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NATIONAL
ASSESSMENTS
COMMITTEE

3 February 2011

UPDATE: AFGHANISTAN: DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNANCE
AND SECURITY IN BAMYAN
NAC 10/2010-11 ~~(SECRET AUS/CAN/DEU/NZ/UK/USEO)~~



Directorate of Defence Intelligence and Security
Te Tari Mōhiohio Waonga, Whakamarumarū

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UPDATE: AFGHANISTAN: DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNANCE AND SECURITY IN BAMYAN

To support Cabinet consideration of future New Zealand commitments in Afghanistan, the National Assessments Committee is reissuing and updating its assessment on Bamyan province. Both the original assessment, and this update, were prepared by the Directorate of Defence Intelligence and Security.

Transition

1. **PSR(sen)1, PSR(S)1** Chairman of Afghanistan's Ministerial Commission on Transition, visited Bamyan in mid-December 2010. **PSR(S)1, PSR(S)2, PSR(S)3**

2. **PSR(S)1, PSR(S)2, PSR(S)3**

Governance

3. Parliamentary elections in the province on 18 September 2010 passed peacefully; Bamyan was the only province in the country that did not record a security incident on polling day. Certification of Bamyan's parliamentary election results on 1 December

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2010 confirmed the election of three incumbent MPs, including Panjab and Waras powerbroker Sayed Mohammad Akbari. Colonel Abdul Rahman Shahidani, a former provincial deputy police chief, was newly elected as the fourth Bamyan MP. PSR(S)1.

Development

4. No significant change. (U)

Security

5. New appointments have been made in Bamyan's security sector. PSR(sen)1, PSR(S)1
as provincial director of the National Directorate of Security (NDS) in December 2010; PSR(sen)1, PSR(S)1

Since his appointment, NDS Director PSR(sen)1 has stated his intention to combat ethnic and religious discrimination within the provincial NDS, and to reduce External influence influence in the organisation (no further information). PSR(S)1

6. Following the successful deployment of an Afghan army unit to North East Bamyan during the 2010 parliamentary elections, the leadership of the army's 203rd Corps have proposed the permanent establishment of a company in Do Abe, Kahmard district. The proposal has been welcomed by provincial officials, including Governor Sarabi. PSR(S)1

7. In January a group of insurgents was arrested in Kabul by Afghan security forces. The group included a Tala-Wa Barfek commander, Qari Mirajuddin, who directed the attack in North East Bamyan on 3 August 2010, which resulted in one NZDF fatality. The insurgents were incarcerated in Kabul though reporting indicates that three of the

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five insurgents, not including Qari Mirajuddin, have since been released. The impact of the arrest on insurgent capability and intent in Tala-Wa Barfek and North East Bamyan is unclear. However, DDIS assesses that insurgent activity in Bamyan is likely to be marginally higher in 2011 than in 2010, though it remains unlikely to spread beyond its current geographic confines. (S)

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PSR(S)2, PSR(S)3, PSR(sen)1, PSR(IC)3

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