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This document was created and presented to the Prime Minister by NZDF personnel in November 2017 .

OPERATION SPEAKING NOTES

Good morning, Prime Minister.

I will now talk you through the conduct of the operation, followed by the video footage from the Apache helicopters.

This information has been cross-checked using the operational plans, approved concept-of-operation documents, pilot mission briefs, operational footage and post-operation reports. All locations are taken from GPS coordinates and are accurate within 5m.

The intelligence for this operation was based upon many months of development by Coalition, Afghanistan, New Zealand Intelligence Agencies and NZDF personnel.

It was a Deliberate Detention Operation to detain two insurgent leaders, and developed to the Coalition process and approved by the coalition headquarters, the Afghan Government, and the German Area Commander, **PSR(IC)4**

It was launched from Kabul where the NZSAS were located, and was observed throughout by the NZ Operations Room in Kabul, where the NZ legal officer, ^{PSR(S)2, PSR(S)3} were able to update intelligence and provide guidance to the commander. Near-real time video was available to all headquarters locations, and also to the Air Controller with the ground force.

The operation involved ^{PSR(S)1} Afghan Police from the Crisis Response Unit, Afghan prosecutors from Kabul, interpreters, NZSAS and support staff, as well as a variety of coalition support elements. Intelligence indicated the objectives were in the village, and supported by up to 20 insurgents.

Here you see examples of the types of aircraft in support.

Due to civilian casualty concerns and the Taleban propaganda campaign, numerous tactical directives and rules around targeting were delivered.

This text describes the ISAF procedures around targeting. Even if at the planning stages of an operation it is anticipated that the use of force is likely to be required, the actual use of force is determined at the time it is used. Any actual operation or engagement remained subject to (i) relevant prescriptions set down in ISAF SOPS and (ii) operational command orders and situational context, and (iii) ROE and LOAC. This includes target identification and collateral damage estimates.

This was done with all engagements on this operation.

Walk-Through

In sum, there were six engagements with insurgents during this operation, 3 by the Apaches, 2 by the Gunship, and 1 direct fire engagement.

0035 – Apache

0100 – AC130 to same area

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0119 – Apache

0128 – Sniper on PID insurgent from engagement 1

0252 – AC130 and Apache engagement to PID insurgents above A3

All engagements were reviewed at the completion of the operation by the legal officer, and were in accordance with the appropriate rules of engagement and laws of armed conflict.

In total 3 houses were entered during the operation. Weapons and ammunition were found in two of these. Extensive post-operation damage assessment occurred, including in the areas away from where the ground force operated. This shows fire damage to 2 buildings, and we are unable to find evidence of the 20 reported. The operation was complete by 0420, and no civilian casualties reported.

Subsequently, review of available footage has shown that 30mm bullets from an Apache during the first engagement fell short and struck a building. This was in the location at 2, and as a result civilian casualties from this engagement are a possibility.

NOVA

On the night of the 2nd October 2010 there was a subsequent operation to detain Obj NOVA (Nemutallah). This operation has been reported as destroying the recently re-built houses; however the operation occurred without incident – one house was entered, nothing of interest was found, and a door was damaged as the task force entered.

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