



# OFS IN BRIEF

The 10th quarterly report submitted by the Lead Inspector General for Operation Freedom's Sentinel (OFS) summarizes the quarter's key events and oversight of the two complementary U.S. missions in Afghanistan: counterterrorism operations and building capacity of the Afghan security forces.

## Revised Afghanistan Strategy *pp. 17-20*

President Donald Trump announced a strategy to defeat the insurgents in Afghanistan with:

- **3,000-4,000 more U.S. troops** to train, advise, and assist the Afghan forces.
- A “**conditions-based** approach” with **no timelines**.
- Increased **pressure on Pakistan** to eliminate terrorist havens.
- **Expanded rules of engagement** to enable U.S. forces to target the Taliban.

## U.S. Air Campaign *pp. 4, 29*

- **The U.S. increased air power** assets in Afghanistan, including F-16 fighters and air refueling tankers.
- A U.S. airstrike **killed ISIS-K leader** Abu Sayed, 4 of his senior advisors, and more than 15 other fighters.
- **957** U.S. airstrikes in Afghanistan this quarter.
- **312** airstrikes during the same quarter last year.

## Afghan Security Forces *pp. 4, 28*

- The **Taliban captured several district centers** but were quickly **repelled by the Afghan forces**.
- The Afghan government plans to create an **Afghan Territorial Army**, comprising local recruits, to hold areas cleared of insurgents by the special forces.
- The Ministry of Defense plans to **double the size of its special forces** by developing new commando companies and transitioning entire army units to the Afghan Special Security Forces.

## Afghan Air Force Modernization *pp. 8-9, 21-23*

- Afghan Air Force (AAF) **received the first 2** of a planned **159 Black Hawk** utility helicopters.
- U.S. Army awarded a contract to add **30 MD-530 fast attack helicopters** to the AAF's fleet of 25.
- **\$814.5 million** appropriated for modernization in FY 2017.
- **\$709.8 million** requested for FY 2018.
- **\$6.8 billion** estimated cost of the plan over 6 years.

## Metrics on Progress Classified This Quarter *pp. 2-3*

**ANDSF personnel statistics**—including authorized troop levels, attrition, casualty rates, readiness, and sustainability—previously covered in this report were **classified** this quarter.

**Metrics** on development of the **Afghan security ministries**, which showed a decline in capacity last quarter, were also **classified** this quarter.

## Oversight *pp. 67, 77*

### REPORTS

**2** **Guilty pleas** entered for a contractor receiving **kickbacks** and a Federal employee **soliciting bribes**.

**9** Reports **completed**, including reviews of **counternarcotics** agreements and **oversight of ammunition** provided to the Afghan forces.

**41** OFS oversight projects for Afghanistan remained **ongoing**.

### INVESTIGATIONS

**13** Investigations **initiated** related to OFS, involving program **fraud, corruption, and trafficking in persons**.

**31** OFS-related investigation remained **open**.

## Governance *pp. 47-49*

- President Ghani signed a **compact** establishing more than **200 benchmarks** for progress on governance, development, peace, and security.
- An alliance of **opposition political parties** met to criticize President Ghani's lack of progress on electoral reform and security.
- **The Anti-Corruption Justice Center** convicted a major general of abuse of power and an oil company executive of embezzlement and graft.

## Humanitarian Assistance *pp. 51-52*

- **258 attacks on humanitarian workers** and **103 against health workers** so far this year exceeded the 3-year average.
- More than **270,000 internally displaced persons** in Afghanistan required **assistance** from USAID and implementing partners.