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THE ANSO REPORT

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YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Numerous suicide/complex attacks within Kabul
- Helmand remains most kinetic province in the country
- Continued high NGO incident rate for June
- 2 NGO national staff fatalities this period

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COUNTRY SUMMARY

This period was defined by two key elements: the continued reporting of high conflict related incident volumes and a similarly high volume of NGO incidents (see graphs p.8 & p.16 respectively). While any correlational relationship is unclear, the end of the period noted AOG incident levels reaching relative parity with May (with both surpassing the 2010 peak) along with the highest NGO incident volume noted this year.

The context in CENTRAL this period was dominated by a series high profile suicide and complex attacks which occurred in various provinces and resulted in large casualty volumes. While the attack against the Intercontinental Hotel was the highest profile, the attacks at a market in Kabul and the District Hospital in Logar resulted in the highest casualties. Local strife resulting from the yearly influx of nomads into Wardak also came to the fore, dominating the reporting from this province this period.

Unlike Kabul, there have been no spectacular attacks within Kandahar for several weeks, though the standout dynamics in the SOUTH remain the extensive AOG activity reported from Helmand and Ghazni. With the

inclusion of this period, 2011 incident levels in Helmand have now surpassed the total recorded for 2010 (see graph p.21). A further testament of this extreme volatility was the reporting of 2 NGO incidents (involving deminers) in this same province, both of which resulted in national staff fatalities, though in very distinct and diverse circumstances.

As has been the case throughout 2011 (see graph p.17), the NORTH accounted for the majority of NGO incidents this period. Of the total 7, 4 were in Balkh, 2 in Jawzjan, and the final one in Badakhshan. The RCIED strike against an INGO vehicle, an apparent case of errant targeting, was the most significant and resulted in the injuring of a national staff member. Beyond the varied NGO incidents in Balkh, that province is also exhibiting a steady increase in incident reporting, accounting for a 75% increase over the volumes reported last year.

While Herat City in the WEST had no reported AOG activity this period, the province itself recorded one of its highest monthly volumes thus far. This was primarily driven by districts to the west and south of the

city where armed opposition elements are able to express their presence more freely. In addition, Ghor once again reported an NGO incident, now accounting for almost 70% of the total for this region.

While Khost remains one of the most kinetic provinces in the EAST, incident volumes from Paktya have continued to rise, close in line to those of last year. This was also the case for Kunar, a somewhat surprising dynamic in light of the reorientation of IMF elements from such heavily contested areas as the Pech and Korengal Valleys. A previously reported NGO abduction case was also resolved in Kunar this period with the safe release of 3 while Paktya also reported the temporary abduction of NGO staff. Laghman reported the periods final NGO incident for the ER, this involving the theft, and swift return, of an NGO vehicle in what was a purely criminal event. With the inclusion of this periods incidents, the East remains second to the North for overall NGO incident rates, at present accounting for 30% of the years total which has been almost exclusively driven by Nangarhar and Kunar.

CENTRAL REGION

KABUL

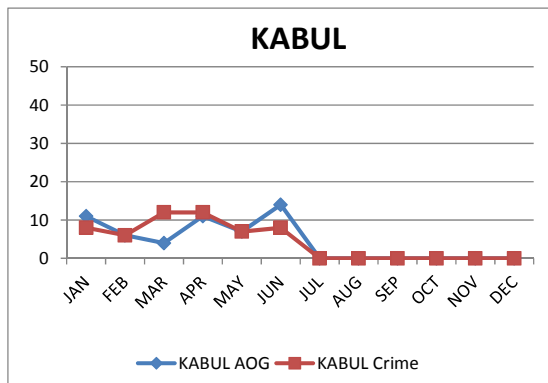
	NGO Incidents
Year to Date	3
This Report Period	0

A spectacular, complex attack along with two other suicide attacks (one high profile, one failed) in the capital were the AOG riposte to the discourse of security gains and progress on the battlefield pushed forward by GOA and the IMF as security transition approaches.

The first attack, on 18 June shortly after mid-day, involved 3 operatives equipped with BBIED vests hidden under ANA uniforms who assaulted the police station in the Mandawi Market of Kabul City (PD 1). Including civilians from the market and the adjacent tax collection office, the attackers managed to kill 3 ANP, 1 NDS and 5 civilians while a further 2 ANP and 8 civilians received injuries. Following this, in the evening hours of 25 June, a lone BBIED detonated when its owner, with the full gear on, was approaching the entrance to the Bustane Kabul, a park in PD 17. The absence of any target in the area at the time of the blast provides the ground to assume that the detonation was premature, a plausible last step in the preparation of a strike against a training session for ANP district deputy-chiefs and administrators which was scheduled to take place in the park the next morning. The final, and most dramatic, attack occurred during the overnight hours

of 28 June, when a commando of 8 well armed attackers (their gear including suicide vests, small arms & hand grenades) stormed the GOA owned Intercontinental Hotel and fought an extended pitched battle with security forces. The clash went on for several hours, ending when helicopter-borne IMF snipers eliminated the remaining 3 attackers who had taken position on the rooftop of the hotel. A conclusive casualty count has yet to be fully corroborated, though ANSO has so far accounted for two dozen casualties, with security force personnel representing at least two thirds of the victims.

While the strike in the Mandawi Market was a remarkable demonstration of AOG economy of force, noteworthy also for yet another exploration of deception tactics (the use of ANSF uniforms) and an apparent willingness to cause civilian casualties (the attack was staged in a highly frequented market place where the use of the BBIED component would inevitably lead to a high number of civilian casualties), the second event was an eye-and-ear catching exhibition of AOG force projection, reminiscent of the recent complex attack in Herat. Night-time flares and explosions were covered in dramatic prime-



time entries by the media, marking a turning point when the military effectiveness of the AOG action stopped being the primary consideration. The AOG squad on the roof-top were by then playing their part for the ‘graphic’ dimension of the attack.

For suicide attack trends in 2011, 10 out of 14 AOG suicide missions recorded in the Central Region have been concentrated in Kabul Province (9 in the city and 1 SVBIED in Musayi), while 3 out of the remaining 4 missions in the provinces have occurred recently, in a span of 10 days starting 15 June.

While suicide strikes dominated attention this period, they were seconded by two stand-off attacks in the capital, first when PD 15 witnessed a typical indirect fire attack where the intended trajectory linked Deh Sabz to KAIA (an average of 1.3 IDF fire attacks per month in Kabul City since 2006). The second, more atypical attack, was a rare IED detonation against an ANP road check post on the ‘Forty-Meter Road’ in PD 11, marking only the fourth such attack this year. The last incident of note, this time in neighbouring Musayi, involved 8 attackers wearing ANA uniforms who executed an ANP informant, an action reminiscent of similar efforts in Wardak, Logar and Kapisa.

NOTICE: The graphs provided in the report are accurate as of the **29th of June 2011.**

LOGAR

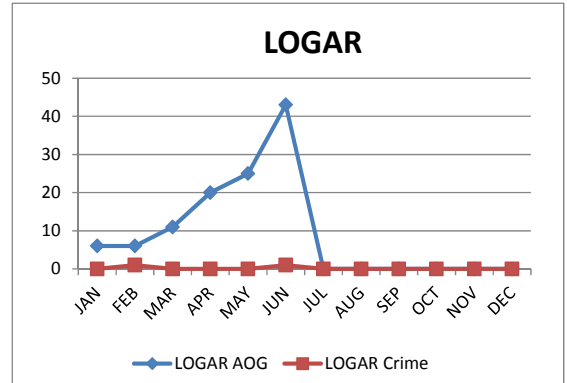
The conflict paradigm in Logar appears to be one of a symbiotic growth. The increased frequency of ANSF-IMF initiatives, such as the on-going Operation Omeide 8, and the roll-out of the ALP has appeared to stimulate a growth in the number of AOG incidents. Whereas the June incident volumes (all incidents combined) grew by 14% compared to those in May, AOG-initiated activity increased by 30% over the same period (33 AOG-initiated attacks in June). Adding the IEDs discovered and neutralized by security forces (10 cases in June) on the top of direct AOG activity, AOG provided the impetus for 70% of all incidents recorded. Disregarding the claims made by both sides as to their respective gains on the battlefield, the communities (and by extension, the NGO community) tend to bear the brunt of the violence as the rare SVBIED strike against the district hospital in Azra illustrated.

In the mid-morning of 25 June, an SVBIED attacker drove at high speed through the district center, past the access leading towards the governor's compound and ANP station, and entered the next-door compound of the clinic through a gate which was at the time guarded by two uniformed ANP. In the ensuing blast, 23 people were killed and an additional 27 received injuries, many of which were victims trapped inside the hospital which had collapsed after bearing the brunt of the shock wave. Among the casualties, 1 NGO national staff member was killed, and an additional 5 NGO staff members received injuries. Much speculation arose regarding the intended target of the attack, in particular whether or not

	NGO Incidents
Year to Date	4
This Report Period	1

the driver misidentified the wulswali/ANP HQ with the hospital. So far, there has been no corroborated evidence that would support or rule out any of the plausible scenarios and motives. No AOG network has claimed responsibility and the community has remained silent as to whether the attack could be linked to a specific motive or warning.

Obviously, the immediate proximity of the hospital to the governor's compound provides a very conspicuous factor and suggests a case of poor targeting. However, in assessing this incident consideration of events leading up to the attack is required. The strike closely followed recent IMF-ANSF operations which essentially marked the first GOA-IMF attempt at introducing a police force of scale into Azra, and a spectacular attack against a GOA-related target would be in line with the track of AOG ripostes of similar initiatives elsewhere. The effort also coincided with recent recruitment efforts for ANP inside the community, but more visibly, with the roll-out of the Afghan Local Police Program (ALP) in the area. In total, 120 ALP members have been recruited in the community, and assigned to man checkpoints throughout the district. The recruitment was preceded by the introduction of the program inside the community, and formally, by the endorsement of the program by the district Shura. On a general note, Azra district stretches on the intersection of AOG routes between Pakistan, Paktya, Logar and Nangarhar and the district's complex social environment encompasses numerous tribal conflicts, the presence of armed



criminal networks, and basically all major domestic AOG networks.

A less tangible, yet important development, has been noticed recently throughout Logar regarding frequent ANSF and AOG actions inside medical facilities. While the AOG usually seek treatment or medical supplies, the ANSF occasionally perform targeted arrest operations inside medical facilities as a result. On the AOG side, the explicit targeting of a civilian hospital would constitute a clear outlier (in opposition to military medical facilities, which had been targeted in the past) as the evidence from Logar or elsewhere in Afghanistan does not provide the data to conclude that any of the major AOG networks would systematically target civilian medical facilities on purpose.

Overall, attacks with a suicide element are an extremely rare TTP for AOG in Logar, and represent a mere 0.54% of all AOG-initiated incidents in Logar recorded since 2006. Of note, all four previous cases targeted security forces and occurred between 2006 and 2007. Azra also came to the fore earlier in the period with the abduction, and subsequent release, of the Azra District Governor along with a group of GOA VIPs at a midnight AOG checkpoint on the Qarghayi (Laghman) section of the Surkhakan highway. It is plausible that the release, an atypical feature for GOA VIPs captured by AOG networks, was secured along the friendships and political networks dating back years to the HIG party. In addition, shortly after the SVBIED attack, additional reports were received of AOG taking positions at checkpoints on the Hisarak – Azra Road. One such report was confirmed on 27 June when two passengers, including an ANA medic, were abducted in Spindokay.

KAPISA

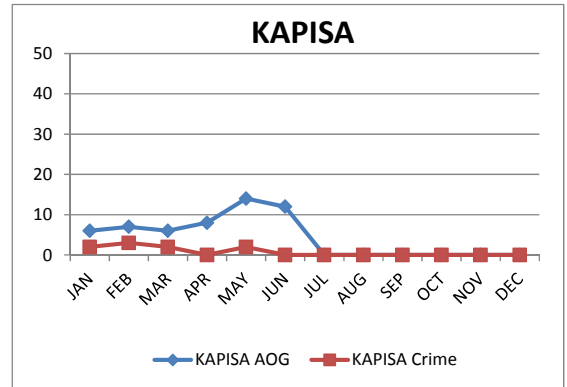
	NGO Incidents
Year to Date	1
This Report Period	0

A report late in the period came to the fore detailing the release of the two French journalists held in captivity since their abduction in December 2009. Under circumstances yet to be elucidated, the journalists were voluntarily released by their kidnappers, walked into the Tagab Valley, and driven by car towards the IMF base.

Otherwise, overall low incident volumes were recorded in Kapisa during this cycle. AOG activity comprised of three close-range attacks against IMF patrols on the main roads in Tagab and Alasay with an additional IED prematurely detonating in Niyaz Khel on the Tagab – Alasay road in the night of 21 June, likely emplaced to hit another IMF patrol. Typically for the province, the strikes remained infrequent but lethal. The most significant of these, on 20 June in Nawruz Khel, resulted in two civilians being injured (one

fatally) when they were caught up in the cross-fire during a firefight on the main road. On the IMF side, the new French contingent continued targeted night-strikes in Tagab, as with reports from Shahzad Khel and Adezai which resulted in the killing of 4 AOG, including a lower-rank commander.

On 20 June in the provincial capital, the investigation into the recent SVBIED strike (15 June, Kuratas Road) lead security forces to a compound close to the checkpoint where the attack occurred and in the consequent night-raid of the compound, the force seized some 190 kg of explosives and arrested four suspected AOG members. In Karim Khel of Kohistan I, ANP discovered and neutralized an IED on the district road at 0800 hrs., the incident marking the fifth such discovery (combined to at least two detona-



tions) this year. These incidents indicate a continued, though light AOG imprint in Kohistan I & II and Kohband.

From a long term perspective, the volumes of AOG-initiated attacks recorded so far in 2011 remain some 15% below the volumes recorded last year (reminiscent instead of the trend-lines in 2009) while in counter-point IMF have sustained the momentum established with the operations earlier this spring. In Tagab, the combined number of all incidents recorded this year by the end of June equals 70% of the year sum recorded in 2010. NGOs may expect a stable growth in incident volumes to continue for Tagab, Nijrab and Alasay for the weeks to come.

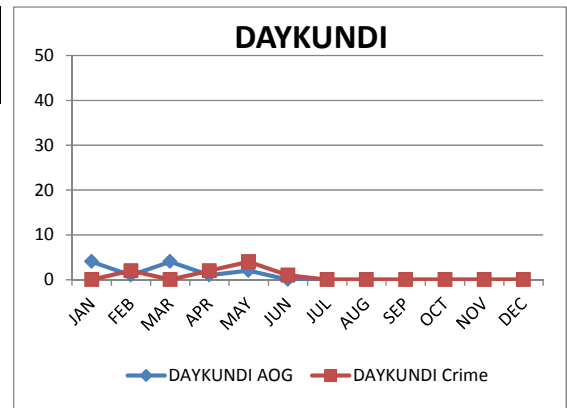
DAYKUNDI

	NGO Incidents
Year to Date	0
This Report Period	0

Two recent escalations in the north (Miramor at the beginning of June and Sang Takht this cycle) demonstrated the precarious sate of the rule of law in the province, which still falls prey to the warlord networks, while in the south, the pro-active engagement of an AOG unit transiting thru Gizab by ALP broke the recent lull in incidents.

The first from the north occurred in Miramor (3 June) when a contractor, charged with the delivery of stationary to local schools (part of an assistance package provided by an international organization) got into a physical altercation with the wuluswal, who was eager to exert control over the allocation

of aid. Later in the cycle in Sang Takht a former HIG commander escalated an altercation with a local Malik in the Dashtak - Jawzi area, which ended up in the commander shooting his opponent dead on the spot. The background of this killing is thought to be related to their political rivalries as the Malik was an outspoken opponent of the commander, himself an unsuccessful candidate for the post of the district governor last year. ANP deployed to the area and arrested the commander and his bodyguard. Meanwhile further south in Gizab, an ALP commander tracked down and arrested a unit of 7 AOG members transiting thru the dis-



trict on their way to Helmand on 23 June.

Overall NGOs enjoy a permissive operational environment in the province, although physical accessibility remains the primary issue of concern. Running operations in the districts also requires a thorough monitoring of the plethora of local stakeholders and related power-struggles, as security concerns rarely relate to anything other than local political and criminal developments.

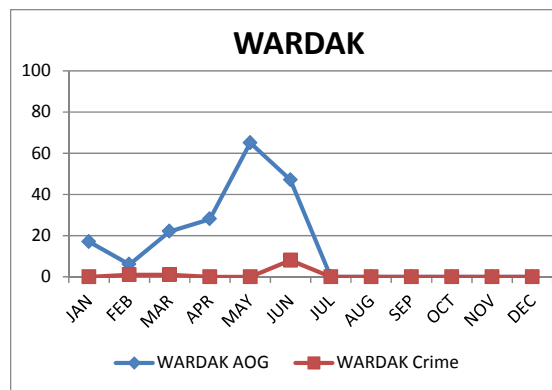
WARDAK

	NGO Incidents
Year to Date	1
This Report Period	0

Reporting from the Behsuds and Daymirdad did not allow for much optimism at the beginning of this cycle as a peaceful resolution in the Hazara/Kuchi conflict appeared unlikely as ANSF and GOA authorities appeared slow to react to the rising tensions in this peripheral part of the region. The fact that in the second week of this cycle one third of all security incidents in Wardak related to the issue of Kuchi-Hazara enmities attests to this. However, a last moment ANA deployment to the area after a week of sporadic clashes created a buffer between the communities, though there has been no political resolution so far and sizeable militias remain mobilized on both sides.

The report cycle commenced with the continued influx of Kuchi nomads and countered by a mobilization of Hazara militias. This dynamic, along with the absence of any sizable security force, allowed the tensions to degenerate into violence. On 16 June, the communities clashed in Sabz Ab, Nawur District (Ghazni), resulting in at least 7 fatalities. The same day, a Hazara militia retaliated in Dara Kajao (Behsud II), attacking a settlement of the Shanozai and Shinwari tribes and claiming to have detained three Pakistani AOG in the camp (the claim was confirmed by local authorities, but could not be verified). On 18 June in Dashte Khawat (Behsud II, bordering Nawur in Ghazni),

three Hazara residents were killed in another armed altercation (no casualties recorded on the Kuchi side), whereas the next day a two-hour firefight erupted in Dara Kajao resulting in five participants killed and eight injured, with the losses almost equally shared among the two camps. On 20 and 21 June, clashes occurred in Tazak (Behsud II) with similar localized clashes ongoing until 27 June, when a precarious stalemate was reached with the Kuchis occupying the highlands and the Hazaras anchored around the main population centers in the two Behsuds, Daymirdad and Nawur (Ghazni). Reports from the two Behsuds and Daymirdad indicated that several hundred of men at arms remain on each side and at this stage in the developing situation, the conflict parties appeared neither willing nor able to dislodge their rivals from their respective positions, though a temporary stabilization was clearly achieved due to the deployment of the ANA's 21st Division. The ANA set up a base in Dahane Soiasang, much to the dissatisfaction of the locals, whose leaders requested the army to push the Kuchis out from the their lands. Current developments seem to have deescalated and most NGO observers agree that the ANA deployment actually eliminated the possibility of a full scale eruption of the conflict. However, the



continued stability of such arrangements remains suspect as the fact remains that the Kuchi migration led large portions of the Hazara communities in the said districts to relocate, putting extreme economic pressure on their households.

For the rest of the province, June incident volumes remained largely at par with May (nearly 90 incidents recorded for each month), though the ratio of AOG-initiated attacks fell by 10% (to 60% for 2011). This drop in AOG activity was mainly noticed in Saydabad (with AOG incidents falling by almost 50% between May and June), while IMF-ANSF operations in the district maintained constant levels. Besides Saydabad, Chaki Wardak experienced intensive IMF-ANSF operations, including an air-strike which killed three and injured an additional two AOG members in Shah Qalandar. In turn, the district witnessed 5 AOG attacks including 2 multiple IDF against the district center and the beheading of a former ANA member, leaving no doubts as to the AOG resolution to retain control over the district. Taking a broader look, the trend-line of AOG-initiated incidents for Wardak in 2011 maintains an impressive growth rate, coming very close to the levels of the extremely kinetic 2010. Last year, the growth in AOG attacks commenced in May and persisted until mid-fall, a development that is likely to be replicated again this year.

PARWAN

	NGO Incidents
Year to Date	1
This Report Period	0

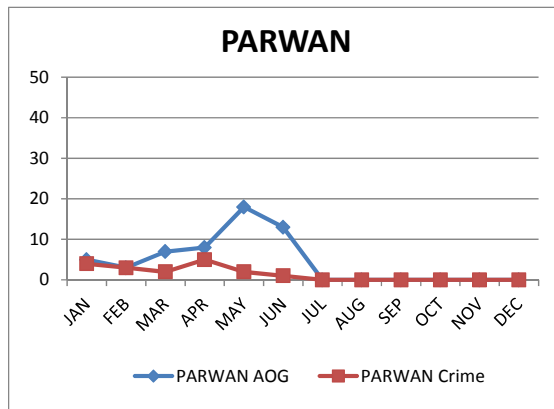
Another dynamic period was witnessed in Parwan as a rare BBIED attack Chaharikar seems to have been staged to introduce the appointment of a new IEA PSG for Parwan, while in the Ghorband Valley, an influential local IEA commander involuntarily surrendered to a joint IMF-ANP force. An IEA District Shadow Governor was also introduced to Kohi Safi, though his entree was limited to an IDF attack against the DAC and an arson attack against a telecommunication antenna mast.

At 1100 hrs. on 21 June, a BBIED attacker wearing civilian clothes identified the vehicle of the provincial governor among a convoy leaving the Governorate. The attacker walked towards the vehicle and detonated his charge, killing himself, the driver (ANP) and a thirteen-year old girl on her way from school. While two ANP also sustained injuries in the attack, it failed to impact the Governor who was not in the vehicle when the attack occurred. The attack obviously required preliminary surveillance, and the preparations were likely underway since mid-April when chatter on a planned suicide attack against the governor ‘in the near future’ circulated throughout the community. Somewhat in relation to this was the incident that occurred previously on the night of 17 May when IMF & ANP raided a private residence and arrested a

group of three suspected AOG who were found in possession of two BBIED-vests, a compelling incident as AOG suicide missions are extremely rare in Parwan. In addition, it is typical for suicide attackers to be used in strikes targeting the IMF base and IMF/ANSF convoys in Bagram with three such cases recorded since 2006 (June 2006, February 2007, July 2010).

Overall, Chaharikar District has experienced an uptick in AOG related violence this year (13 cases so far) compared to 2010 (6 AOG-initiated incidents recorded throughout the year), although this increase is mainly due to the emerging trend of IDF attacks against the IMF base in Jangal Bagh (11 out of the 13 incidents). Reports from the community suggest that the IDF attacks are occasionally staged by local commanders to exert pressure on their rivals inside the GOA-ANSF structures, and are not necessarily related to the predominant AOG networks.

An early morning move on 23 June by an IMF-ANP force up into the Wazgher Valley (Siyagerd) was the first tangible police operation in the Ghorband Valley following the killing of Ahmad Jawad Zohak. While the operation resulted in the capture of a local IEA commander along with his 14 men, three days later AOG



responded with a simultaneous triple IDF attack timed at 2300 hrs. against ANP premises in three different locations of the Shinwari and Siyagerd DACs. More concerning than such a demonstration, local reports expressed concern that the arrest may motivate AOG networks to stage abductions for the purposes of a prisoner exchange, a conflict vector which could hamper NGO movements along the main road in Ghorband. While such a development cannot be ruled out, the AOG presence on the road to Bamyān remains extremely rare during the daylight hours. An abduction was in fact reported this cycle in Siyagerd though this was related to a businessman (and landowner) visiting his relatives in Do Ab are resulted in the individual being released unharmed following negotiations with the family and a likely payment of a ransom. As of yet, there is no evidence to suggest that the NGO security paradigm has changed over the last four weeks. Nevertheless, military actions are becoming more frequent (but kept away from the main road in Ghorband), while AOG networks continue to display strength and confidence. It is highly likely that IMF-ANSF will be interested in replicating the success of the recent operation in Wazgher in the short term, while AOGs continue their campaign against the local security forces.

NORTHERN REGION

BALKH

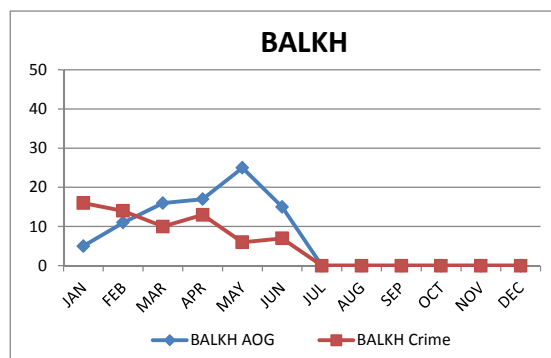
	NGO Incidents
Year to Date	8
This Report Period	4

In comparison to the first half of 2010, Balkh witnessed a 75% increase in security reporting over the first 6 months of 2011, with a total of 241 security incidents (as opposed to the 139 recorded over the same period in 2010). This reporting period tallied 4 NGO incidents—although not all of them occurred between the 16th and the 30th—with 2 targeted attacks against NGO food storage facilities in Shortepa District, and 2 separate physical attacks on NGO staff members (Dawlatabad and Mazar). This 2 week period also saw increased insecurity in Sholgara (including a night raid in Zard Kamar, the disappearance of a main power broker from east of the river, and the robbery of 4 commercial trucks along the main Mazar-Sholgara road) and notable activity in Mazar-e Sharif City.

Shortepa, historically one of the quieter districts in the province, witnessed its' first and second NGO related incidents when 2 similar attacks occurred on 2 separate NGO food storage facilities in the Toqi area, both of which were run by the same NGO. Both attacks involved the burning

of wheat storage facilities. In the first, 129 bags of wheat were burnt, while in the second, the fire was extinguished before causing significant damage. It remains unclear who was behind these attacks and why, with conflicting reports as to whether this was done by local or non-local perpetrators. An IED was also discovered along a main road in the district during the day on the 30th, representing an active cycle for the most northern district of Balkh.

Just south of Shortepa, in Dawlatabad District, anecdotal reports of AOG movements in both the west and east continued to surface. Amongst these was a confirmed account of an AOG breaking up a wedding ceremony, and physically beating an NGO staff member who was calling for the AOG to stop harassing wedding guests. The staff member's affiliation with the NGO appears to have been unknown and unrelated to the perpetrator. While local GOA sources have blamed the insecurity in Dawlatabad on a group coming out of Sharek Af-



ghania in Nahri Shahi, the increased volume appears consistent with trends noted in other parts of Balkh and Jawzjan, where AOGs have been entering new areas to spread their influence. These AOGs have been anecdotally linked to Chimtal and Chahar Bolak districts (and potentially the Tri-Provincial Area). This dynamic is likely working in conjunction with the fact that Operation “Ebtekar 2,” launched to clear the main road, is pushing AOGs from Chimtal and Chahar Bolak further north.

Mazar City saw a number of significant incidents, including the brief assault of an NGO member by ANA soldiers near the Blue Mosque (for not allowing their convoy to pass), the accidental shooting of an IO staff member during a failed abduction attempt on the son of a gas station attendant in PD#2, a threatening phone call to an IO staff member, and the detonation of a small IED on an ANA shuttle. While none of these incidents alone represent any strong shift to the security paradigm in Mazar City, as a group they are worth noting, and play to the existing trend of increased security reporting.

ANSO ANNOUNCEMENT:

Please see the last page of this report for an announcement regarding the transfer of management of ANSO.

KUNDUZ

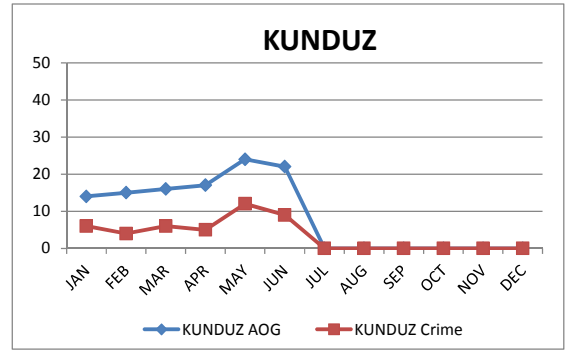
	NGO Incidents
Year to Date	1
This Report Period	0

Compared to 2010, Kunduz has seen only a minor increase (22%) in overall security reporting in 2011, with 337 incidents recorded thus far in 2011, as opposed to 276 over the same 6 months in 2010. This is greater than—but relatively similar to—some of the other provinces of the Northeast (specifically Baghlan and Takhar), and represents the highest volume of security reporting in the region. The relatively consistent volume of reporting in the Northeast (and particularly in Kunduz) is logical, as unlike the rest of the North, where insecurity has crept into previously peaceful areas (resulting in notable increases to security reporting), Kunduz has been heavily contested for over a year. At this point, fluctuations in Kunduz’s security usually depend on changes to tactics rather than volume.

Most notable within Kunduz’s current security paradigm is

AOGs continued heavy reliance on IED use in the wake of months of IMF/ANSF military operations deteriorating their physical presence. The proliferation of IED attacks and discoveries continued this reporting period, with 12 of the 37 recorded incidents being IED related. Notable amongst these was a VBIED that detonated on an IMF convoy in Kunduz City on the 19th (killing 2 and injuring 9, including a passing IO staff member), an IED found in Kunduz City on the 20th, an IED detonation in the Khanabad District Center on the 24th (detailed below), an IED detonation on an ANSF convoy on the Kunduz-Khanabad main road on the 25th, and on the 27th, when 2 IEDs were discovered on a secondary road just outside of Kunduz City en route to Khanabad.

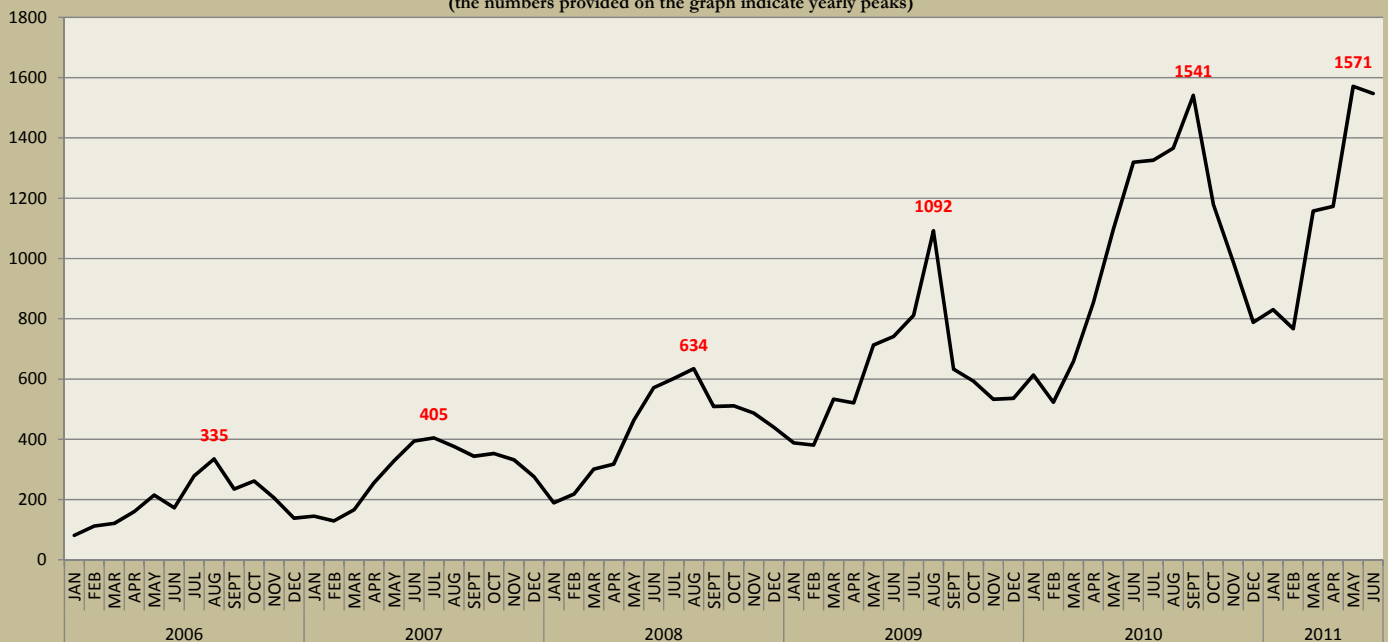
Amongst these, no IED caused more casualties this period than



the detonation which occurred in the Khanabad District Center on the 24th. The IED was the first ever recorded to detonate directly in the district center, and detonated in front of a civilian shop, allegedly targeting the District Chief of Police (DCOP) who was scheduled to be passing by at that time (but was not). The blast caused 9 deaths and at least 30 injuries. Although multiple sources have stated confidently that this was an AOG attack (likely against the DCOP), local sources suggest an alternate narrative, with this being the result of conflicting power brokers. Either conclusion fails to explain the location of the IED in a largely civilian area, where a large number of civilian casualties would be predictable, and no direct ANP/local power broker structure existed. Further assessment behind the source and target of this IED is required.

Country Level AOG Initiated Incidents: 2006-1011

(the numbers provided on the graph indicate yearly peaks)



JAWZJAN

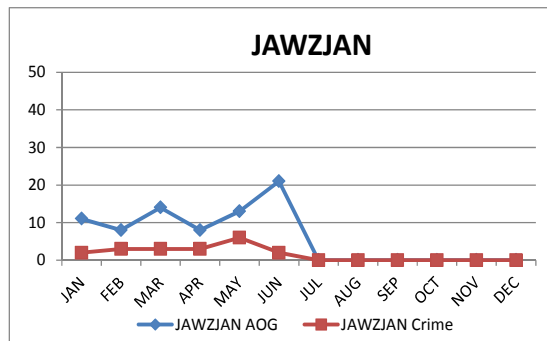
	NGO Incidents
Year to Date	2
This Report Period	2

Representing one of the more dramatic shifts in security in the North, Jawzjan Province recorded 135 security incidents over the first 6 months of 2011, denoting an increase of approximately 180% over the previous year's first half total of 48. Much of this has been the result of increased AOG activity and military operations taking place in the Tri-Provincial Area (TPA)—which saw 8 security incidents this period—but there has also been a recent trend towards increased incident reporting in Northern Jawzjan over the past 2 months.

Directly affecting the NGO community this reporting period, an RCIED detonated against a red NGO Toyota Hi-lux late on the morning of the 16th which resulted in injuring the driver. The vehicle did not have the physical appearance of a GOA or security vehicle, and was not travelling along the main road when the detonation occurred, nor was it in an area often patrolled by ANP or other security forces. The combination of these factors make it highly likely that the NGO itself

was the intended target. While no information has surfaced of pre-existing threats or any suspect history, it appears likely that the NGO, which had been working in the province for a number of years, may have been caught by a new (or returning) AOG in the area which was trying to make their presence felt. Also of note, a “Night Letter” was received in the same district (Aqcha) which made no threat, but asked the recipient NGO to make a donation to the AOG. Initial investigations have been inconclusive as to whether this letter is tied to actual AOG elements in the area, or is just the work of a potential opportunist.

Mardyan and Khwaja Du Koh (KDK) both saw rare illegal checkpoints. KDK had seen 2 prior illegal checkpoints along the main road this year, with this being the second to result in a subsequent abduction, this time of 3 international engineers along with 2 nationals. One of the prior checkpoints (March 10th) had also resulted in an abduction (4 nationals contracted to an interna-



tional company). The checkpoint in Mardyan occurred along the Mardyan-Qarqin Road, and resulting in the deaths of 4 civilians who were caught in the crossfire between ANP and AOGs (as well as the deaths of the 4 AOG members who had established the checkpoint). This represented the first illegal checkpoint ever recorded in Mardyan District, but fits into the trend of recent insecurity throughout eastern Jawzjan noted above.

Finally, also in eastern Jawzjan, an IED detonated on the 23rd, killing the DCOP and 4 of his fellow policemen while they were on patrol along the Mingajik-Aqcha road. This made for 2 IED detonations in districts which had been quiet thus far in 2011 (Mingajik and Aqcha), together combining for only 11 prior security incidents (with no IED detonations in either district). The sum of all the above confirms weeks of anecdotal reporting that AOGs had been spotted in the eastern districts. The arrival of new (or returning) AOGs, often with weak or non-existent ties to the community, usually marks a more volatile period as the balance of power is shuffled and sorted.

GRAPH INFORMATION:

The graphs provided in this report are accurate as of the **29th of June 2011**. In addition, the NGO Incidents/Year to Date figures include Criminal and AOG attributed events only. Incidents attributed to other actors (i.e. ANSF) are not captured in this data.

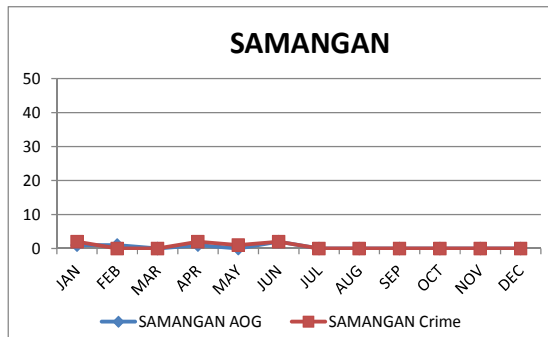
SAMANGAN

Although it is difficult to assess significant long term shifts in security within Samangan due to the exceptionally small sample size of recorded security incidents, by the numbers Samangan demonstrated a 150% increase in recorded security over the first 6 months of 2011 (compared to the first 6 months of the previous year). However, in reality, this translated to a mere 30 incidents thus far in 2011, as opposed to the 12 incidents which occurred between January and June 30th of 2010. While it would be difficult to draw meaningful conclusions from such a small sample size, it is worth noting that Samangan has actually recorded some significant developments this year in relation to security. These included the detonation of 2 IEDs along the main road between Aybak and Puli

	NGO Incidents
Year to Date	0
This Report Period	0

Khumri (where there had never been IED detonations before), the maturing of the AOG infrastructure in Dar-e Suf Payin, and a disagreement between Aybak civil society and the small PRT which had been located there, which subsequently resulted in the PRT's relocation out of Aybak City.

The most significant incident this period was the detonation of an IED between 2 fuel tankers that were pulled over along the main road in Aybak District on the 16th. The IED was apparently attached to a bicycle (a common North Region TTP this reporting cycle) and the detonation caused one of the tankers to explode, killing the driver, and setting the other 3 tankers on fire. In total, 3 of the 4 tankers ended up completely destroyed. As noted above,



this marked the 2nd IED incident ever recorded along that stretch of road, with the first occurring only 2 weeks prior (when an RCIED detonated just after a convoy had passed its' location). Samangan remains the most peaceful province in the North, making the detonation of 2 IEDs along the oft used main Aybak – Puli Khumri road significant, but also likely an outlier. At present, it appears more likely that these IEDs are the work of AOGs operating near the Samangan/Baghlan border, and associated more with the increasing activity in Baghlan, than the result of activities by AOGs operating throughout the Province (for instance, in Dara-I Suf Payin), but further assessment may be required.

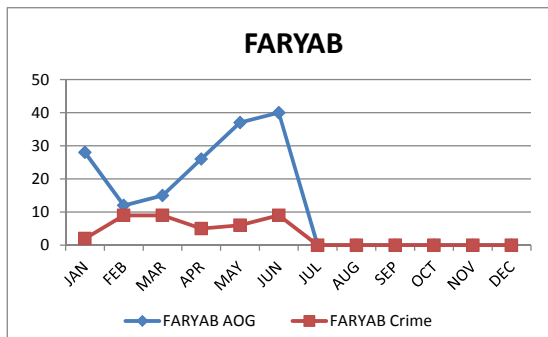
FARYAB

Faryab recorded a total of 274 security incidents over the first half of 2011, representing a significant 72% increase in volume over the 159 recorded in 2010. This reporting period was characterized by a large volume of recorded security incidents (36) with notable concentrations in Pashtun Kot (12) and Maymana (6), as well as multiple incidents along the main Maymana – Andkhoy road.

On the 16th of June, in Quaramqol District, just South of Dawlatabad, 6 AOG members set up an illegal checkpoint on the main road in the Jungal area, and fired at a civilian vehicle that failed to stop for them. Although Qaramqol has not seen the high level of insecurity that Dawlatabad has, this does not represent a new trend, but rather fits into the recent surge in incident reporting

	NGO Incidents
Year to Date	4
This Report Period	0

that has occurred along the main road in northern Faryab. The Jungal area in Qaramqol is directly linked to the Jungal area in the more kinetic Dawlatabad District, and 5 of the 10 incidents that have been recorded in Qaramqol this year have taken place there. Dawlatabad District just north of Qaramqol had seen 7 incidents occurring over the first half of June, but witnessed only 3 incidents this period, the most notable of which was a SAF attack on a civilian vehicle in the Shaikh Ha Area on the 28th. Generally speaking, AOG initiated insecurity along the Maymana – Andkhoy road has appeared to increase in conjunction with the launching of ANSF led/IMF supported Operations “Wahdat 2” and “Wahdat 3” (to clear this road) rather than diminish.



Also on the main road, but further south, a fuel tanker was hit with SAF in Khwaja Sabz Posh (KSP) on the 26th. The SAF was responsible for the death of the tanker driver and caused the fuel tanker to ignite and burn. This was particularly notable in that it took place in the middle of the day at 1345. Although KSP has historically witnessed relatively little recorded insecurity, 4 of the last 6 incidents that have occurred there were AOG initiated, suggesting an irregular but existing AOG with ties to the area. Further supporting this, the most recent incident took place in the same location (Qara Shikhi) as an illegal checkpoint that occurred there on the 1st, and where 4 incidents occurred last year.

SAR-E PUL

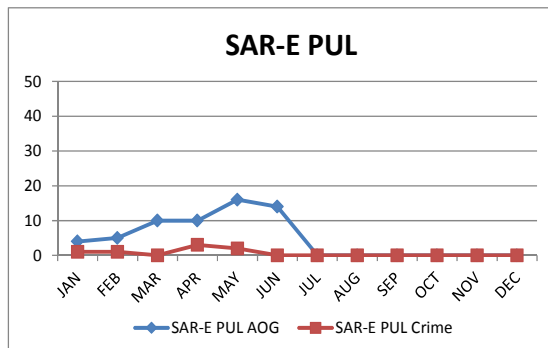
Issues in the Tri-Provincial Area (TPA), along the Sar-e Pul – Shibirghan Road, and even just outside of Sar-e Pul City suggest that this Province has witnessed perhaps the greatest deterioration in security of any in the North. Although Sar-e Pul has not seen a statistical increase equal to that of Jawzjan, over the first 6 months of the year, Sar-e Pul has witnessed 90 security incidents, which represents a 120% increase over the 41 that were recorded over the same period in 2010. A large portion of these incidents represent the struggle between GOA and AOGs in the province, deriving from insecurity along the main Sar-e Pul – Shibirghan road and AOG activities within the TPA.

Although this reporting period was not particularly active, 5 of the 9 incidents that occurred took place in Sar-e Pul District (with 4

	NGO Incidents
Year to Date	4
This Report Period	0

of those 5 being AOG initiated). Amongst these were an 11th illegal checkpoint along the Sar-e Pul – Shibirghan Road on the 29th, and 2 attacks on pro-government militia checkpoints in Panjshir Village and Qadam Jai village. As noted in the previous reporting period, attacks on arbakis are likely to continue in Sar-e Pul. This is especially true in and around the TPA, where the strong AOG presence in Sayyad (and neighboring Qush Tepa and Darzab) competes with the GOA for control of AOG strongholds and influence among the communities living there.

Unconfirmed claims arose this period that a group of armed men on motorcycles were seen loitering around the main Sar-e Pul – Shibirghan road in the vicinity of Zaka Village early on the morning of the 26th. Although June in



general was a relatively quiet month for the Sar-e Pul – Shibirghan Road, anecdotal reporting from the area suggests that not all illegal checkpoints are being recorded, and that AOG presence and activity along this road remains relatively consistent and active beyond what is recorded. The TPA, which nearly borders this road, remains one of the most significant AOG strongholds in the entire Northern Region. AOGs carrying out activities in other districts/provinces (such as insecurity on the main road through Sar-e Pul, and the abduction which occurred this reporting period in Jawzjan) are often linked to the AOGs operating there. The TPA is widely considered under the direct control of AOGs, and is likely to continue to be a source of insecurity for the short to mid-term.

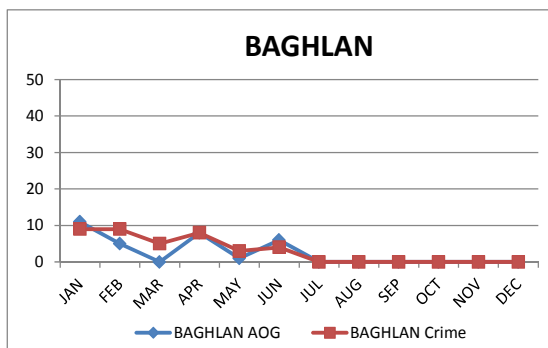
BAGHLAN

Baghlan was one of 2 provinces (Takhar the other), which saw an insignificant change to the volume of security when comparing the first 6 months of 2010 and 2011. In 2010, Baghlan recorded 144 security incidents over the first 6 months of the year, while for 2011 the province has recorded an almost identical 148. This relatively stable volume of incident reporting—unlike the majority of provinces in the North—is likely due in part to ties and priorities of AOGs operating in the Northeast. For much of the first half of 2011, continuing military efforts in Baghlan and Kunduz have kept AOGs busy and unable to expand into Takhar (a secondary priority to Kunduz), or conduct regular missions in Baghlan (where they were under constant pressure due to “Operation Nowruz”). As

	NGO Incidents
Year to Date	1
This Report Period	0

such, AOGs have refocused operations and assets on Kunduz, leaving Baghlan and Takhar to receive less attention/assets.

This period saw 5 security incidents recorded in Baghlani Jadid, night raids in Burkha and Puli Khumri, the establishment of an illegal checkpoint in the Bano sub-district of Andarab (a rare occurrence for that area), and the killing of the head of NDS for Tala-Wa Barfak. In this last incident, the head of NDS had approached one of his junior officers to confront him with allegations that he was cooperating with AOGs and warned him to cease all activities immediately. In response, the accused NDS officer shot and killed the head of NDS in the middle of the day on the 18th as he was en route home from the



Mosque. GOA sources further suggest that the junior officer then fled and has allegedly joined an AOG.

IED detonations and discoveries continued at a low but developing pace in Baghlani Jadid, where one RCIED was found, and another detonated on an ANP vehicle near Ab Qol village. Prior to the previous reporting period, IED related incidents had become rare in Baghlan for an extended period. However, should AOGs begin to re-establish themselves after months of IMF/ANSF military operations, like in Kunduz, it would likely be via the use of IED attacks until they are able to rebuild their physical presence.

BADAKHSHAN

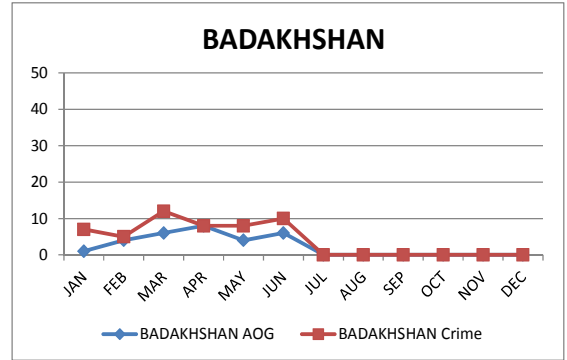
	NGO Incidents
Year to Date	6
This Report Period	1

Badakhshan has recorded 118 security incidents over the first 6 months of 2011, demonstrating approximately a 50% increase over the 79 security incidents that were recorded over the same period in 2010. Although Badakhshan remains a province with many largely operable environments for NGOs, insecurity continues to flourish as a result of shifting power brokers (GOA and ACG) and drug related crime. These are 2 elements that are unlikely to disappear in the near future.

The second half of June witnessed a number of notable incidents, although most of them fit within the anticipated security paradigm for the drug harvesting season in what is essentially the drug capital of the Northern Region. Noteworthy amongst these were a hand-grenade thrown into an NGO compound in Baharak, the Provincial Governor's convoy being attacked in Warduj along a main drug trafficking route, an escalation of conflict between 2 local groups in Kishim, and multiple RPGs fired at Fayzabad City. However, despite the wide variety

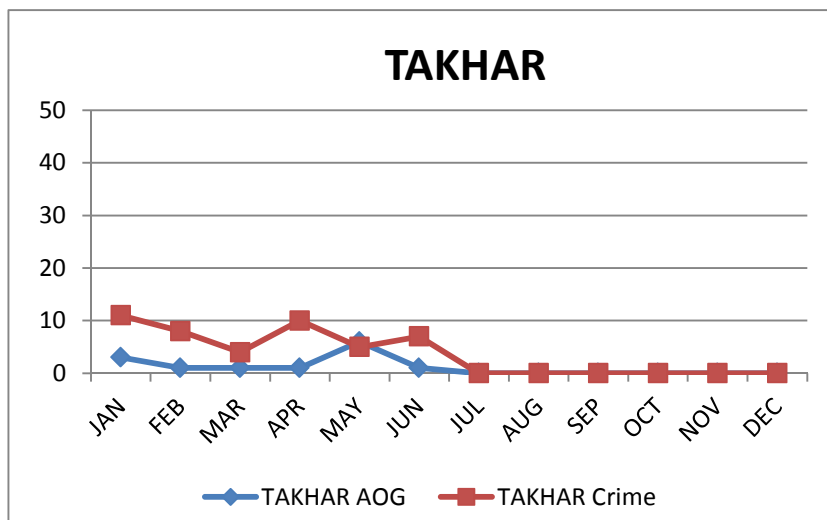
of incidents, all of the above appeared to be criminal acts by largely known actors following relatively established trends, with no new actors or hot spots surfacing.

The NGO community suffered a 4th security incident in Baharak District, which has continued to demonstrate a high volume of insecurity primarily in the vicinity of the District Center. In this latest incident, unknown individuals hurled a hand grenade into the living residence of an NGO staff member on the night of June 17th. This marks the 6th NGO incident in Badakhshan this year, and the 2nd in Baharak to affect this particular NGO. Although Baharak has made up the majority of NGO-related incidents in the province (4 out of 6, or 66%), the insecurity in Baharak has mostly appeared aimed at destabilization and intimidation rather than systematic targeting with intent to injure. As stated in previous reports, these attacks consist primarily of random violence conducted by known ACG actors who wish to use the threat of con-



tinued instability as a bargaining tool to increase their influence.

In Warduj, members of an AOG ambushed an ANSF convoy that included the Provincial Governor, the head of NDS, and the Provincial Chief of Police while they were travelling from Ishkashim District to Fayzabad City along a well known trafficking route. This incident—the second to take place in Warduj this reporting period—occurred in the Bashond area, which has seen a significant amount of insecurity in the past (although this is the first incident recorded there this year). The attack came following the receipt of anecdotal reporting (noted the PRP) about armed men in the area, and occurred in the middle of the day (1100 on June 20th). As previously noted, the area where this attack took place is key to controlling drug trafficking access between Badakhshan and Tajikistan, and as such, is likely to continue to see insecurity in the coming months as members from multiple parties (AOG, ACG, GOA) seek to assert control over that access.



WESTERN REGION

HERAT

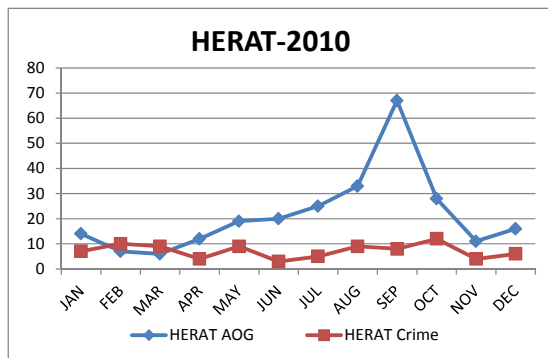
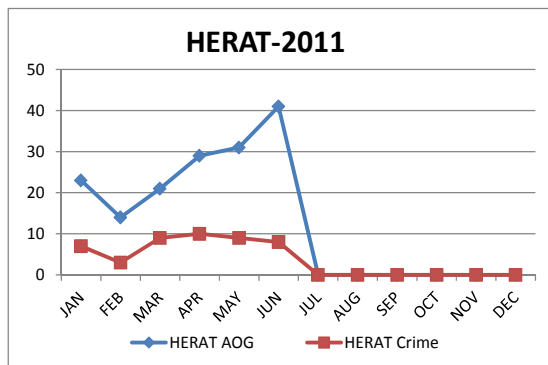
	NGO Incidents
Year to Date	4
This Report Period	1

Reminiscent of an incident reported last period in which a commercial convoy transporting INGO items came under AOG attack, this period another INGO convoy (transporting foodstuffs) was involved in an incident. While the previous incident occurred in Adrasksan, this recent case occurred in Obe and involved one of the convoys ANP escort vehicles striking an IED. It is likely that in both cases it was the composition and appearance of the convoys that attracted the attack rather than a concerted effort to target NGOs. Taking into account the presence of an armed escort, from distance it is unlikely the responsible parties could differentiate these vehicles from security force logistical convoys, a common target of opportunity for AGO countrywide.

With the exception of the somewhat anomalous volumes from September last year (a result of

AOG efforts against the Parliamentary Elections), June has posted the highest monthly volume in AOG attributed incidents. This period has continued an upwards trend in activity that has marked 2011 which was particularly evident during the past few months. While much of this activity has manifested itself in the districts surrounding the city, Obe to the west and Shindand to the south (bordering volatile Farah) are standouts, with the latter accounting for the highest volume (30% of the months AOG total).

Following the complex attack against the PRT in Herat City at the close of last month, armed opposition activity reported from the city has been almost nonexistent. Not surprisingly, the majority of incident reporting has been from the security force side, the earlier event the likely impetus for



these actions but also likely represent efforts to present an image of stability in light of the pending transition. The exception to this was criminally motivated murder of an ANP officer in District 11, a case which has been attributed to a personal dispute.

NEW WESTERN REGION RSA:

ANSO would like to welcome and introduce the newest member of the team, Mr. Taro Yamagata. He is a welcome addition, coming to us with experience from both the NGO community generally and Afghanistan specifically. He will be arriving during the first week of July and an announcement will be made once he has taken over responsibility for the Western Region and based in Herat City. You will be able to contact him at west@afgnso.org or 0799 322 192.

GHOR

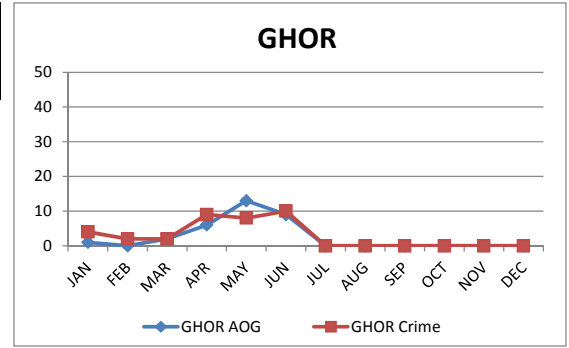
	NGO Incidents
Year to Date	9
This Report Period	1

There was one NGO incident reported this period (but occurring at the end of the last) in which an NGO program served as the foundation for what became a local dispute. An individual, unhappy at not being a beneficiary of the program, armed himself and threatened local leaders which resulted in local ANP requesting the NGO to cease its activities. This ultimately led to a temporary cessation of activity by the NGO until the issue can be resolved. Ghor has consistently accounted for the majority of NGO incidents reported in the West, recording almost 70% of the incident totals.

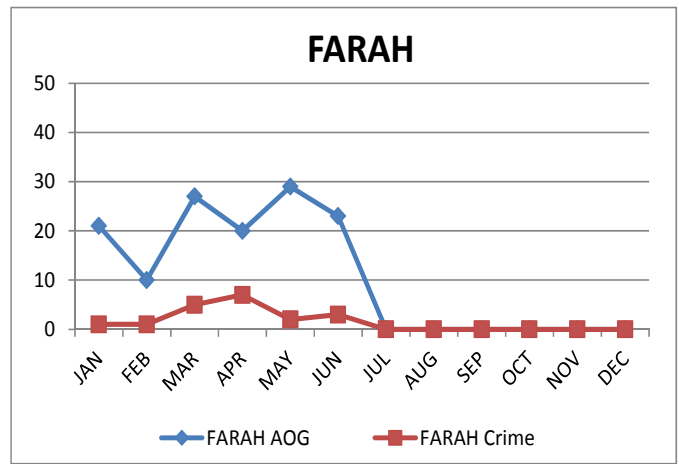
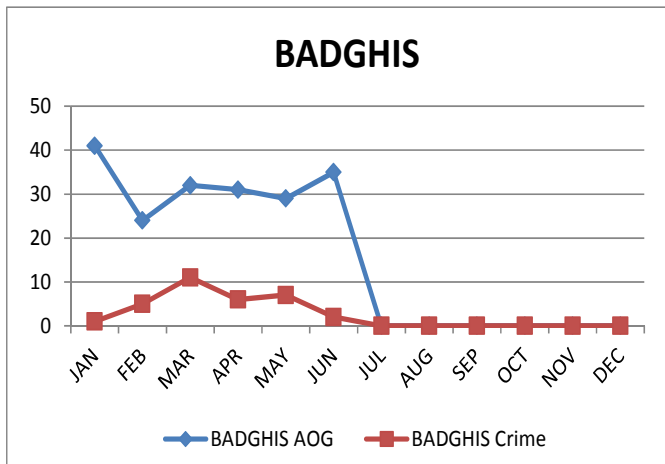
There was little change this period regarding the dynamics noted for Ghor throughout 2011. Of the 12 total incidents reported this peri-

od, there was an almost equal distribution between criminal and conflict related events (5 & 6 respectively). From the criminal side, the ongoing disputes between the two sides in Du Layna resulted in 6 people killed in 3 separate recorded clashes. This has been a long standing issue and there are no present indicators that it will be resolved in the near future. In addition to these, there was a case of kidnapping as well as an attack against a lone ANA soldier who adroitly managed to foil whatever the attackers intent was.

As for the conflict, 3 of the incidents were reported in Shahrak with a further 2 in Charsada and a final one in Chaghcharan. For the incidents in Shahrak, all occurred



near the border to Taywara District and involved 2 armed clashes between AOG and ANP and one IED detonation. In the IED incident, the sole victim was a civilian, unlikely the intended recipient of the attack. The last two incidents (from Charsada & Chaghcharan) were linked and resulted in a case of rough local justice. An ANP officer abducted on the 22nd of June was subsequently executed by AOG on the 24th. In retaliation for this act, the family of the victim sought out the perpetrators, and ultimately killed an individual believed to have links to those responsible, though this has not been confirmed.



EASTERN REGION

NANGARHAR

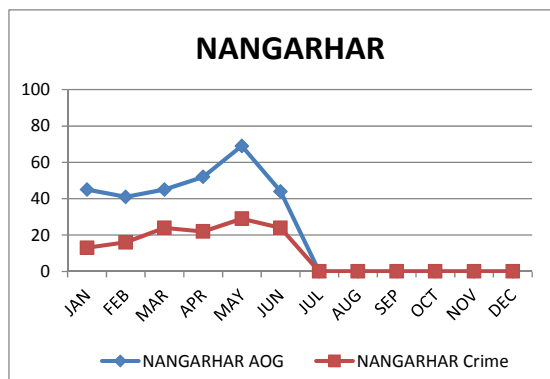
	NGO Incidents
Year to Date	9
This Report Period	0

In late June the overall level of security incidents in Nangarhar Province increased slightly as compared to the previous cycle. However AOG initiated incidents decreased, accounting for only 22 % of all recorded incidents, a figure that is 10% less than the previous period.

A considerable period of quiet continued in the provincial capital Jalalabad with no spectacular incidents recorded since the end of May. This period ANSF conducted several operations in Zone 3 and 4, which resulted in detention of at least 8 suspected AOG members indicating GOA efforts to disturb AOG cells operating within the city. Although on the decline this period, IED-related incident remained a concern across the province. In the last fortnight there were at least 16 IED initiated incidents, both detonation and discoveries. In regard to the geographical distribution of IED related incidents, the districts of Sherzad, Khogyani, Bihsud, Bati Kot, Pachir Wa Agam and Achin saw incidents where the large majority of them were discoveries and only a third detonated. No casualties were reported. This period Sherzad District recorded four separate

IED discoveries including of note an IED which was located on the main road leading to the DAC in Hashemkhel area. In Bihsud District on 22nd, an IED was located in the vicinity of Saracha Bridge. The said district also experienced the sole recorded incident related to deployment of magnetic IEDs. On 26th, in the Customs Area, ANP located and subsequently defused a magnetic IED attached to a fuel tanker.

Tensions have resumed over a long-standing land dispute in Achin District between the Sepai and Ali Sher Khel sub-tribes of the Shinwari, with an armed clash that occurred on 16th June. The clash killed 4 tribesmen from Ali Sher Khel and wounded 12 with an additional 2 persons from Sepai also injured. Despite GOA attempts at negotiation, tensions between the two parties persist in the area as attested by the later clash on the 24th. Another land dispute erupted into a fire fight on the 22nd in Bati Kot, Lalma area, this time between locals and Kuchis, killing one person and wounding another five. Although there were no reports of further clashes, the situation remains tense between the two parties as



shown by the later SAF attack on ANP escorting a Kuchi owned truck.

In addition, AOG intimidation tactics remained a concern. On 16th June in Khogyani two civilians and an off-duty ANA soldier were killed by a group of individuals wearing ANA uniforms. Also in Khogyani several days later, AOG abducted three local civilians who had reportedly spoken publicly against the AOG in the area one day prior to the event. Another incident of note took place in Karm Khel area (still in Khogyani), where on the 28th an armed group abducted 3 national staff employed by a for-profit international development organization (PDO). They were released after three hours due to the mediation of tribal elders.

Apart from an active AOG presence, criminal groups continued to be a distinctive problem in the province. In this reporting period, in the Akhuzada Saheb area of Bihsud, a group of armed robbers performed a search of private vehicles during the night on the main road leading to Chaparhar and robbed the occupants of their valuables. The said incident highlights once again the realities the increased risks of travelling after sun set.

ACRONYMS:

Please see the final page for a list of ANSO-utilized acronyms.

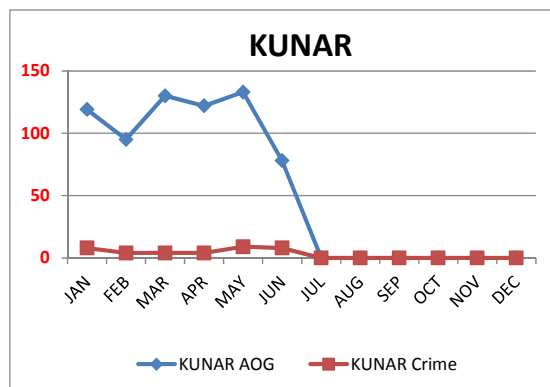
KUNAR

	NGO Incidents
Year to Date	7
This Report Period	1

Compared to the previous period, Kunar experienced an increase in the overall volume of incidents, in particular those that were AOG initiated. This period, the AOG presence manifested itself primarily in Wata Pur, Nari, Manogai and Bar Kunar districts, with a significant number of direct attacks - AOG's preferred TTP in the area. Yet, in the last fortnight, the security landscape in Kunar was shaped by the situation along the border with Pakistan. Although cross-border incidents are not uncommon, occurrences in Kunar sporadically surface, and during this reporting period they reached an unusual scale and intensity. IDF attacks from the PakMil have been reported on numerous occasions in Sirkanay (4), Dangam (4), Shegal (3), and Nari / Khas Kunar (1). Prior to this series of cross-border attacks, which were allegedly aimed at AOG positions, reports had surfaced about a large scale attack of an Afghanistan based AOG into the Bajaur tribal region, targeting several villages inhabited by Mamond tribesmen. While the issues have taken a political dimension, with both sides

denying involvement of the incidents, reports continue to be received of numerous civilian casualties as well as the movement by segments of the population trying to leave the bordering areas in fear of further escalation of the situation.

The security environment in Kunar remains highly kinetic with a familiar pattern of ANSF/IMF - AOG direct engagements. In the last two weeks the rate of AOG direct attacks has increased compared to the previous cycle, with at least 38 events. These were focused on Wata Pur, Nari and Manogai districts. Whereas one civilian and two ANA soldiers were wounded following an AOG attack on a military convoy in Laram Katis area of Manogai, a noteworthy incident was reported from Asadabad. On 20th June, 2 ANA and 11 AOG were reported to have been killed in a prolonged armed clash in Saigai Area. Along with a number of direct attacks, AOG were able to conduct around 10 IDF assaults. In this period these attacks were mainly focused on Bar Kunar

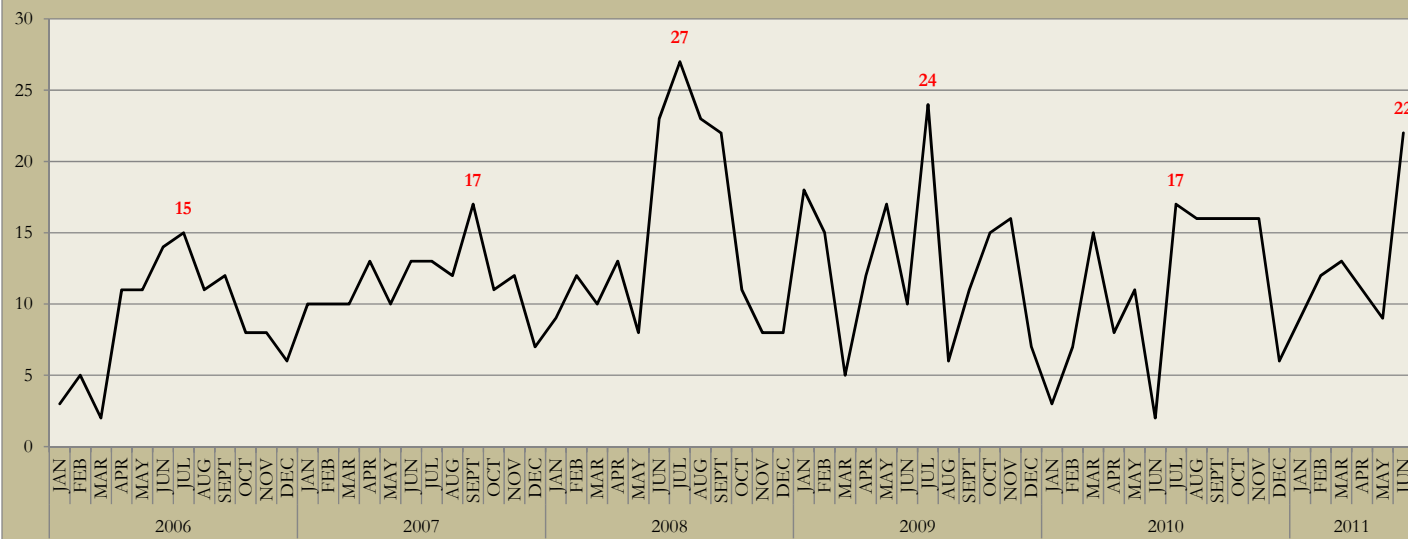


which experienced 5 IDF occurrences. Although the usual intended targets of these attacks are mainly military or GoA facilities, given the lack of accuracy of the weaponry, civilian casualties are frequent, with this period being no exception. In Bar Kunar DAC Area, one child was wounded when a mortar round impacted in a residential area. Also in Bar Kunar, a mortar round detonated in the Chaichan Sar area, killing a teenage girl and wounding another five civilians.

AOG abductions and intimidation efforts continued in this period underlining the extent of AOG freedom of movement. For instance, on the 17th in the Sirkanay, Barogai area, AOG abducted a civilian. On a positive note though, the three NGO staff who were abducted on 11 June in Asadabad were eventually released on 28th following mediation efforts of the community elders. At this stage, further details surrounding their release have not been revealed.

COMBINED (AOG/Criminal) NGO INCIDENTS : 2006-2011

(the numbers provided on the graph indicate yearly peaks)



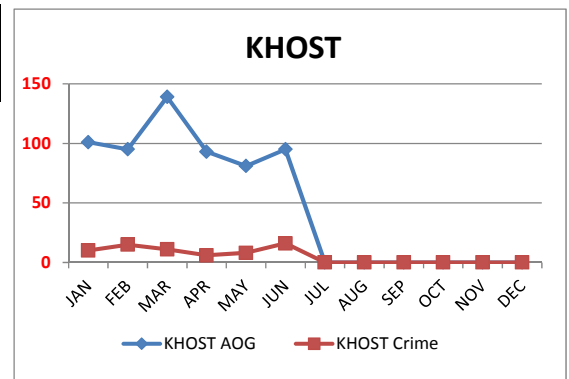
KHOST

	NGO Incidents
Year to Date	3
This Report Period	0

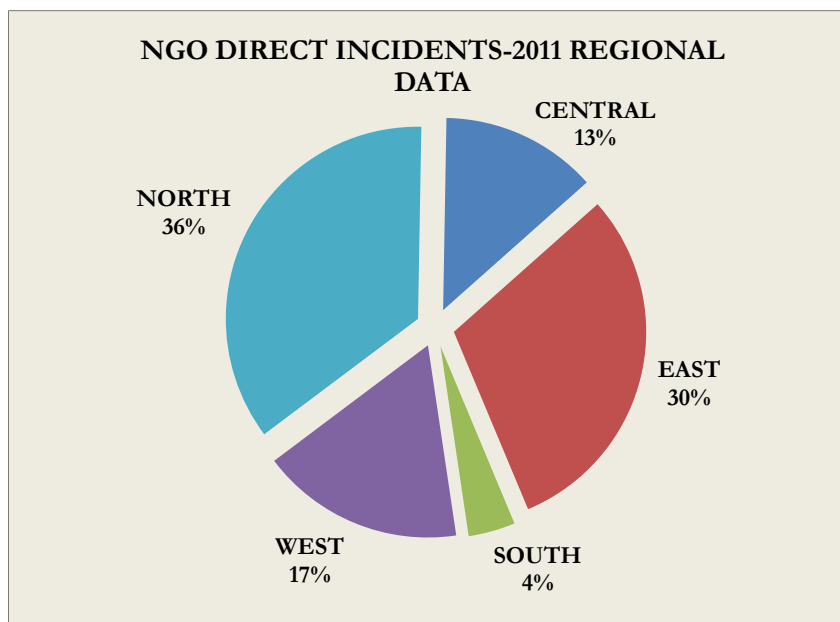
With around 99 security incidents (50% AOG initiated), Khost remains one of the most ‘active’ province within the Eastern Region. In line with previously observed patterns, massive IED deployment continues to shape the security environment in the province as in the last two weeks there were at least 12 detonations and 21 discoveries. This reporting period Khost City was once again an area of concern in regard to IED emplacement, with almost 33% of all recorded IED incidents occurring within the city. Among the 11 reported incidents in the city, 4 devices detonated though no casualties recorded.

The primary targets of IED strikes across the province were ANSF/IMF and PSC vehicles and convoys. In the last fortnight three PSC guards were killed and two ANA soldiers were wounded in such incidents. The diversifica-

tion of AOG tactics continued across the province, in particular, a significant increase in the number of direct attacks has been recorded as compared to the previous cycle with at least 24 AOG initiated direct attacks recorded. The districts of Musa Khel, Sabari, Shamal and Tani accounted for a majority of them. Although the favoured AOG targets were ANSF/IMF patrols, district centres constituted another target of choice. For instance, during this reporting period the Musa Khel DAC came under AOG attack 5 times. Worth noting is that direct attacks accounted for the majority of casualties reported this period. For instance, in a single incident that occurred on the 21st June in Borgai area of Shamal, following an AOG attack on an ANA convoy four locals, including a female, were killed.



IDF assaults have also continued across the province with a focus on Tere Zayi (4 attacks), Spera (3) and Sabari (2). Lastly, ANSF/IMF maintained high tempo of operations throughout the province with 14 documented operations. In the last fortnight operations in Khost City, Musa Khel, Tani and Sabari resulted in numerous suspected AOG detentions. In Sabari alone, 9 documented operations were carried out resulting in the detention of 26 suspected AOG members. Of note, in Tani District, IMF/ANSF conducted an operation in the area of Laghori Peran Village. As a result, a former ANA soldier, who shot and killed an IMF soldier in Uruzgan Province on 30th May, was killed and three other suspected AOG were arrested.



LAGHMAN

	NGO Incidents
Year to Date	1
This Report Period	1

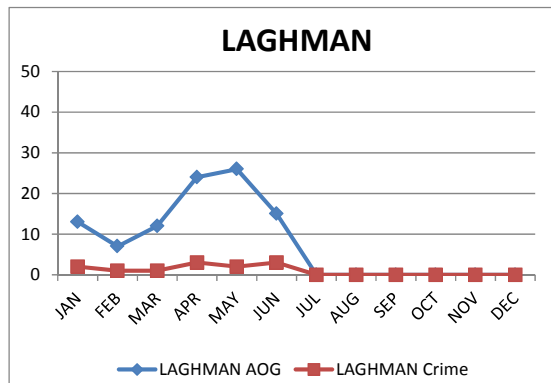
Despite the rather low overall volumes of incidents (10 incidents total, 5 AOG initiated), the province did witness an opportunistic criminal incident which represented the first direct NGO incident since April 2010.

On 18 June, five national staff members of an INGO involved in the health sector went to Sengara (Alingar) for a monitoring visit. After the staff left, the driver was alone their vehicle when five armed individuals showed up, overpowered the driver, and drove away with the INGO vehicle. The community quickly identified the perpetrators and had them return the vehicle by the evening of the next day. According to the NGO’s assessment, the seizure was criminally motivated, and no evidence has been suggested that the incident would be linked to any negative connota-

tions in regards to the NGO and their assistance program.

In another unusual event, four GOA VIPs with backgrounds in Logar (including the District Governor of Azra) were abducted by a sizeable AOG unit (reports vary between 30 to 40 men) at a nighttime checkpoint on the Azizkhan Khas section of the highway in Qarghayi shortly after mid-night on 18 June. The incident took a surprising turn when local elders, and possibly old friendships based on HIG-forged andiwal networks, helped secure the release of the hostages, marking an atypical ending for abductions involving government-related VIPs in the region.

In Bad Pash, a newly created district which underwent several significant IMF clearing operations earlier this year (the area actually



saw some fairly intensive combat operations), an AOG staged a close-range attack against an ANP CP, which went on for 30 minutes before the attackers disengaged. For the rest, Alingar (Alikhel and Sangar) accounted for 2 AOG close-range attacks against patrolling security forces while 2 IEDs were recovered from Wati Jabarkhil (Alingar) and Karnjawa (Alishing). An IMF operation also targeted an AOG compound in Mihtarlam (Ghar Moni, 20 June), and resulted in the detention of two AOG members. Of note, AOG-authored incidents in Laghman dropped by 40% between May and June; a trend-line to monitor as the province approaches transition.

NOTICE: Your input is invaluable for the production of this report. While we appreciate information on incidents, we also need general information on the security situation and context in your area. So please remember to call or email us regularly.

Contact details of ANSO staff are provided on the last page.

ANSO: “..by NGOs for NGOs..”

PAKTYA

	NGO Incidents
Year to Date	3
This Report Period	1

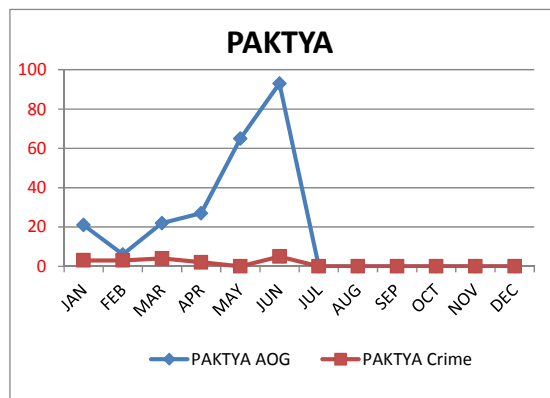
An NGO temporary abduction in Gardez District towards the end of the cycle topped the events in Paktya, highlighting that access along the major roads, rather than work in program areas where an NGO is well-entrenched, represent the principal issue of concern for the community.

Around mid-day on 26 June, a group of 6-7 gunmen kidnapped a party of three INGO national staff members in the Shikhan Shikawa area. While the NGO liaised with the community to resolve the issue, the kidnappers demanded material support in exchange for the safe release of the staff members, a request strictly rejected by the NGO and the community. The kidnapped staff members were eventually released unharmed in the evening, although the abductors retained the NGO's (rented) vehicle. AOG requests for material or financial support ('to finance jihad' in another case recently communicated to ANSO from Jani Khel) are a part of the local landscape, in particular for networks which operate along the main roads. Prior to the abduction, the only two NGO direct incidents were related to de-mining organiza-

tions, including the 21 May temporary abduction of thirty NGO deminers in Tandan Area (Gardez – Logar Highway) and an incident from the previous cycle when AOG confiscated VHF handsets and other communication material from an NGO demining site.

During this cycle, AOG in Paktya sustained their momentum with the amount of AOG-authored incidents equaling the surge in AOG activity during May. The AOG contribution represented 70% of all incidents and a look at the TTP split of AOG attacks reveals a continued prevalence of close-range attacks (25 cases, 60%) over stand-off IDF (14 cases, 34%) and IED strikes (5 cases, 12%). In relation to the latter figure, an additional 7 cases of IED discovery by the security forces were reported.

Among significant developments, the night of 25 June witnessed a ground and air IMF-ANSF offensive in Khake Faqir, which resulted in the killing of three AOG members including a mid-rank commander, and the injuries of an additional 3 members. IMF also released information that on 29



June, another air-strike in Gardez resulted in the elimination of a Haqqani commander, and in a consequent IMF comment linked the commander to the attack against the Intercontinental Hotel in Kabul one day earlier, though this has not been corroborated. An ANP operation in Gardez identified AOG supporters among the security forces, with three individuals (an ANP HQ officer, another police QRF member, an ANA ambulance driver) being arrested. Jani Khel received a portion of the AOG combined SAF/RPG attacks in a string of five such incidents over 10 days. In Chamkani, mortars were used on three different occasions to shell the IMF base and the DAC. Meanwhile, Sayed Karam hosted the highest concentration of AOG initiated attacks per district (8). Despite all of this, NGOs continued to report a 'better-than-usual' access in the province though NGO operational areas north of Gardez City, towards Sayed Karam, the districts bordering Pakistan, and the road to Khost have been singled out as an area worth monitoring in close detail due to their extremely volatile nature.

ANSO Staff Orientation Service: Due the arrival of 2 new staff during the month of July we will be unable to conduct an NGO International Staff Orientation Service until near the end of month. Once a date has been confirmed, an announcement will be made via email and you will be welcome to register any newly arrived (within the last few months) staff. Our apologies for the delay and any inconvenience this may cause.

SOUTHERN REGION

KANDAHAR

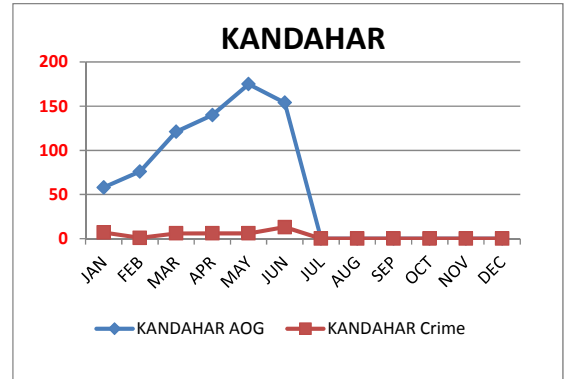
	NGO Incidents
Year to Date	1
This Report Period	0

Although in the past several weeks Kandahar City has not experienced any spectacular AOG attacks, insecurity nonetheless continues to affect the city itself as well as the province as a whole.

This reporting period, AOG activities affected in particular the districts of Zhari, Panjwayi and Kandahar City. In addition to the prevalence of IED deployment in the city and surrounding districts, in the last fortnight AOG remained focused on targeted killings of both local leaders and ANSF/GoA personnel. Apart from these usual targets, an incident of note took place on the 24th June in the Loya Wala area of District 4, when two individuals riding on a motorcycle shot and killed a local employee of an INGO based in Kandahar City. While at this stage a criminal motivation for the attack remains a possibility, the organization's association with the IMF 'stabilization efforts' constitutes a strong case as to the eventual AOG implication. The affected organization has a profile similar to private development organiza-

tions and conducts activities that differ from typical NGOs and has also been the target of numerous attacks in both Kandahar and Helmand provinces. Although as mentioned, isolated criminal act remains a possibility, it should be noted that past incidents clearly indicate that AOGs are capable of distinguishing between private development organizations or affiliated and impartial, independent NGOs, and there is no current indication that this has changed.

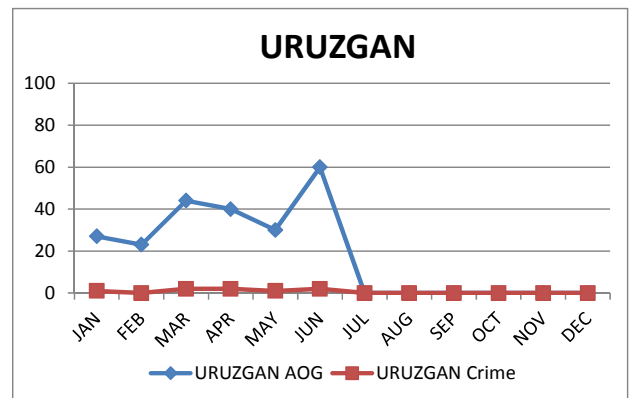
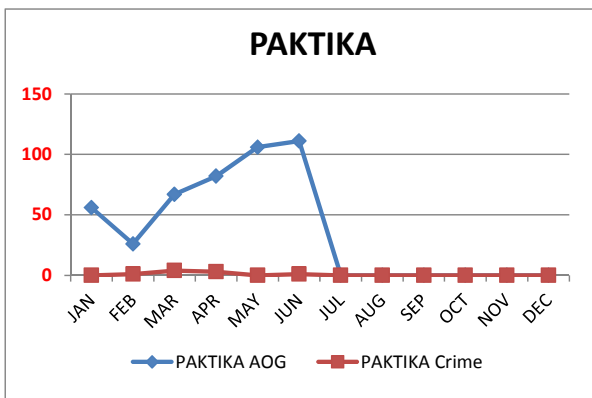
Further targeted killings occurred in District 9, where a member of the Arghandab District Council was killed and in the area of the Red Mosque where an ALP commander (also from Arghandab) was shot and killed by a 'hit team' riding on a motorcycle. Another incident of note occurred in District 1, where the Provincial Director of the Hajj and Religious Affairs Department was killed in the vicinity of his residence. Outside of the city, a noteworthy incident took place in Zhari when AOG operatives opened fire on a



tribal elder while he was praying in a mosque. While the tribal elder survived the attack, four other civilians praying in the same mosque were also wounded.

IED related incidents remained another key feature of this reporting period. At least 56 IED initiated incidents were recorded, the majority of which occurred in Zhari, Panjwayi and Kandahar City. Within the city, two civilians were killed in District 5 when their vehicle struck a roadside device though the most deadly incident was recorded in Maruf District when an IED that hit a local tractor machine, killing four civilians (three women and one man) and wounding three others (two men and one woman).

The second week of this reporting period also saw two ineffective IDF attacks against Kandahar Air Field. On the 22nd a single rocket impacted in the vicinity of KAF, whereas two days later two rockets detonated in an open area also in the proximity of KAF perimeter.



HELMAND

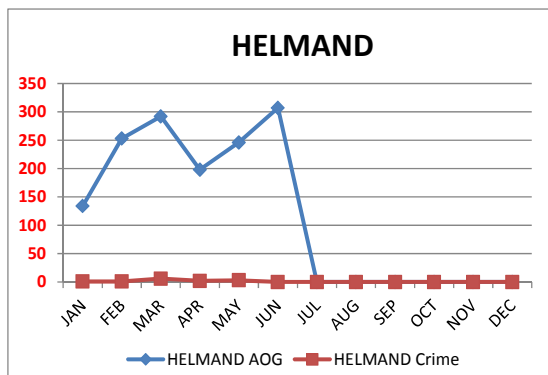
	NGO Incidents
Year to Date	2
This Report Period	2

In addition to a huge number of incidents, Helmand experienced two NGO direct incidents, both involving fatalities. On the 23rd June in Deh Mazang area of Nahri Sarraj District an IMF patrol shot and wounded a de-mining NGO national staff member. The victim was hospitalized in a local clinic, but subsequently died of his injuries. Despite grey areas surrounding the shooting, details of the incident seem to indicate that the NGO worker was likely seen as a suspected AOG and consequently targeted. According to corroborated elements the incident occurred in the proximity to an IMF base in the area known for AOG activity and although the demining team had been working previously in the area on several occasions, another element played possibly a role. During their activities, the staff members were usually wearing clearly identifying clothing; however, on the day of the incident, the victim was wearing plain civilian clothing and was working in the area with a GPS device. The case of mistaken identity of NGO workers by IMF

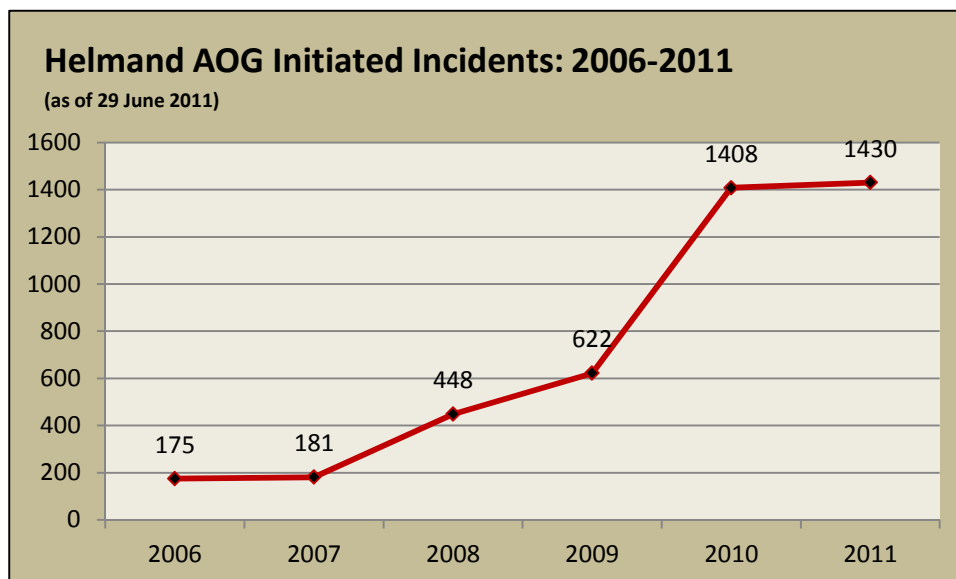
is the first such incident reported in the Southern Region this year.

In the second incident, on 29 June in Naw Zad District, an RCIED struck an NGO de-mining vehicle, killing one de-miner and wounding two others. Peripheral reporting surrounding this incident seems to indicate that the organization was most likely mistakenly targeted. Preliminary reports further suggest that an IMF convoy passed through the same area just prior to the IED detonation. While this suggests that the NGO may not have been the primary target, it should be noted that there are two key dynamics at play; the first being the sheer scope of demining activities throughout the country which has a concomitant exposure risk and the second being that demining activities may at times run counter to AOG objectives. One or both of these may have had a role in this and previous incidents.

In the last two weeks AOG activities were focused on the usual hotspots of Sangin, Marja and Nahri Sarraj districts. Marja Dis-



trict saw a BBIED incident on 20th June, when an AOG member was killed while strapping explosives to his body in a residence prior to conducting an attack. In this reporting period Nahri Sarraj District came to the fore with a significant number of IED related incidents and AOG direct attacks, both tactics in line with previous patterns with generally ineffective direct attacks and IED deployment, in particular in urban centres, remaining a distinctive concern. As previously observed, IED discoveries outnumbered detonations by more than 50%, nonetheless with massive IED deployment civilian casualties are frequent across the province with this reporting period being no exception. On the 18 June in Safiyano Village of Lashkar Gah District, a roadside IED detonated against a local vehicle, wounding four occupants. The provincial capital-Lashkar Gah City- also saw a significant incident, when two days later, on the 20th an IED that was placed in a hand-cart detonated in the Bazaar area, wounding seven civilians.



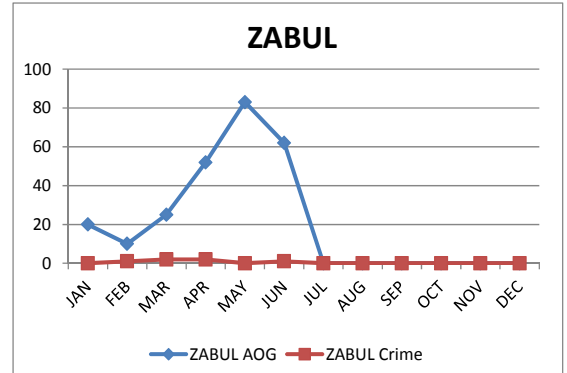
ZABUL

	NGO Incidents
Year to Date	0
This Report Period	0

In Zabul, both ANSF/IMF and AOG have increased their activities as compared to the previous period. In the last fortnight Shahjoy, Shinkay and Qalat accounted for the majority of AOG initiated incidents and these mainly took the form of IED deployment; a continuing feature in the security landscape in the province. However, direct attacks seem to be on the rise across the province in comparison to the previous report. There were at least 21 reported AOG direct attacks, primarily taking place in the aforementioned districts. In regard to direct assaults, the AOG targets of choice remained ANSF/IMF patrol and convoys, followed by ANP check posts. Whereas one PSC guard was killed and another wounded during one of AOG direct attacks, the vast majority of casualties recorded this period in Zabul resulted from IED deployment. At least 30 IED initiated incidents occurred in the past two

weeks, with 12 resulting in detonations. The most notable incident related to IED deployment took place in Qalat City on 29th June, when an RCIED detonated against the vehicle of the Qalat ANP Security Chief. As a result, the official was wounded along with three of his body guards. Of note, the victim of this incident had already been a target of an assassination attempt involving similar TTPs when on 13 June, an RCIED detonated against his vehicle in Shahr-e-Naw Area of Qalat City. While the earlier attack took place in the vicinity of the ANP officer's house, he escaped unharmed. Further IED initiated incidents recorded across the province caused a total of three ANP fatalities and wounded another two ANP along with one IMF soldier.

Similar to other southern provinces AOG intimidation efforts continued in Zabul this period. On



22 June, in the DAC area of Shahjoy, AOG shot and killed an ANP official who was on a foot patrol while prior to this, on the 18th in Qalat District, AOG abducted a 17-year old boy from his house. The victim was subsequently shot and killed allegedly over the accusation of spying for the IMF.

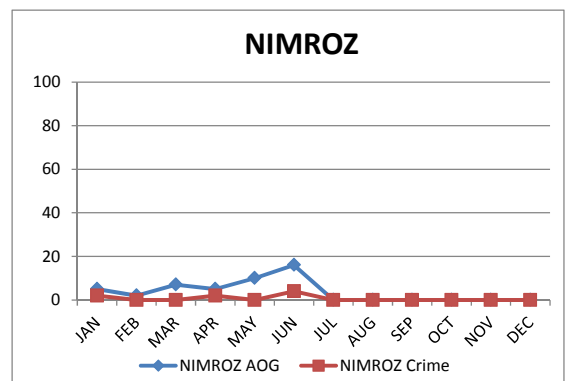
ANSF/IMF on the other hand appeared intent on pressuring AOG operating in the province by launching several noteworthy operations. In the past two weeks besides the districts of Qalat and Daychopan, Tarna Wa Jaldak experienced the majority of military operations. In the said district among 5 documented operations, the use of air assets were reported on three occasions. As a result of these operations, a total of 16 AOG members were killed and another 7 were detained.

NIMROZ

	NGO Incidents
Year to Date	0
This Report Period	0

In this reporting period the security environment in Nimroz continued to follow a familiar pattern. On the one hand, reporting from the province remained relatively limited with 10 incidents recorded; whilst on the other hand it's geographical distribution has not changed, with Khash Rod district as a constant 'hotspot' in the province. In the last two weeks this affirmation was once again backed by data as Khash Rod district accounted for 100% of all reported incidents, with 80% occurring in the Delaram area alone.

IED deployment continues to be the main threat in the area with this period recording 5 IED related incidents, of which 2 resulted in detonation. On 18th June, in the Delaram area, a roadside IED hit a road construction company Mazda truck, seriously wounding one civilian. Another IED strike was reported on the 29th in the same area, targeting this time an IMF vehicle but causing no casualties. In addition, 3 separate AOG direct attacks have been reported in the district. Two



against ANP check posts and one against an IMF patrol. A noteworthy incident took place on 27th June in Landi area, where IMF/ANA engaged with an AOG during a joint operation and IMF air support was called in. As a result, five AOG members (a mid-level commander and four foreign nationals) were killed.

GHAZNI

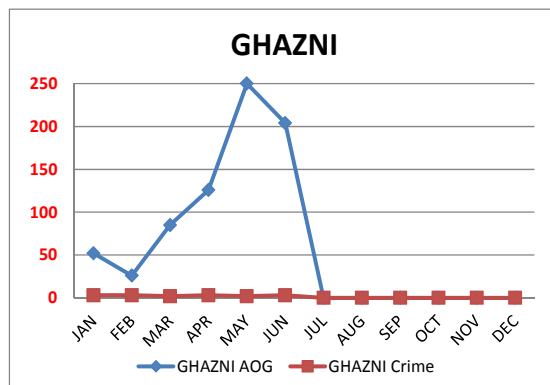
	NGO Incidents
Year to Date	0
This Report Period	0

A comparative 20% drop in AOG-initiated attacks between May and June did little to change the overall security paradigm of Ghazni, with over 200 AOG incidents being recorded for both. 74% of the June incident levels pertained to AOG-initiated attacks, with Highway 1 and DAC attracting the core of significant incidents.

Close-range attacks constituted 60% of AOG activity recorded in June (116 attacks) with the districts of Ghazni, Qarabagh and Andar hosting the majority of these attacks (60% combined). Targeting patterns indicate that a significant proportion of the attacks were dedicated to PSC escorts ensuring the IMF freight traffic along Highway 1, with over 20% of all close-range recorded in Ghazni in June related to this specific category. For instance, one such attack closed the highway in the Shah Baz area (an area which was the scene of a similar incident last period) on the morning of 30 June, locking a PSC escort in an hour-long engagement which resulted in 9 PSC casualties (5 killed, 4 injured). This area was also the scene of another AOG attack on a PSC convoy on the 3rd of June, which resulted in one civilian casualty as a result of the cross-fire.

Following the arrival of an ANP reinforcement, a dispute between ANP and PSC guards degenerated into a fire-fight (due to the death of the civilian) and as a result, three ANP and three PSC guards were killed and eight PSC guards and one civilian were wounded. In an odd conclusion to the incident, the following day, the PSC unit was disarmed and their weapons handed over to DIAG.

Civilian casualties remain a constant feature of the conflict in Ghazni, and largely result from AOG stand-off attacks. This TTP represented 86 incidents in June with 65% being IED detonations (57 cases, with a further 36 devices being neutralized by security forces). A considerable portion of the devices were emplaced in the population centers and as a result, 12 civilians were killed in 8 separate IED detonations during the month of June (4 in Qarabagh, 3 in Ghazni and 1 in Gelan and Deh Yak each). The heaviest toll among these occurred when a public transportation flying coach drove into a pressure plate device on the Highway in Kotale Zardalu (the area where an ANP-ANA check post had been recently established re-



cently) at 0800 hrs. on 27 June. The blast killed four passengers and wounded and additional two occupants.

IMF and ANSF bases attracted 29 IDF attacks and it is the proximity of the bases to population centers (a common feature in the region) collaterally exposes the population to an additional significant threat. Indeed, another attack involving civilian casualties was due to a single rocket strike aimed at the DAC in Ab Band, which impacted in a residential area. As a result, two residents were killed and an additional civilian was wounded. Of note, the Andar DAC alone hosted 40% of all IDF strikes in June. In a more direct case of AOG targeting, ANP recovered the bodies of two male civilians executed over the accusations of spying for the government in Tangi Nazar Khan of Gelan.

The risk linked to the AOG stand-off attacks, namely IED emplacement, incl. victim-operated devices, and inaccurate IDF strikes against the military installations in the district centers represent the most significant risk factor for the civilian population and, concomitantly, the NGO community.



INTERNATIONAL NGO SAFETY ORGANISATION
Analysis & Advice for Humanitarians

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To Register with ANSO
contact:
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advisoryboard@afgnso.org

ANSO ACRONYMS

ACG-Armed Criminal Group /
AEF-Afghan Eradication Forces
/ **ANA**-Afghan National Army /
ANBP-Afghan National Border
Police / **ANP**-Afghan National
Police / **ANCOP**-Afghan National
Civil Order Police / **AOG**-
Armed Opposition Group /
APPF-Afghan Public Protection
Forces (local deputised mili-
tias) / **DC**-District Centre /
GOA-Government of Afghani-
stan / **IDF**-Indirect Fire (ex:
mortars) / **IED**-Improvised Ex-
plosive Device / **IMF**-
International Military Forces /
NDS-National Directorate of
Security (Intelligence) / **PRP**-
Previous Reporting Period /
PSC-Private Security Company
/ **RPG**-Rocket Propelled Gre-
nade / **SAF**-Small Arms Fire /
VBIED-Vehicle Borne Impro-
vised Explosive Device / **PDO**-
Private Development Organisa-
tion / **ALP**-Afghan Local Police
/ **LDI**-Local Defence Initiative /
IEA-Islamic Emirate of Afghani-
stan (Taliban) / **PSG**-Provincial
Shadow Governor (IEA) / **DSG**-
District Shadow Governor (IEA)
/ **APRP**-Afghan Peace and Re-
integration Program

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MISSING

This report ANSO could not provide analysis for the provinces of:

Bamyan
Panjshir
Takhar
Badghis
Farah
Nuristan
Paktika
Uruzgan

This is because we do not know enough about the area to comment on the significance of the incidents occurring there.

If you can help us understand the province better, please contact us.

Dear Colleagues,

Please note that as of the 1st of July 2011 management of the ANSO project will permanently transfer from Welthungerhilfe (formerly known as GAA) to the International NGO Safety Organisation (INSO).

On behalf of all those who have benefitted from ANSO since 2006, I would like to publically extend the deepest gratitude to Welthungerhilfe for their tireless and selfless efforts behind the scenes for the greater good of the NGO community in Afghanistan. Without their encouragement, support and organisational flexibility ANSO would not have been able to develop in to the independent organisation it will become tomorrow. We are all in their debt.

I take the opportunity to reassure all ANSO stakeholders that the transfer, which has mostly occurred already, will not result in any disruption of normal service. Additionally, there is no requirement to reregister for any of the distribution lists. ANSO will remain named ANSO.

Kind Regards,

Nic Lee

Director

Afghanistan NGO Safety Office (ANSO)