

3130/DSO/4

## DOT-POINT BRIEF FOR CDF

### OPERATION BURNHAM

#### Introduction

- On 3 Aug 2010, in the North east sector of Bamian province Afghanistan, an Insurgent group ambushed a New Zealand Provincial Reconstruction Team Patrol as they travelled along a major route. The ambush was initiated by an Improvised Explosive Device as the lead vehicle drove by and was immediately followed by direct fire from Rocket Propelled Grenades and small arms fire. In the ensuing contact Lt O'Donnell was killed and two soldiers wounded.

#### Actions Taken Following the Ambush

- **NZPRT.** The NZPRT immediately reviewed their force protection measures and have taken steps within their means to provide increased protection when operating in the north east sector. **PSR(S)2, PSR(S)3**

Additional  
tactical  
measures

- **JFNZ.** HQJFNZ has also reviewed the force protection measures and as a result we are planning on reinforcing the NZPRT with the following;
  - **PSR(S)2, PSR(S)3**

Additional tactical  
measures re  
resourcing

- **NZSAS.** **PSR(S)2, PSR(S)3** following the attack on the NZPRT the NZSAS Task Force **PSR(S)2, PSR(S)3** commenced a targeting process aimed at gathering intelligence on the insurgent group that conducted the operation. This process proved successful and the insurgent group was identified and following information obtained:
  - The group was based in the neighbouring province in Baghlan in the Talawe-Berfak area (15-20km from ambush location).
  - Two insurgent leaders were identified who were directly involved in the planning and conduct of the attack against the NZPRT on 3 Aug and previous attacks in April 2010.

- The insurgents operating in this area were split into three groups and numbered approximately 20 in each group.
- The village where the two key leaders reside was located.
- As a result of this information the NZSAS conducted an operation under cover of darkness on the night/morning of 21/22 Aug supported by Afghan National Security Forces (CRU) and US Military which included;
  - PSR(S)1 UAV,
  - PSR(S)1
  - 2 x Medium Lift helicopters (Chinooks),
  - 2 x light utility helicopters PSR(S)1
  - 2 x Apache Gun Ships,
  - 1 x AC-130 Gun ship.
- The operation was successful with a number of insurgents killed or wounded, and it is assessed that it has disrupted the insurgent networks ability to plan and conduct operations launched from the Talawe-Berfak region targeting the NZPRT. It is further assessed that the two main leaders targeted during the operation were eliminated (this ~~SECRET~~ be corroborated, but they have not been heard from since the operation).

PSR(Sen)1, PSR(IC)3

DSO

DTelN Phone: PSR(Sen)1, PSR(IC)3

15 September 2010