaks site relates to sensitive policy issues, [REDACTED] prior to announcing such commitments to the Australian public. s33(a)(iii)
s33(b)

Defence is continuing analysis into the potential damage the leaked material could cause, as described below, [REDACTED] s33(a)(ii)

Defence will issue a media release on the outcomes of the investigation. The proposed content of this release is detailed in this report.

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Departmental Investigation

Methodology

The Defence Task Force conducted a key word search of the leaked materials published by WikiLeaks using search terms that would identify either Australian interests, [REDACTED]. These searches returned around 1800 documents. Those documents were then manually reviewed to filter out 'false positive' results (for example, searching for 'AUS' retrieved many documents where these letters appeared in different contexts). As a result of this process, approximately 400 documents were identified as actually containing content directly relevant to Australia.

s33(a)(ii)

The content of those 400 documents was then compared with Defence operational reporting to identify incidents that were known and recorded by Defence, and those that were not. Many, around 150, were not recorded incidents. Joint Operations Command advises that this is predominantly as a consequence of the large number of incidents relating to 'Task Force Uruzgan' (TFU). The TFU (recently replaced by Combined Team Uruzgan) was made up of forces from Australia and other coalition nations, so not all TFU incidents actually involved Australian elements. Other incidents reported by WikiLeaks for which the Australian Defence Force (ADF) has no operational records are likely sourced from initial radio traffic, which is updated as

s33(a)(ii)

[REDACTED] Additionally, there are some reports that do not relate to operational incidents, and are reported or consolidated in other, non-operational reporting.

Following comparison with operational reporting, the documents were compared with Defence Media Releases, Talking Points, Hansard and public speeches. This process aimed to identify what information had been publicly released by Australia on incidents detailed by WikiLeaks, and whether the leaked materials released new information to the public.

s33(a)(ii)

Findings: General WikiLeaks Content Relevant to Australia

The material published by WikiLeaks covers the timeframe January 2004 to December 2009 and falls into two main categories: tactical-level operational reporting; and US diplomatic reporting.

Tactical-level operational reporting makes up the vast majority of documents which were found to have direct Australian relevance. The documents are raw, routine operational incident reports in both form and content and cover issues including discovery and clearance of weapons caches and unexploded ordnance, improvised explosive device (IED) related events, engagements with insurgents, and routine patrol, local engagement and operational activities. The documents do record incidents which are sensitive in nature, including:

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- the wounding and deaths of numerous Australian personnel. No wounded personnel are named, although eight Australian personnel killed in action are identifiable from incident dates, and the nature of some of their wounds described. None of the information published by WikiLeaks is at odds with information on these incidents released by Defence, and our public reporting on these combat deaths was far more comprehensive than the detail contained in WikiLeaks documents;
- a single civilian casualty incident which has previously been publicly acknowledged by Australia. The WikiLeaks and departmental material on this incident are attached (Annex 1);
- the taking of detainees by Australian troops. It should be noted that there is no reference to any alleged detainee abuse or mistreatment;
- several Escalation of Force incidents involving Australian personnel, including those resulting in deaths. One such incident that occurred on 30 December 2008 is described in detail below. [REDACTED] s33(a)(ii)
- instances where coalition troops and/or Afghan civilians were engaged and injured or killed by insurgents. These include IED attacks and suicide bombings; and
- instances where coalition forces have engaged insurgents, either through ground action or air support. [REDACTED] s33(a)(ii)

Other sensitive, but not as overtly operational, issues raised in the leaked documents include:

- a number of reports on Matiollah Khan, an influential figure based in Uruzgan Province who has worked with US and Australian forces over the course of several years. [REDACTED] s33(a)(ii)
[REDACTED] WikiLeaks materials describe some of Matiollah Khan's operations, an incident where his brother was given what appears to be preferential treatment by US troops, and an incident where a suicide bomber attempted to infiltrate his compound;
- several reports of Australian mortar rounds being found in insurgent weapons caches or in IEDs. Many of these reports likely refer to Australia in error: Austrian-manufactured weapon components are widespread in Afghanistan and are frequently found in caches and IEDs. It cannot be ruled out, however, that some Australian mortars failed to detonate when fired and were later collected and re-used by insurgents;
- a report on the ambush and kidnapping of personnel from a private civilian security firm. While no Australians were amongst the personnel kidnapped, two Australians were among the personnel who escaped the ambush and were named in the report; and

[REDACTED] s33(a)(iii)

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[REDACTED]

s33(a)(iii)

In terms of US diplomatic reporting, there is very little of relevance to Australia. The documents manually reviewed by departmental staff were largely cable summaries sent to senior US personnel in theatre and contained factual reporting of routine engagement with Australian officials. The reporting also contained some routine references to Australian involvement in non-Afghanistan related fora. The major sensitivity associated with the diplomatic reporting is that some documents record Australian engagement with the US on changes to our contribution in Afghanistan before that detail was released to the Australian public. Of course, such dialogue with the US Embassy reflects necessary planning to prepare for changes in posture. These WikiLeaks documents are attached (Annex 2).

The Defence investigation also extended to whether WikiLeaks published any information that could put Afghan local nationals at risk of retribution for their work with Australian forces. The investigation found that no Afghans with whom Australia has worked are identifiable from the leaked documents, other than those who work with Australia openly, such as officials and community figures.

None of the leaked documents refer to Australia in connection with [REDACTED]

s33(a)(iii)

In general terms, the content of the materials leaked to date is not particularly revelatory. In relation to Australia, there is no overtly negative reporting, and the cumulative impact of the documents is limited due to the tactical nature of the reporting.

[REDACTED]

s33(a)(ii)

Findings: Incidents where WikiLeaks and Australian-Released Materials are Inconsistent

Only one incident has been identified for which Australia released information containing less substantive detail than WikiLeaks. The incident in question was an escalation of force (EOF) situation, where an Afghan man suspected to be a suicide bomber was killed by Australian personnel after failing to heed both verbal and visual signals to stop approaching their location. The man was later found not to have any explosives on him. The ADF publicly released information concerning the death of the Afghan local national immediately following the incident, but did not publicly acknowledge the local national was a member of the Afghan National Police (ANP), a fact that came to light after publication. Defence did not re-issue the media release to advise of this additional fact. Following WikiLeaks publication of operational reporting referring to the incident, media reporting by Dan Oakes (*The Age*) on 28 July 2010 highlighted the fact. Mr Oakes also pointed out that this information was not publically released by Defence. Following this media coverage, CDF directed that the Inquiry Officer report be redacted for possible public release. This has now occurred and the reacted report is with CDF for clearance.

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Other incidents that were released by WikiLeaks which Australia had recorded in operational reporting, but did not release publicly, or released details inconsistent with the WikiLeaks material are summarised below:

- a. Incident Report (IR) 81/07 concerned a rocket attack on Camp Baker in which Australian accommodation was hit. Initial ISAF reports (as reported by WikiLeaks) incorrectly reported no casualties. Defence reported three wounded in action in a media release of 17 March 2007;
- b. IR 395/07 concerned an Escalation of Force incident on 3 September 2007 which did not result in casualties. No media release was issued. The Minister for Defence was informed through the Daily Operations Ministerial Submission;
- c. IR 307/08 concerned a Suicide IED (SIED) attack on a compound occupied by Matiollah Khan. Although Australia maintains a working relationship with Matiollah Khan, there was no Australian involvement in this incident. No media release was issued;
- d. IR 006/09 recorded that a coalition helicopter operating in support of SOTG elements was hit with ten rounds of small arms fire. No media release was issued. The Minister for Defence was informed through the Daily Operations Ministerial Submission on 6 January 2009;
- e. IR 049/09 reported a cache find and the seizure of six kilograms of opium. Talking points and media release were developed but not issued. The Minister for Defence was informed through the Daily Operations Ministerial Submission of 19 February 2009; and
- f. IR 226/09 concerned an Escalation of Force incident that did not result in casualties. No media release was issued.

Much of the WikiLeaks material dates from a period several years ago where Defence had less thorough-going processes for public release of operational information. Some operational information that Defence would routinely release today was not published during this period.

Further Actions

While consideration has been given to the release of Defence reporting relating to incidents identifiable from WikiLeaks, the force protection implications of such a

s33(a)(ii)

As such, Defence intends to develop a Media Release detailing the Task Force's work, including:

- how the Task Force's review was undertaken;
- what areas of the department contributed to the Task Force;
- key findings, including;
 - force protection implications; and

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- public reporting findings, including that current processes work well, and that Defence remains committed to an open reporting process on significant operational developments and incidents; and
- general comments on the decision by WikiLeaks to publish the leaked documents.

As detailed above, WikiLeaks documents identified as being relevant to Australia have been analysed for [REDACTED] Many leaked

[REDACTED]

s33(a)(ii)
s33(a)(iii)

At the conclusion of this process, Defence will report to the Minister for Defence on the findings of this work and make any recommendations necessary to ensure the protection of Australian forces.

The release of an additional 15,000 documents has been foreshadowed by WikiLeaks, potentially US cables [REDACTED]

s33(a)(ii)
s33(b)

[REDACTED] investigate whether this is possible and
The Task Force will remain ready to respond to
any documentation [REDACTED] published by WikiLeaks, and
will use the established processes described in this report to investigate and assess
their content.

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Public Handling of WikiLeaks

Annex 1

CIVILIAN CASUALTY INCIDENT



(NON-COMBAT [EVENT] ACCIDENT RPT) : CIV WIA

To understand what you are seeing here, please see the Afghan War Casualty Reading Guide and the Field Structure Description

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Reference ID	Region	Latitude	Longitude
AF 02307-1726473	RC SOUTH	32 83316345	65 50128328

Date	Type	Category	Affiction	Deletable
2009-10-17 14:02	Non-Combat Event	ACCIDENT	NEUTRAL	0

	Enemy	Weapon	Condition	MOB/Status
Killed in action	0	0	0	0
Wounded in action	0	0	1	0

- [Browse by Type](#)
- [Browse by Category](#)
- [Browse by Region](#)
- [Browse by Affiction](#)
- [Browse by Date](#)
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CIVCAS

C/S CD was reported that while conducting a framework patrol TF were returning to FOB RIPLEY near EAST of TK. When they struck in LE with a Bushmaster (PMV). This resulted in a crushed leg and pelvis and internal bleeding. The casualty was MEDEVAC IN M(S) 172 to TF 82.

UPDATE - FROM PIR

At approx 171454Z TF conducting a resupply of forward Pbe within the AO, was returning to FOB RIPLEY when they struck a single male LE with an ADS Bushmaster vehicle. Initial reporting indicates that the LE threw himself in front of vehicle. No collateral damage to property resulted from the incident and no further LE were involved in the incident. The C/S did not have an interpreter within the packet and no LE statements were taken. TF secured the site and immediate first aid was delivered by the MDTY-2 Regiment Medical Officer (RMO) who was within the convoy. An LE was recovered and MEDEVAC was conducted by TF 82CASCS, MPTF.

MCA: 1 a LE Wounded (CAY A)

This incident closed SC (S) at: 172350Z OCT 2009

Report key: 287077be-8477-4b1e-9d4d-03c2b64be467
Tracking number: 419097221143392009-1081549.03
Attack on: NEUTRAL
Complex attack:
Reporting unit: A SIGACTS MANAGER
Unit name:
Type of unit: CF
Originator group: MDTY
Updated by group: A SIGACTS MANAGER
MTRS: 41909722114339
CCID:
Signal:
UColor: GREEN

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MSPA 032/10

Tuesday, 9 February 2010

Afghan man dies following vehicle incident

A Defence inquiry has concluded its review into an incident involving an Afghan man and an Australian Protected Mobility Vehicle (PMV) on 17 October 2009.

The inquiry found that the cause of the incident and injury to the Afghan male was because he deliberately moved from the side of the road, and laid down between the front and rear wheels of the PMV, which ran over him.

The vehicle was travelling slowly but witnesses stated there was no time for anyone to react to the man's actions. The inquiry found that the driver or crew commander could not have anticipated the actions of the Afghan man.

During the inquiry, Defence was advised that the Afghan man had died on or about 23 November 2009, in a Kandahar hospital. The inquiry found that it was likely the man had died as a result of complications from the injuries sustained in the incident.

The inquiry also found that without the emergency medical aid provided by the Australian soldiers of the Mentoring and Reconstruction Task Force, the man would likely have died at the scene.

The transfer of the Afghan man from the military hospital in Tarin Kowt after surgery and treatment to the Afghan Ministry of Public Health Mirvais Medical Facility in Kandahar was in accordance with normal procedure in relation to the treatment of local nationals.

The inquiry officer found that the ADF's tactics, techniques and procedures for convoying through populated areas were appropriate, and that there was no evidence to support disciplinary or administrative action.

The inquiry officer has recommended that in future all reasonable measures should be taken to track the subsequent treatment locations and medical status of injured locals, in order to pursue follow-up actions as appropriate.

Defence is assisting the man's family in accordance with local customs and has extended its condolences for their loss.

Media contact: Defence Media Liaison: (02) 6127 1999 or 0408 498 664

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Annex 2

US DIPLOMATIC REPORTING



051780ZAPR07 CJD JFC Daily Cable Summary

To understand what you are seeing here, please see the Afghan War Daily Reading Guide and the Field Electronic Description

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Reference ID	Region	Latitude	Longitude	
AFJIC07246-41	RU CAPITAL	34 7524490	68 1343763	
Date	Type	Category	Affiliation	Duration
2007-04-05 12:12	Non-Career Event	Other	NEUTRA	0
Head in action	Enemy	Friend	Challenger	Host nation
0	0	0	0	0
Wounded in action	0	0	0	0

- Browse by Type
- Browse by Category
- Browse by Region
- Browse by Affiliation
- Browse by Date
- Browse by Severity
- Community resources
- Refer us on Twitter
- Check our RSS feed
- Tweet this
- Copy this page

Classification: SECRET / SPOKES
 CITE: DCI for Pol-Mil Affairs
 Daily Cable Summary
 5 April 2007

(U) COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH IN AFGHANISTAN: INCREASED INTERNATIONAL COORDINATION IN THE CIVIL-MILITARY AREA: (Source: AMEMBASSY KABUL 0111, 5 Apr 07)
 There is a view repeatedly expressed by the NATO Secretary General and in various capitals including Washington, of the need to enhance the coordination between NATO and the developmental effort and to draw capitals more directly into this process. Reflecting on the achievements and the gaps of the last years coordination efforts I report in this cable some ideas to meet this need. One is to utilize the Joint Coordination Monitoring Board (JCMB) process led by the Government of Afghanistan (GoA) and United Nations Assistance Mission Afghanistan (UNAMA) to bring into sharper relief the gaps within the donor system and to hold those gaps in view the subject of coordination at the political level and capitals. A second area for improvement is to better define NATO's role in development and then request the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) staff to perform appropriate coordination. The first idea might benefit from the annual (rather than the usual) international JCMB meeting at least at the political directors level. The second may require separate changes in Brussels and staff in ISAF Kabul.

(C/RF) NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION APRIL 4, 2007: (Source: CHRISTIAN DEBATO 0126, 4 Apr 07)
 Afghanistan has shown on last week its action on how to support UN police mission. International organizations meet more regularly in Kabul. The Ambassador takes over as Deputy Chairman of the Military Committee (D/CMC). BRANK DODD Ops MD Bonn, in final SAC brief, points to positive indicators re-country and Afghan more effort on ICA training and monitoring.

(S/AF) AUSTRALIA TO NEARLY DOUBLE MILITARY FORCES IN AFGHANISTAN: (Source: AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 0019, 5 Apr 07)
 Backstage Foreign First Assistant Secretary for International Policy, Australia Department of Defense, advised DCM April 5 that the Government of Australia had approved a planned deployment of Australian Defense Force (ADF) personnel to Oruzgan Province in Afghanistan that would nearly double ADF strength, from the current level of about 500 to about 1,000. The DoD does not plan to publicly announce the new deployment until April 10, and Webster stated that he not publicly mention the decision.

(FOOD) PRT PANJSHIR: FOREIGN FUNNELIN KUNISTEN ABDULLAH AT UMMA: (Source: AMEMBASSY KABUL 0110, 5 Apr 07)
 Assigned to former Foreign Minister Abdullah, who articulates a down and strong connections to Panjshir, the province is changing rapidly thanks above all to the new road that connects it with Kabul. He cited education as a key sector for Panjshir's future and bemoaned the lack of strong leadership with a coherent vision in the capital. Abdullah said some in Kabul viewed Panjshir success in blocking insurgents' violence and supply activities, but added that some Panjshiris in the capital detracted from the province's reputation.

(U) PRT/BADKHS: SPAIN IMPROVES EDUCATION: (Source: AMEMBASSY CADIZ 0122, 5 Apr 07)
 The civilian component of the Spanish DPT recently launched the latest part of its plan to improve the provincial government's ability to meet the educational needs of the people of Badkhis Province. They plan to erect temporary 2nd schools at 100 locations identified by the Education Ministry, and to construct ten permanent schools province-wide. The last schools will also provide a province-wide symbol of the provincial government's ongoing efforts to address the educational concerns of locals. The program is funded by the Spanish Development Agency (AECI) and has strong buy-in from both the provincial and local levels. This project promises to be the most visible symbol of development in many parts of the province that lack the necessary level of security for longer-term development projects. The program could serve as a best practice for those looking to quickly improve both the image of local government and the ability of the Education Ministry to meet the needs of local residents.

(C) BOOZHEN AND FOREIGN MINISTER LI SHAOJING TALK: (Source: AMEMBASSY BEIJING 0019, 5 Apr 07)
 In a South Korea Association for Regional Cooperation Summit side-the meeting, Chinese Foreign Minister Li Shaojing told Assistant Secretary Richardoucher that China will cooperate the South Korea Association for Regional Cooperation members re people-to-people exchanges, poverty alleviation, and anti-corruption. December noted that Afghanistan was a focal point of the Summit and requested that China continue to follow up on its Lower Confidence dialogues and direct infrastructure projects as soon as possible. Li reiterated China's non-proliferation stance for the region and its hope that regional civilian nuclear cooperation be afforded to all countries on a fair and rational basis with full international Atomic Energy Agency oversight. Li stated that the idea was quite common in the region and the UN established non-proliferation treaty. Li appreciated our hope to welcome Chinese experts in Washington to discuss increased US China cooperation in South Asia.

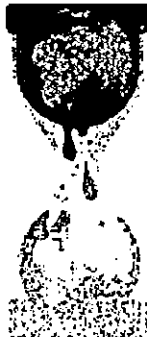
Classification: SECRET / SPOKES

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



101200ZAPR07 CJ3 JEC 51417 PM HOWARD ANNOUNCES NEW TROOPS FOR AFGHANISTAN: (Source: AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 00543, 10 Apr 07) (MCD)

To understand what you are seeing here, please see the Afghanistan Entry Reading Guide and the Field Structure Description.

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- Browse by Date
- Browse by Severity

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Reference ID	Region	Latitude	Longitude
AF000004 54678	AF CAPITAL	34 73244304	65 43437683

Date	Type	Category	Affiliation	Details
2007-4-10 12:12	Non-Combat Event	Other	NEUTRAL	0

Killed in action	Enemy	Friend	Civilians	Host nation
0	0	0	0	0

Wounded in action	Enemy	Friend	Civilians	Host nation
0	0	0	0	0

CSTC-A DCG for Pol-MIL Affairs
Daily Cable Summary
10 April 2007

(S//NF) PM HOWARD ANNOUNCES NEW TROOPS FOR AFGHANISTAN: (Source: AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 00543, 10 Apr 07)

On April 10, PM Howard announced that Australia would be sending 450 additional troops to Afghanistan, almost doubling its current commitment. PM Howard also announced a long-anticipated formal arrangement with the United States to support the Special Operations Task Group (SOTG) for a two year mission in the Oruzdai Province, and would deploy additional troops to support other missions in Afghanistan. According to the Prime Minister, the additional troops would support the existing Australian Reconstruction Task Force (RTF), as well as enhance provincial security by disrupting Taliban outposts, and support the command and control and supply routes. Opposition leader Kevin Rudd welcomed the announcement, saying Afghanistan was a breeding ground for terrorism and needed to be brought under control.

Report key: 07306300-0301-4600-8103-070100364297
Tracking number: 2007-111-160100-0394
Attack on: NEUTRAL
Complex attack: FALSE
Reporting unit: CJ3, CJTF-11
Unit name: CJ3
Type of unit: None Selected
Delegation group: USR0000
Updated by group: USR0000
PCNS: ALE001184945599
CCTA:
Signed:
DCI use: OTHER

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NEWS REPORT: Australian opposition backs sending more troops to Afghanistan (MOD)

To understand what you are seeing here please see the [Afghan War Daily Reading Guide](#) and the [Field Structure Description](#)

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Reference ID	Region	Latitude	Longitude
AF20070222-001	RC CAPITAL	34.5352885	69.16364288

Date	Type	AS Category	AS Mission	AS Status
2007-02-22 11:11	Non-Ceremonial Event	Meeting - Security	NEUTRAL	0

	Enemy	Friend	Civilian	Host nation
Killed in action	0	0	0	0
Wounded in action	0	0	0	0

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Australian opposition backs sending more troops to Afghanistan
SEP200702220001 Melbourne Radio Australia In English DE90 GMT 22 Feb 07
(OSIC Transcribed Text)

Australian opposition backs sending more troops to Afghanistan

Text of report by Radio Australia on 22 February

Australian opposition leader Kevin Rudd says his party supports sending more Australian troops to Afghanistan. Defense Minister Brendan Nelson says Australians should not be surprised if the government decides to increase troop numbers in Afghanistan. He says a small group of senior military people is being sent to Uruzgan Province to assess the situation before a final decision is made.

The opposition Labor Party opposes sending more troops to Iraq, but leader Kevin Rudd says the party believes Australia needs to be fighting in Afghanistan.

Rudd: We've always taken a constructive, bipartisan approach to the war against Osama Bin-Ladin and the Taliban and the drug trade in Afghanistan, and we'll continue to adopt that positive, bipartisan approach.

(Description of Source: Melbourne Radio Australia In English -- government-funded overseas service of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation)

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