



Canada in Afghanistan: 2001-2010

A Military Chronology

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Defence R&D Canada
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Abstract

The following is a chronology of political and military events relating to Canada's military involvement in Afghanistan between September 2001 and March 2010. The chronology includes strategic, operational, and tactical level events and political or military information relating to the initial deployment of forces to Afghanistan. It also covers some global events related to Islamist objectives in Afghanistan and other global events related to the 'War on Terror'. The intent is to produce a rough timeline of major events that can be used to assist various types of qualitative research.

Résumé

Ce qui suit est une chronologie des événements politiques et militaires concernant l'engagement militaire du Canada en Afghanistan entre septembre 2001 et mars 2010. Cette chronologie regroupe les événements de caractère stratégique, opérationnel et tactique ainsi que des renseignements politiques ou militaires concernant le déploiement initial de forces en Afghanistan. Elle englobe aussi certains événements mondiaux relatifs aux objectifs islamistes en Afghanistan et d'autres événements mondiaux concernant la lutte contre le terrorisme. L'objectif est de fournir une première ébauche de chronologie des principaux événements pouvant être utilisée comme support pour différents types de recherche qualitative.

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Executive summary

Canada in Afghanistan: 2001 to 2010: A Military Chronology

Teeple, Nancy; DRDC CORA CR 2010-282; Defence R&D Canada – CORA; December 2010.

Introduction or background: The following is a chronology of political and military events relating to Canada’s military involvement in Afghanistan between September 2001 and March 2010. The chronology includes strategic, operational, and tactical level events and political or military information relating to the initial deployment of forces to Afghanistan. It also covers some global events related to Islamist objectives in Afghanistan and other global events related to the “War on Terror.” The intent is to produce a rough timeline of major events that can be used to assist various types of qualitative research.

Results: This chronology was developed using unclassified sources including news media, professional military and academic journals, Canadian and other government publications, monographs, official NATO material, Islamist and Taliban propaganda, and through consultation with some Canadian Forces personnel.

The methodology employed for the compilation of this chronology was a simple and straightforward research process, in which basic facts were recorded and, if possible, corroborated with other sources. These basic facts were used to create a rough skeleton of the chronology. The process began with an initial consultation of government publications and monograph accounts of the Canadian Forces in Afghanistan. These documents helped establish the strategic and major operational events of the mission. Professional judgement was used to determine relevancy of facts for the basic skeleton.

The second step involved fleshing out the skeleton with detail from news media, academic sources, professional military journals, and other periodical publications. News media filled in gaps in terms of dates and actors. However as news reports are susceptible to errors from incomplete information or deadline pressures, it was considered necessary to corroborate these with other sources. In some cases, this also involved consultation with serving CF personnel. Professional and academic sources were useful to a limit, as they provided less event-date information, with the greater focus on analysis of situations, operations, and socio-political factors.

This study does not attempt to provide a comprehensive account of all activities conducted by the CF in or related to Afghanistan. It simply provides a selection of the more significant events at the political and all three levels of warfare which can assist the researcher to understand the timeline of events that has occurred since Canada committed military forces to operations in Afghanistan between 2001 and 2010.

Significance: This chronology is the first of its type to be drafted for the length of Canada’s involvement in Afghanistan and should prove a useful research tool to any defence science research related to current or past activities in the country. This work is related to two additional

chronologies covering Canada's involvement in Afghanistan, each utilizing a different Canadian print media publication as its primary material.

Future plans: Current intent is to have this chronology updated to the end of the Canadian mission in Afghanistan, currently planned for 2011, sometime in 2012.

Sommaire

Canada in Afghanistan: 2001 to 2010: A Military Chronology

Teeple, Nancy; DRDC CORA CR 2010-282; R & D pour la défense Canada – CORA; Décembre 2010.

Introduction: Ce qui suit est une chronologie des événements politiques et militaires concernant l'engagement militaire du Canada en Afghanistan entre septembre 2001 et mars 2010. Cette chronologie regroupe les événements de caractère stratégique, opérationnel et tactique ainsi que des renseignements politiques ou militaires concernant le déploiement initial de forces en Afghanistan. Elle englobe aussi certains événements mondiaux relatifs aux objectifs islamistes en Afghanistan et d'autres événements mondiaux concernant la lutte contre le terrorisme. L'objectif est de fournir une première ébauche de chronologie des principaux événements pouvant être utilisée comme support pour différents types de recherche qualitative.

Résultats: Cette chronologie a été élaborée en utilisant des sources non classifiées parmi lesquelles se trouvent des médias d'information, des revues professionnelles militaires et universitaires, des publications gouvernementales canadiennes et étrangères, des monographies, des documents officiels de l'OTAN, de la propagande islamiste et talibane et en consultant certains membres du personnel des Forces canadiennes.

Pour compiler cette chronologie, la méthodologie employée a été une procédure de recherche simple et directe, dans laquelle les faits connus ont été enregistrés et corroborés par d'autres sources, lorsque cela a été possible. Ces faits connus ont été utilisés pour dresser les grandes lignes de la chronologie. Le processus a débuté par une première consultation des publications officielles et des monographies concernant les Forces canadiennes en Afghanistan. Ces documents ont permis de déterminer les principaux événements stratégiques et opérationnels de la mission. Le jugement professionnel a été employé pour établir la pertinence des faits par rapport à la structure de base de la chronologie.

La deuxième étape a consisté en un remplissage de la structure de base à l'aide de renseignements provenant de médias d'information, de sources universitaires, de revues professionnelles militaires et d'autres publications périodiques. Les médias d'information ont permis de combler des lacunes en matière de dates et d'intervenants. Cependant, dans la mesure où les comptes rendus de presse peuvent contenir des erreurs à cause d'informations incomplètes ou de délais serrés, nous avons considéré qu'il était nécessaire de corroborer ces renseignements par d'autres sources. Dans certains cas, cela a aussi demandé une consultation du personnel des Forces canadiennes en poste. Les sources professionnelles et universitaires n'ont été utiles que jusqu'à un certain point, car elles fournissaient moins de renseignements quant à la datation des événements, portant une attention plus soutenue à l'analyse des situations, des opérations et des facteurs sociopolitiques.

Cette étude n'a pas pour but de fournir un récit complet de toutes les activités menées par les Forces canadiennes en Afghanistan ou en relation avec ce pays. Elle se contente de fournir une sélection des événements les plus significatifs au niveau politique et à chacun des trois niveaux de conduite de la guerre sur laquelle les chercheurs peuvent s'appuyer pour comprendre la

chronologie des événements qui se sont déroulés depuis que le Canada a engagé des forces armées en Afghanistan entre 2001 et 2010.

Importance: Cette chronologie est la première de ce type à être dressée depuis que le Canada est engagé en Afghanistan et elle devrait se révéler un outil utile à tout travail de recherche en sciences militaires sur les activités actuelles ou passées dans le pays. Ce travail est lié à deux autres chronologies concernant le rôle du Canada en Afghanistan, chacune d'elles utilisant comme matériel de base une publication différente de la presse écrite canadienne.

Perspectives: Le but actuel est de fournir dans le courant de l'année 2012 cette chronologie mise à jour à la fin de la mission canadienne en Afghanistan, prévue en ce moment pour 2011.

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1 Introduction

The following is a chronology of political and military events relating to Canada's military involvement in Afghanistan between September 2001 and March 2010. The chronology includes strategic, operational, and tactical level events and political or military information relating to the initial deployment of forces to Afghanistan. It also covers some global events related to Islamist objectives in Afghanistan and other global events related to the "War on Terror." The intent is to produce a rough timeline of major events that can be used to assist various types of qualitative research.

This project was funded, and is support of, DRDC CORA Applied Research Project "12qr Influence Activities Capability Assessment" being led by Neil Chuka. The research was supervised by Dr. Michael Hennessy at the Royal Military College of Canada.

1.1 Methodology

This chronology was developed using unclassified sources including news media, professional military and academic journals, Canadian and other government publications, monographs, official NATO material, Islamist and Taliban propaganda, and through consultation with some Canadian Forces personnel.

This account is organized into year – month – day entries progressing from September 2001 to March 2010, with endnotes providing the information sources on the events described.

The methodology employed for the compilation of this chronology was a simple and straightforward research process, in which basic facts were recorded and, if possible, corroborated with other sources. These basic facts were used to create a rough skeleton of the chronology. The process began with an initial consultation of government publications and monograph accounts of the Canadian Forces in Afghanistan. These documents helped establish the strategic and major operational events of the mission. Professional judgement was used to determine relevancy of facts for the basic skeleton.

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This Contract Report does not attempt to provide a comprehensive account of all activities conducted by the CF in or related to Afghanistan. It simply provides a selection of the more significant events at the political and all three levels of warfare which can assist the researcher to understand the timeline of events that has occurred since Canada committed military forces to operations in Afghanistan between 2001 and 2010.

The remainder of this Contract Report is organized annually, meaning, section two will cover the year 2001, section three 2002, and so on. Because there is no analysis involved, no conclusion is provided. A list of Canadian operations in Afghanistan between 2001 and 2009 is provided for date reference in Annex A. A regional map of Afghanistan is provided in Annex B.

2 2001 (11 September to 31 December)

2.1 September 2001

11 September

- Terrorist strikes destroy the World Trade Center in New York City and damages the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.¹
- Although intelligence agencies and the FBI suspected (and later confirmed) Osama Bin Laden of masterminding the attacks through his Al Qaeda organization, Taliban spokesperson Abdul Hai Mutmaen was quoted in the media stating that Bin Laden was not responsible.
- Taliban spiritual leader Mullah Omar condemned the attacks, but denied that Bin Laden was responsible.
- Reports of celebration for the attacks among the Palestinian populations in the West Bank, whose struggle with Israel reinforced hostility towards the United States.²
- Canada's initial response to the attacks is **Operation Support** which involves the diversion and rerouting of civilian aircraft to Canadian airports; increase in emergency preparedness and response to humanitarian assistance—HMCS Preserver, Iroquois, and Ville de Quebec were placed on readiness alert to assist the U.S. in the event of another attack; the Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) was readied to deploy from 8 Wing CFB Trenton; CF-18 fighter aircraft were strategically placed throughout Canada; Canadian intelligence is made available to the U.S.³

12 September

- NATO North Atlantic Council (NAC) convenes.⁴
- The Council agrees that since the attack was directed against the United States from abroad, it constitutes an armed attack against the Parties of the North Atlantic Treaty, in accordance with Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949.⁵ Thus, in recognition of the provisions

¹ Currently, the most authoritative source on these events is U.S. Government *The 9/11 Commission Report* (New York: W.W. Norton, 2004).

² Schmemmann, Serge, "Hijacked Jets Destroy Twin Towers and Hit Pentagon," *New York Times*, 12 September 2001, accessed at <http://www.nytimes.com/2001/09/12/national/12PLAN.html> on 26 September 2010.

³ DND, "The Canadian Forces' Contribution to the International Campaign Against Terrorism," DND-CF Backgrounder, 7 January 2004, accessed at <http://www.cfc.com.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/nr-sp/doc-eng.asp?id=490> on 27 January 2010; Peter Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan: the war so far* (Toronto: Dundurn, 2007), p. 82.

⁴ NATO, "Statement by the North Atlantic Council," NATO Press Release (2001)124, Brussels: 12 September 2001, accessed at <http://www.nato.int/docu/pr/2001/p01-124e.htm> on 26 January 2010.

⁵ North Atlantic Treaty Organization, "The North Atlantic Treaty," Article 5, Washington D.C.: 4 April 1949, accessed at http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/official_texts_17120.htm on 26 January 2010.

of Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations,⁶ Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty acknowledged the right of the United States and its allies within the Treaty to respond with the use of armed force.⁷ The United Nations Security Council reaffirmed the principles and purposes of the UN Charter, and issued Resolution 1368 which condemned threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts, recognizing the right of individual or collective self-defence in accordance with the Charter.⁸

17 September

- U.S. President George W. Bush identifies Osama Bin Laden as the prime suspect for masterminding the attacks against the World Trade Centre and the Pentagon⁹

20 September

- President Bush announces the “War on Terror.”¹⁰
- Canadian Minister of National Defence, Art Eggleton, authorizes over 100 CF members serving in exchange postings abroad to participate with their host nations in operations conducted in response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks.¹¹

28 September

- United Nations sanctions *Operation Enduring Freedom*.¹²

⁶ United Nations, “Chapter VII: Action with Respect to Threats to the Peace, Breaches of the Peace, and Acts of Aggression,” Article 51, Charter of the United Nations, signed on 26 June 1945 in San Francisco, and came into force on 24 October 1945, accessed at <http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter/chapter7.shtml> on 26 January 2010.

⁷ “The North Atlantic Treaty,” Article 5.

⁸ United Nations Security Council, Resolution 1368 (2001): Adopted by the Security Council at its 4370th Meeting, 12 September, 2001, S/RES/1368 (2001), accessed at: <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N01/533/82/PDF/N0153382.pdf?OpenElement> on 26 January 2010.

⁹ CNN, “Bush: Bin Laden ‘Prime Suspect’,” CNN, 17 September 2001, accessed at <http://archives.cnn.com/2001/US/09/17/bush.powell.terrorism/> on 27 January 2010.

¹⁰ An earlier statement by President Bush on September 16 used the phrase, “This crusade, this war on terrorism is going to take a while”—Lyons, Jonathan, “Bush Enters Mideast’s Rhetorical Minefield,” Reuters, 21 September 2001, accessed at http://www.greenspun.com/bboard/q-and-a-fetch-msg.tcl?msg_id=006SM3 on 26 January 2010.

¹¹ National Defence, “Operation Support, October 2001-October 2003 – The Canadian Forces’ Contribution to the International Campaign Against Terrorism,” Backgrounder (BG 02.001p), 7 January 2004, accessed at <http://comfec-cefcom.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/nr-sp/doc-eng.asp?id=490> on 26 January 2010.

¹² Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 64.

2.2 October 2001

1 October

- Canadian Naval and Aerospace forces deploy to set up Camp Mirage at Minhad Air Force Base, in the desert South of Dubai, UAE.¹³

2 October

- U.S. National Security Council approves decision to initiate Enduring Freedom.¹⁴ NATO Secretary-General Lord Robertson announces approval for Operation Enduring Freedom under Article 5 of the Treaty of Washington.¹⁵

5 October

- United States requests Canadian contribution to international military coalition operating against al Qaeda specifically and international terrorism in general.¹⁶

7 October

- Following an ultimatum to give up Bin Laden, the U.S. rejects offer put forth by the Taliban's Ambassador to Pakistan—Abdul Salam Zaeef—to try Bin Laden in an Islamic court in Afghanistan.¹⁷
- **Invasion of Afghanistan—Operation Enduring Freedom (U.S.)**—U.S. and British combat air assault strikes on Kabul, Kabul International Airport, Taliban and Government of Afghanistan head Mullah Omar's home in Kandahar, and training camps in Jalalabad.
- The Taliban proclaim these strikes as an “attack on Islam.”¹⁸
- Food, medicine, and supplies dropped to civilian Afghans.¹⁹

¹³ DND, “Air Traffic Technicians a Crucial Part of Camp Mirage,” *Canada's Air Force News Room*, 25 February 2008, accessed at <http://www.airforce.forces.gc.ca/8w-8e/nr-sp/index-eng.asp?id=5671> on 9 February 2010. Koring, Paul, and Borzou Daragahi, “The Worst-Kept Secret in the Persian Gulf,” *Persian Gulf Online*, accessed at <http://www.persiangulfonline.org/takeaction/news0605-2.htm>. Originally published as “The Canadian Forces Base at Camp Mirage is Having Trouble Staying Under Wraps,” *The Globe and Mail*, 21 May 2005, accessed at <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/ArticleNews/TPStory/LAC/20050521/SOFAMIRAGE21/TPInternational/Africa> on 9 February 2010.

¹⁴ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 64.

¹⁵ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 82.

¹⁶ CTV, “Chretien: Canadian Troops ‘Will do Canada Proud’,” Address by former Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, *CTV News*, 7 October 2001, accessed at http://www.ctv.ca/servlet/ArticleNews/story/CTVNews/1025062429054_20471629 on 28 January 2010.

¹⁷ CNN, “U.S. Rejects Taliban Offer to Try Bin Laden,” *CNN*, 7 October 2001, accessed at <http://archives.cnn.com/2001/US/10/07/ret.us.taliban/> on 28 January 2010.

¹⁸ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 64.

- President Bush announces start of military strikes against Al Qaeda training camps and military installations of the Taliban regime in Afghanistan. The statement indicates that the U.S. had been joined in these efforts by close allies, such as Great Britain, Canada, Australia, Germany, and France.²⁰
- Prime Minister Jean Chretien officially commits Canadian Forces' sea, air, and land support to the international campaign against terrorism²¹ through the *Operation Apollo*.
- The Canadian Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), General Ray Henault issued orders to CF.²²

8 October

- Commencement of **Operation Apollo** (October 2001-2003). Command falls to Canadian Joint Task Force South West Asia, HQ'd at Canadian National Command Element, located at U.S. CENTCOM, MacDill Air Base near Tampa, Florida. Command of CA JTFSWA by Commodore Jean-Pierre Thiffault (October 2001-April 2002).²³
- Defence Minister Art Eggleton commits 2000 CF personnel to Op Apollo,²⁴ including six naval ships—two frigates, a destroyer and a supply ship along with Sea King helicopters, six air force planes—CFB Trenton to supply three C-130 Hercules transport planes, one airbus and two CP-140 Aurora maritime patrol aircraft; and elements of JTF2, in a deployment that was set to last 6 months.²⁵
- CDS General Henault indicates Op Apollo to end October 2003.²⁶
- Defence Minister Eggleton states that Canada had already responded to U.S. requests for military assistance, providing additional CF-18 fighter jets for increased NORAD vigilance and hundreds of personnel for intelligence gathering and surveillance.²⁷
- Canada deploys a naval task group into the AOR of U.S. CENTCOM (from the Horn of Africa to Central Asia)²⁸ and dispatched HMCS *Halifax* and HMCS *Vancouver* to the Persian Gulf to join a U.S. carrier battle group.²⁹

¹⁹ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 64.

²⁰ The White House, "Presidential Address to the Nation," Office of the Press Secretary, Washington, D.C.: 7 October 2001, accessed at <http://georgewbush-whitehouse.archives.gov/news/releases/2001/10/print/20011007-8.html> on 26 January 2010.

²¹ DND, "Operation Support." CTV, "Canada Pledges 2000 Troops to U.S.-led Campaign," *CTV News*, 9 October 2001, accessed at http://www.ctv.ca/servlet/ArticleNews/story/CTVNews/1025062497948_20471697 on 28 January 2010.

²² DND, "Operation Support."

²³ National Defence, "Operations and Exercises: Background Summaries: Summary: Operation APOLLO (October 2001-October 2003), Canadian Navy, accessed at http://www.navy.forces.gc.ca/cms/4/4-a_eng.asp?id=504 on 26 January 2010.

²⁴ DND, "Operation Support."

²⁵ CTV, "Canada Pledges 2000 Troops," 2001; Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 84 describes a strategic airlift detachment of a single CC-150 Polaris transport aircraft, 3 CC-130 Hercules to deliver humanitarian aid and supplies, a Canadian battle group to work with U.S. forces in and around Kandahar.

²⁶ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 83.

²⁷ CTV, "Canada Pledges 2000 Troops," 2001.

²⁸ DND - Navy, "Operations and Exercises."

17 October

- Deployment of HMCS *Iroquois*, HMCS *Preserver*, and HMCS *Charlottetown* from Halifax to join HMCS *Halifax* in theatre.³⁰

2.3 November 2001

- Osama Bin Laden's last stand against coalition forces in Tora Bora region of Afghanistan. Bin Laden evades capture.³¹
- Canada deploys long-range transport aircraft and two surveillance and maritime patrol aircraft to provide reconnaissance and surveillance support to operations in the southwest Asia operational theatre.³²
- Canadian Abdurahman Khadr arrested as a suspected member of Al Qaeda.³³

9 November

- Fall of Mazar-i-Sharif to the Northern Alliance, supported by U.S. SOF and air elements. Fall of Mazar-i-Sharif clears land logistics route from Uzbekistan into Afghanistan.³⁴

12/13 November

- Fall of Taliban government in Kabul to the Northern Alliance.³⁵

²⁹ CTV, "Canada Pledges 2000 Troops," 2001.

³⁰ DND, "Canadian Forces Commitment in Afghanistan to Date," DND-CF Backgrounder, 16 May 2005, accessed at <http://www.forces.gc.ca/site/news-nouvelles/news-nouvelles-eng.asp?cat=00&id=1661> on 25 February 2010.

³¹ Strogan, Pat, "Fledgling Swans Take Flight: The Third Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry in Afghanistan," *Canadian Army Journal*, Vol. 7, No. 3, 2004, p. 18, accessed at http://www.army.forces.gc.ca/caj/documents/vol_07/iss_3/CAJ_vol7.3_04_e.pdf on 30 January 2010.

³² Cox, Jim, "Afghanistan: The Canadian Military Mission," *Library of Parliament InfoSeries, Parliamentary Information and Research Series (PRB 07-19E)*, Political and Social Affairs Division, 6 November 2007, accessed at <http://www.parl.gc.ca/information/library/PRBpubs/prb0719-e.pdf> on 31 January 2010.

³³ CBC, "The Khadr Family," *CBC News InDepth*, 30 October 2006, accessed at <http://www.cbc.ca/news/background/khadr/> on 8 February 2010.

³⁴ BBC, "Mazar-e-Sharif: Vital Target," *BBC News*, 9 November 2001, accessed at http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/south_asia/1602657.stm on 2 February 2010; ---, "The Battle for Mazar-i-Sharif," *New York Times*, 10 November 2001, accessed at <http://www.nytimes.com/2001/11/10/opinion/the-battle-for-mazar-i-sharif.html?pagewanted=1>.

³⁵ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 65.

25 November

The Northern Alliance with support from U.S. and UK Special Forces put down a violent revolt at a prison compound in Mazar-i-Sharif (the Qala-i-Jangi fortress) by hundreds of Pakistani, Chechen, Arab, and Afghan combatants captured near Kunduz province.³⁶

- U.S. Marines set up Forward Operating Base (FOB) in the desert South of Kandahar.³⁷

2.4 December 2001

- Ottawa orders deployment of CF SOF elements to Southern Afghanistan³⁸ to operate with US “Task Force K-Bar.”³⁹ Deployment of CF SOF elements not made public.

5 December

- Mullah Omar surrenders Kandahar to Hamid Karzai (leader of Pashtun forces against the Taliban) in return for amnesty.⁴⁰

6 December

- Fall of Kandahar and the border town of Spin Boldak.⁴¹
- End of Taliban control in Afghanistan.⁴²
- Mullah Omar escapes with loyalists to the mountains of Uruzgan Province.⁴³

20 December

- **International Security Assistance Force** to Afghanistan (ISAF) under U.N. Security Council Resolution 1386, established during the Bonn Conference.⁴⁴

³⁶ ---, “Mazar-e-Sharif Airfield,” *GlobalSecurity.Org*, 12 November 2008, accessed at http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/afghanistan/mazar-e-sharif_afld.htm on 2 February 2010; Perry, Alex, “Inside the Battle at Qala-I-Jangi,” *Time*, 10 December 2001, accessed at <http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,1001390-1,00.html> on 3 February 2010.

³⁷ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 65.

³⁸ Stein, Janice Gross, and Eugene Lang, *The Unexpected War: Canada in Kandahar* (Toronto: Penguin Canada, 2007), p. 11.

³⁹ CBC, “JTF2: Canada’s Super-secret Commandos,” *CBC New, In Depth*, 15 July 2005, accessed at <http://www.cbc.ca/news/background/cdnmilitary/jtf2.html> on 2 February 2010.

⁴⁰ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 65.

⁴¹ Ibid.

⁴² Ibid.

⁴³ Ibid.

⁴⁴ ISAF, About ISAF - History, NATO - International Security Assistance Force Afghanistan (undated), accessed at <http://www.isaf.nato.int/en/our-history/> on 27 January 2010; United Nations, “Agreement on Provisional Arrangements in Afghanistan Pending the Re-establishment of Permanent Government Institutions” (i.e., Afghan Bonn Agreement), United Nations News (undated), accessed at <http://www.un.org/News/dh/latest/afghan/afghan-agree.htm> on 27 January 2010; United Nations Security

- Deployment of 40 JTF2 operatives to Afghanistan confirmed by Defence Minister Art Eggleton⁴⁵ after photographs revealed JTF2 soldiers escorting captured Al Qaeda prisoners from an aircraft.⁴⁶ JTF2 elements were deployed in early December, but their exact location had not been disclosed until Eggleton announced that the troops were assisting U.S., British, and Australian Special Forces, in addition to local Afghan fighters around Kandahar. No operational details regarding the unit are reported.⁴⁷
- Kandahar airfield secured by 1500 U.S. Marines for military use. Small camp for 300 Afghan POWs established.⁴⁸
- CIA and U.S. SOF attack Tora Bora mountain cave complexes (on the Pakistan border 50 km southwest of Jalalabad) and captured an estimated 1700 Taliban and Al Qaeda members.⁴⁹

Council, Resolution 1386 (2001), adopted by the Security Council at its 4443rd meeting, on 20 December 2001, S/RES/1386 (2001), accessed at [http://www.undemocracy.com/S-RES-1386\(2001\).pdf](http://www.undemocracy.com/S-RES-1386(2001).pdf) on 27 January 2010.

⁴⁵ Stein and Lang, *The Unexpected War*, p. 11.

⁴⁶ CBC, "JTF2," 2005.

⁴⁷ CTV, "Canadian Commandos in Kandahar: Eggleton," *CTV News*, 19 December 2001, accessed at http://www.ctv.ca/servlet/ArticleNews/story/CTVNews/1025060067549_20469267 on 28 January 2010.

⁴⁸ CTV, "Canadian Commandos," 2001.

⁴⁹ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, pp. 65-66.

3.1 January 2002

- Development of an All Source Intelligence Centre (ASIC) concept in Canadian military intelligence in Afghanistan—designed to be a singular nexus of collection, processing and dissemination, which has been noted to be successful in supporting national task forces, battle groups, company groups, and special operations task forces. ASIC has been described as joint organization capable of supporting all services and components on deployed operations.⁵⁰
- NDHQ tasks 3 PPCLI to execute four tasks in Afghanistan: airfield security—**Operation Vigilant**, sensitive site exploitation (**Operation Torii**), humanitarian aid, and combat operations—**Operation Harpoon** (to neutralize the enemy in the Shaw-I-Kot Valley).⁵¹ 3 PPCLI had 3 enhanced infantry companies, a Coyote surveillance squadron, and elements of 2 Electronic Warfare Squadron with which to support U.S. Task Force Rakkasan operations to establish a secure base of operations at Kandahar airport.⁵²
- Discussion in the Canadian House of Commons regarding the treatment of captured Taliban prisoners—Defence Minister Art Eggleton assured the House of Commons that any prisoners captured by CF would receive fair trial and Canadian troops would respect international law, although “international law does not prohibit the use of the death penalty with respect to military tribunals.”⁵³
- Canada officially establishes Camp Mirage in the Persian Gulf to serve as a theatre support base.⁵⁴

21 January

- Advance party of CF Tactical Airlift Detachment departs 8 Wing Trenton for Camp Mirage to prepare the infrastructure to operate 3 CC-130 Hercules transport aircraft and provide an air bridge to the operational theatre.⁵⁵

⁵⁰ Sterzer, Marcus, Patrick McDuff, Jacek Flasz, “Note to File—The Challenge of Centralized Control Faced by the Intelligence Function in Afghanistan,” *Canadian Army Journal*, Vol. 11, No. 2, Summer 2008, p. 100; Ohlke, Gordon, “Army News—The All Source Intelligence Centre,” *Canadian Army Journal*, Vol. 10, No. 3, 2005; Remillard, L.H., “The ‘All-Source’ Way of Doing Business—The Evolution of Intelligence in Modern Military Operations,” *Canadian Military Journal*, Autumn 2007, accessed at http://www.freerepublic.com/focus/f-news/1975190/posts_on_9_March_2010; Ellis, W.J., “Comd TFK End Tour Report Operation Athena Roto 2: 9 Aug 04 – 10 Feb 05,” *The Bulletin*, Vol. 11, No. 2, March 2005, p. 3, accessed at <http://armyapp.forces.ca/allc-clra/Downloads/bulletin/TheBulletinVol11No2Eng.pdf> on 9 March 2010.

⁵¹ Strogan, “Fledgling Swans Take Flight,” p. 15.

⁵² Maloney, Sean, *Enduring the Freedom: a Rogue Historian in Afghanistan* (Washington DC: Potomac, 2005), p. 59.

⁵³ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 86.

⁵⁴ Minnich, “Task Force Afghanistan,” p. 18.

⁵⁵ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p.87.

22 January

- Canada establishes diplomatic ties with Afghanistan for the first time since 1979.⁵⁶

29 January

- Defence Minister Art Eggleton admits that CF SOF has captured prisoners in Afghanistan and turned them over to the U.S. military.⁵⁷

3.2 February 2002

2 February

- Initial elements of 3 PPCLI Battle Group comprised of 140 soldiers arrive in Kandahar for 6 months on the above described mission, in assistance to U.S. OEF.⁵⁸

3.3 March 2002

1 to 18 March

- U.S. *Operation Anaconda* begins in the Shaw-I-Kot (Shahikot) Valley under Task Force Mountain, conducted by the 101st Airborne Division supported by the 10th Mountain Division.⁵⁹ The objective is to flush out remaining Taliban and Al Qaeda fighters from Afghanistan's eastern mountains on the border with Pakistan. **Operation Harpoon** (*March 13-19 2002*) comprised the Canadian component of the offensive, which involved 2000 coalition troops, including fire support from the 3PPCLI of Canadian Forces.⁶⁰ Canadian snipers commended by U.S. forces for their contribution to this operation, followed by an investigation and controversy in Canada over the killing of enemy combatants.⁶¹

⁵⁶ CBC, "Afghanistan: Timeline of Canada's Involvement from 2001-2006," *CBC News, In Depth*, 9 November 2006, accessed at <http://www.cbc.ca/news/background/afghanistan/timeline.html> on 1 February 2010.

⁵⁷ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 87.

⁵⁸ CBC, "Canada in Afghanistan," *CBC News In Depth*, 10 February 2009, accessed at <http://www.cbc.ca/canada/story/2009/02/10/f-afghanistan.html> on 1 February 2010.

⁵⁹ Strogan, "Fledgling Swans Take Flight," p. 15. Kugler, Richard L., Michael Baranick, Hans Binnendijk, "Operation Anaconda: Lessons for Joint Operations," (Washington, D.C.: Center for Technology and National Security Policy, National Defense University, March 2009), accessed at http://www.ndu.edu/ctnsp/Def_Tech/DTP%2060%20Operation%20Anaconda.pdf on 2 February 2010.

⁶⁰ Krushelnycky, Askold, "Afghanistan: U.S., Canadian Troops Reflect on Fighting in Operation Anaconda," *Radio Free Europe*, 20 March 2002, accessed at <http://www.rferl.org/content/article/1099140.html> on 3 February 2002.

⁶¹ Friscolanti, Michael, "We Were Abandoned," *Maclean's*, 15 May 2006, accessed at http://www.macleans.ca/canada/national/article.jsp?content=20060515_126689_126689 on 2 February 2010.

28 March

- Establishment of the United Nations Assistance Mission to Afghanistan (UNAMA).⁶²

3.4 April 2002

- Brigadier-General Michel Gauthier assumes command of JTFSWA (April-November 2002).⁶³

18 April

- Tarnak Farm Incident: USAF F-16s accidentally target a 3 PPCLI night training exercise 5km south of Kandahar, killing 4 Canadian soldiers and wounding 8.⁶⁴ Private Nathan Smith, Sergeant Marc Leger, Private Richard Green, and Corporal Ainsworth Dyer, all from 3 PPCLI, KIA.⁶⁵

3.5 May 2002

4 May

- **Operation Torii** launched in the Tora Bora region, involving coalition forces (including 400 Canadians) to find Taliban and Al Qaeda in the cave complexes, gather intelligence, and destroy the complexes to prevent enemy forces from using them in the future.⁶⁶
 - ♦ Significance of Operation Torii: This operation represented a “reconnaissance-in-force” task near the cave complexes near Tora Bora with the objective of gathering information and evidence on Al Qaeda and finding Bin Laden. Although Bin Laden was not found, the mission was reported as a success because the 3 PPCLI “exhumed a large amount of evidence on the Al Qaeda, denied them future operations in the valley, and demonstrated that the Coalition was prepared to go anywhere, anytime to close with and destroy the Al Qaeda. The operation also, once again, showcased to the Coalition the skills and capabilities of Canadian soldiers.”⁶⁷

⁶² United Nations Security Council, Resolution 1401, adopted by the Security Council at its 4501st meeting, on 28 March 2002, S/RES/1401 (2002), accessed at <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N02/309/14/PDF/N0230914.pdf?OpenElement> on 29 January 2010.

⁶³ DND Backgrounder, “Canadian Forces’ Contribution,” 2004.

⁶⁴ CBC, “Afghanistan: Timeline,” 2006. U.S. Centcom, Canada, accessed at <http://www.centcom.mil/en/countries/coalition/canada/> on 3 February 2010. DND gives the date of the incident as April 17 2002—DND-CF, Canadian Forces Commitment, 2005.

⁶⁵ CBC, “Afghanistan: In the Line of Duty: Canada’s Casualties,” *CBC News In Depth*, 18 January 2010, accessed at <http://www.cbc.ca/news/background/afghanistan/casualties/list.html> on 11 February 2010.

⁶⁶ U.S. Centcom, Canada.

⁶⁷ Strogan, “Fledgling Swans Take Flight,” p. 18.

21 May

- Canada announces that all 750 ground troops will be withdrawn from Afghanistan by August 2002, although air, sea, and SOF are to remain.⁶⁸

3.6 June 2002

11 June

- Return of Zahir Shah, former King of Afghanistan, from exile to assemble a Loya Jirga (Afghan tribal council).⁶⁹

13 June

- Loya Jirga establishes the ‘Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan,’ and elects Hamid Karzai as President and head of the Afghan Transitional Authority.⁷⁰

21 June

- 3 PPCLI Battle Group assigned temporary tasking to Zabol province.⁷¹

30 June

- 3 PPCLI Battle Group deploys 100 km northeast of Kandahar to establish a coalition presence in Zabol Province (see Operation Cherokee Sky, below), where they are to conduct a sweep operation with the Afghan National Army in the Shin Key Valley to gather intelligence on recent Taliban and Al Qaeda operations.⁷²

3.7 July 2002

- 15-year-old Canadian Omar Khadr captured near Khost, Afghanistan after an engagement with US forces. Khadr is accused of killing a US medic with a grenade.⁷³

1 July

- **Initiation of Operation Cherokee Sky.** 3 PPCLI battle group sweep through Zabul province, which borders on Pakistan—a region where Taliban and Al Qaeda members flee from Afghanistan.⁷⁴

⁶⁸ CBC, “Afghanistan: Timeline,” 2006.

⁶⁹ DND, Operation Athena.

⁷⁰ DND, Operation Athena; ----, “Afghanistan and Canada: A Timeline,” *National Post*, 22 January 2008, accessed at <http://www.nationalpost.com/m/story.html?id=255924&s=Related+Topics&is=Glyn%20Berry&it=Person> on 2 February 2010.

⁷¹ United States Central Command, Canada, accessed at <http://www.centcom.mil/en/countries/coalition/canada/> on 3 February 2010.

⁷² Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 91.

⁷³ CBC, “Khadr Family, 2006.

13 July

- 3 PPCLI Battle Group ceases operations and prepares to return to Canada (July 28-30, 2002).⁷⁵

13 to 17 July

- In the region of U.S. Centcom naval task group AOR (Horn of Africa to Central Asia), HMCS *Algonquin* in cooperation with CF marine patrol aircraft and a French warship apprehend 4 suspected Al-Qaeda members.⁷⁶

28 to 30 July

- PPCLI Battle Group arrives in Edmonton for repatriation.⁷⁷

3.8 August 2002

- Canadian Forces operate in Kabul.⁷⁸
- Canada pledges \$250 million to the reconstruction of Afghanistan for the next two years.⁷⁹

3.9 September 2002

11 September

- International conference in Kabul authorized CDN \$94 million towards de-mining Afghanistan and secured Afghanistan's ratification of the Ottawa Treaty of 1997, which banned the use and stockpiling of land mines. The conference deployed 7000 UN de-miners in the largest non-government workforce in Afghanistan.⁸⁰

3.10 October 2002

- Omar Khadr arrives at Guantanamo Bay prison complex, Cuba.

18 October

- Deputy Secretary-General of the UN (and former Canadian Service Foreign Officer) Louise Frechette flew to Kabul to meet with ISAF commander, Independent Human Rights

⁷⁴ ----, "Canadian Soldiers Begin New Operation in Afghanistan," *CBC News*, 1 July 2002, accessed at <http://www.cbc.ca/world/story/2002/07/01/afghan020701.html> on 26 February 2010.

⁷⁵ DND Backgrounder, "The Canadian Forces' Contribution."

⁷⁶ United States Central Command, Canada, accessed at <http://www.centcom.mil/en/countries/coalition/canada/> on 3 February 2010.

⁷⁷ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p.91.

⁷⁸ ----, "Afghanistan and Canada: A Timeline," *National Post*, 22 January 2008, accessed at <http://www.nationalpost.com/m/story.html?id=255924> on 3 February 2010.

⁷⁹ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 92

⁸⁰ Ibid.

Commission, and the heads of UN agencies. He also visited the de-mining project in the Shomali Plains.⁸¹

3.11 November 2002

- Provincial Reconstruction Teams established as part of OEF.⁸²
- Brigadier-General Angus Watt becomes commander of CA JTFSWA [November 2002-May 2003].⁸³

28 November

- Defence Minister John McCallum announces the deployment of a senior Canadian Forces officer to Afghanistan as military advisor to UNAMA—known as **Operration Accius**.⁸⁴ Lt.-Col. Stewart Schock deployed as military advisor.⁸⁵

3.12 December 2002

- No significant events.

⁸¹ Ibid. p. 92.

⁸² Pigott, Peter, “The PRT Mission: Security and Stability,” *Frontline*, Issue 4, 2006, p. 22.

⁸³ DND Backgrounder, “Canadian Forces’ Contribution,” 2004.

⁸⁴ DND, “Operation Accius,” DND-CF Backgrounder, 1 October 2003, accessed at <http://www.forces.gc.ca/site/news-nouvelles/news-nouvelles-eng.asp?cat=03&id=1203> on 14 March 2010.

⁸⁵ DND, “Deployment of a Military Advisor to Afghanistan,” DND-CF Backgrounder, 28 November 2002, accessed at <http://www.forces.gc.ca/site/news-nouvelles/news-nouvelles-eng.asp?cat=00&id=498> on 14 March 2010.

4 2003

4.1 January 2003

- No significant events.

4.2 February 2003

12 February

- Defence Minister John McCallum announces at a NATO meeting in Brussels that Canada would contribute 1900 troops to the mission in Kabul in the summer of 2003 to take command of the Kabul Multinational Brigade in July (sources suggest that this commitment was a guilt reaction to Canada's refusal to join the U.S. in its campaign in Iraq).⁸⁶
- The 3-D approach (defence, development, diplomacy) was presented as the agenda for the CF presence in Afghanistan.⁸⁷

4.3 March 2003

14 March

- A platoon of 1 PPCLI deploys to the Arabian Gulf to provide local security to CF units of Operation Apollo.⁸⁸

20 March

- U.S. President George W. Bush orders invasion of Iraq (Operation Iraqi Freedom) on the premise that Saddam Hussein was developing weapons of mass destruction and collaborating with Al Qaeda.⁸⁹

22 March

- Strategic Reconnaissance Team (SRT) deployed to Kabul. The SRT is an "interdepartmental initiative comprising 22 representatives from the CF with one representative from the

⁸⁶ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 93; Geddes, John, "Bullets Fly, Ottawa Ducks," *Maclean's*, 25 August 2006, accessed at http://www.macleans.ca/article.jsp?content=20060828_132392_132392&source=srch on 6 February 2010.

⁸⁷ Geddes, "Bullets Fly," 2006.

⁸⁸ DND Backgrounder, "Canadian Forces Contribution."

⁸⁹ ----, "Timeline: Iraq," *BBC News*, 31 December 2009, accessed at http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/737483.stm on 10 February 2010; Pincus, Walter, and Dana Milbank, "Al Qaeda-Hussein Link is Dismissed," *Washington Post*, 17 June 2004, accessed at <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A47812-2004Jun16.html> on 10 February 2010.

Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT), and one representative from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).”⁹⁰

31 March

- SRT returns to Canada.⁹¹

4.4 April 2003

24 April

Operational Reconnaissance Team (ORT) of 15 CF and 10 civilians deploy to Kabul.⁹²

25 April

- Transitional Planning Team of 11 CF members travel to Brussels and Potsdam to consult with ISAF partners on logistics, command, communications, engineering, infrastructure, and medical facilities.⁹³

April 26

- Liaison Reconnaissance Team and Special Engineering Team—19 CF personnel—deploy to Kabul to join with ORT.⁹⁴

4.5 May 2003

- Brigadier-General Dennis Tabbernor became commander of CA JTFSWA.⁹⁵

14 May

- CDS issues operation orders for deployment of 2000 personnel Battle Group to Afghanistan under Operation Athena in August 2003.⁹⁶

23 May

- Theatre Activation Team for Operation Athena—150 CF personnel from Canadian Forces Joint Operations Group based in Kingston, and a defence and security element from the 2nd

⁹⁰ DND, “Operation Athena: The Canadian Forces Participation in ISAF,” DND-CF News Room, 27 August 2004, accessed at <http://www.forces.gc.ca/site/news-nouvelles/news-nouvelles-eng.asp?cat=00&id=1228> on 26 February 2010.

⁹¹ DND-CF News, OP Athena, 2004.

⁹² DND-CF News, Op Athena, 2004.

⁹³ Ibid.

⁹⁴ Ibid.

⁹⁵ DND Backgrounder, “Canadian Forces’ Contribution,” 2004.

⁹⁶ DND, Details/Information for Canadian Forces (CF) Operation Athena, DND-CF, 28 November 2008, accessed at <http://www.cmp-cpm.forces.gc.ca/dhh-dhp/od-bdo/di-ri-eng.asp?IntlOpId=87&CdnOpId=98#cfi-rof> on 9 March 2010.

Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment, deploy to Kabul to support in-theatre infrastructure.⁹⁷

4.6 June 2003

- Sources indicate that the Director General of International Security Policy at DND—Major-General Cameron Ross—resigned over the decision to redeploy CF to Afghanistan.⁹⁸

4.7 July 2003

3 July

- Diplomat Christopher Alexander appointed ambassador to Afghanistan.⁹⁹

5 July

- Foreign Minister Bill Graham opens Canadian Embassy in Kabul.¹⁰⁰

17 July

- Commencement of Operation Athena, Canada's contribution to ISAF operations in Kandahar province, with the installation of Canadian Brigadier-General Peter Devlin as commander of ISAF's Kabul Multi-National Brigade.¹⁰¹

19 July

- Deployment of Task Force Kabul—the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment Battalion Group to Kabul as the initial rotation of Operation Athena [Phase 1—Roto 0: August 2003—February 2004]. All Canadian Forces personnel and assets of Operation Athena comprise Joint Task Force Afghanistan.¹⁰²

4.8 August 2003

- CF deployments during Roto 0 Operation Athena (August 2003-February 2004):
 - ♦ battalion group based on the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment (3 RCR);
 - ♦ Brigade Headquarters based on 2 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group Headquarters (2CMBG HQ) and Signals Squadron;
 - ♦ National Command Element to link the Chief of the Defence Staff in Ottawa with Task Force Kabul;

⁹⁷ DND Backgrounder, "Canadian Forces' Contribution," 2004.

⁹⁸ Geddes, "Bullets Fly," 2006.

⁹⁹ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 96.

¹⁰⁰ Ibid.

¹⁰¹ DND, Operation Athena, Department of National Defence, 5 January 2010, accessed at <http://comfec-cefcom.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/ops/athena/index-eng.asp> on 29 January 2010.

¹⁰² DND, Operation Athena.

- ◆ National Support Element to deliver centralized administrative and logistics support services to Task Force Kabul;
- ◆ airlift element, not based in Kabul, to operate two CC-130 Hercules tactical transport aircraft in southwest Asia; and
- ◆ additional staff for ISAF HQ, including Maj.-Gen. Andrew Leslie, the Deputy Commander, ISAF.¹⁰³

Mid-August

- Canadian National Command Element (NCE) reduced to a liaison staff, which became part of a new mission—Task Force Tampa, aka Operation Foundation.¹⁰⁴

11 August

- NATO assumes leadership of ISAF,¹⁰⁵ extending ISAF's mandate to cover the whole of Afghanistan.¹⁰⁶
- Canadian Forces' Major-General Andrew Leslie appointed Commander for Task Force Kabul and Deputy Commander of ISAF [August 2003-February 2004].¹⁰⁷

21 August

- 3rd Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment (3 RCR) Battle Group declared operational, AOR Kabul West.¹⁰⁸

4.9 September 2003

Fall 2003

- Establishment of Disarmament, Demobilization and Registration (DDR) and Heavy Weapons Cantonment programs around Kabul.¹⁰⁹

¹⁰³ DND-CF, Operation Athena, 2004. See also Sean Maloney, *Confronting the Chaos* (Annapolis: Naval Institute Press, 2009), p. 23.

¹⁰⁴ DND, "The Canadian Forces' Contribution to the International Campaign Against Terrorism," DND-CF Backgrounder, 7 January 2004, accessed at <http://www.cefcom.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/nr-sp/doc-eng.asp?id=490> on 14 March 2010.

¹⁰⁵ ISAF, About ISAF - History, NATO - International Security Assistance Force Afghanistan (undated), accessed at <http://www.isaf.nato.int/en/our-history/> on 27 January 2010. ISAF HQ is located in central Kabul providing the central point of ISAF operations. ISAF tactical HQ is located at Camp Warehouse the Kabul Multinational Brigade is based—Marriott, Koren, Canadian Forces Prepare for Operation Athena, Observation Visit—CFB Petawawa, June 21 2003, Centre for Security and Defence Studies, Carleton University, accessed at <http://www.carleton.ca/csds/docs/reports/Athena.pdf> on 29 January 2010.

¹⁰⁶ United Nations Security Council, Resolution 1510 (2003), adopted by the Security Council at its 4840th meeting, on 13 October 2003, S/RES/1510 (2003), accessed at <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N03/555/55/PDF/N0355555.pdf?OpenElement> on 27 January 2010. According to Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 85, NATO assumed leadership of ISAF on 9 August 2002.

¹⁰⁷ DND, Operation Athena; Government of Canada, "Meritorious Service Decorations," Canada Gazette – Government House, Vol. 138, No. 46, 13 November 2004, p. 13.

¹⁰⁸ Ibid.

5 September

- Canada opened a new embassy in Kabul, with Foreign Affairs Minister Bill Graham in attendance.¹¹⁰

11 September

- Rocket attack on Camp Warehouse and Kabul International Airport. A Canadian civilian support worker was injured.¹¹¹

4.10 October 2003

2 October

- Egyptian-Canadian Al Qaeda member Ahmed Said Khadr (father of Omar Khadr) killed in South Waziristan. Another son, Kareem Khadr was injured in the same engagement, and subsequently returned to Canada.¹¹²
- 2 CF personnel were killed and 3 injured when their vehicle hit a roadside bomb near Kabul: Sergeant Robert Alan Short, 3 RCR Battalion Group; and Corporal Robbie Christopher Beerenfenger, 3 RCR Battalion Group.¹¹³

13 October

- ISAF mission expanded beyond its role in Kabul.¹¹⁴

18 October

- Prime Minister Jean Chretien arrived in Kabul, representing the first time a Canadian prime minister ever visited Kabul. PM Chretien met with Afghan President Hamid Karzai and UN Secretary-General's special representative for Afghanistan, Lakhdar Brahimi.¹¹⁵
- Soon after PM Chretien departed from a visit to Camp Julien, a Taliban mortar crew is discovered and cleared from the area before gaining an opportunity to attack. The PM safely flew out of Kabul airport to Islamabad.¹¹⁶

¹⁰⁹ Maloney, *Confronting the Chaos*, p. 8.

¹¹⁰ ---, "Graham Opens First Canadian Embassy in Kabul," CBC, 5 September 2003, accessed at http://www.cbc.ca/canada/story/2003/09/05/graham_kabul030905.html on 9 February 2010.

¹¹¹ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 98; DND Backgrounder, "Canadian Forces' Contribution," 2004.

¹¹² Friscolanti, Michael, "The House of Khadr," *Maclean's*, 4 August 2006, accessed at http://www.macleans.ca/canada/national/article.jsp?content=20060807_131499_131499 on 8 February 2010.

¹¹³ DND-CF, Operation Athena, 2004.

¹¹⁴ MacNamara, Don, and Ken Summers, "A Week in Afghanistan – A Snapshot," *On Track*, No. 12, No.1, 2007, p. 34, accessed at <http://www.cda-cdai.ca/cdai/uploads/cdai/2008/12/ontrack12n1.pdf> on 22 February 2010.

¹¹⁵ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 98.

¹¹⁶ *Ibid.*

4.11 November 2003

- No significant events.

4.12 December 2003

- Governor General Adrienne Clarkson visited Canadian Forces deployed in Kabul.¹¹⁷
- Constitutional Loya Jirga held between December 2003 and January 2004. Success of this effort partially attributable to DDR and HWC program begun in the Fall of 2003 (see September 2003 entry).¹¹⁸

December 12

- The Canadian Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team uncovered the largest weapons cache to date in the Chahar Asiab area of Kabul.¹¹⁹

¹¹⁷ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 101.

¹¹⁸ Maloney, *Confronting the Chaos*, p. 8

¹¹⁹ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 100.

5 2004

- ISAF assumes command of PRTs in Afghanistan.¹²⁰

5.1 January 2004

- Commencement of **Operation Altair** - (Roto 0) [January-July 2004]. Altair is Canada's naval support of OEF in the Persian Gulf and Arabian Sea. HMCS *Toronto* deployed to operate with USS George Washington Carrier Strike Group.¹²¹

4 January

- ISAF achieves objective of helping Afghan Transitional Authority establish secure environment in Kabul city.¹²²
- The Loya Jirga ratifies Afghan constitution.¹²³

5 January

- Op Athena Roto 1, 3rd Battalion, Royal 22e Régiment.¹²⁴

18 January

- Commencement of **Operation Tsunami**. Elements of 3 RCR, supported by Kabul City Police seize a compound used for narcotics trafficking, possibly linked to terrorist activity, in SW Kabul.¹²⁵

24 January

- Brig.-Gen. Jocelyn Lacroix assumed control of the Kabul Multinational Brigade.¹²⁶

27 January

- Corporal Jamie Murphy 1 RCR, killed by suicide attacker in Kabul. 3 other CF members wounded.¹²⁷

¹²⁰ Pigott, "The PRT Mission," p. 22.

¹²¹ DND, Operation Altair, National Defence and the Canadian Forces, 5 January 2010, accessed at <http://www.cefcom.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/ops/altair/index-eng.asp> on 13 February 2010.

¹²² DND, Operation Athena.

¹²³ Ibid.

¹²⁴ DND-CF News, Op Athena, 2004; DND, Details/Information for Canadian Forces (CF) Operation Athena, DND-CF, 28 November 2008, accessible at <http://www.cmp-cpm.forces.gc.ca/dhh-dhp/od-bdo/di-ri-eng.asp?IntlOpId=87&CdnOpId=98#cfi-rof> on 9 March 2010.

¹²⁵ DND-CF News, Op Athena, 2004.

¹²⁶ DND, Canadian Forces Commitment, 2005.

¹²⁷ CBC, "In the Line of Duty," 2010; Red Fridays, "Fallen Canadians," 2010.

5.2 February 2004

- Second Rotation (Roto 1) of Phase 1 Operation Athena [February – August 2004] – comprised of personnel from 3rd Battalion, Royal 22nd Regiment and 5th Regiment Canadian Light Artillery.¹²⁸
- CF deployed the following forces during Rotation 1 of Operation Athena:
 - ♦ battalion group based on the 3rd Battalion, Royal 22e Régiment. (3 R22eR);
 - ♦ Brigade Headquarters based on 5 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group Headquarters and Signals Squadron (5 CMBG HQ and Sigs Sqn);
 - ♦ National Command Element that links the Chief of the Defence Staff in Ottawa with Task Force Kabul;
 - ♦ National Support Element to deliver centralized administrative and logistics support services to Task Force Kabul;
 - ♦ airlift element, not based in Kabul, operating three CC-130 Hercules tactical transport aircraft in southwest Asia; and
 - ♦ additional staff for ISAF HQ, including Lt.-Gen. Rick Hillier, who commanded ISAF from February – August 2004.¹²⁹
- Establishment of CFC-Alpha to replace the previous command structure from early 2002.¹³⁰

9 February

- Canadian Forces' Lieutenant-General Rick Hillier assumed command of ISAF (from 9 February – 12 August).¹³¹

5.3 March 2004

11 March

- Al Qaeda bombs commuter trains in Madrid, Spain killing 191 people and injuring 1700 [Al Qaeda claims responsibility on March 13 2004].¹³²

¹²⁸ DND, Operation Athena.

¹²⁹ DND-CF, Operation Athena, 2004.

¹³⁰ Maloney, *Confronting the Chaos*, p. 37.

¹³¹ DND, Operation Athena; CBC, "Timeline: Lt.-Gen. Rick Hillier," *CBC News*, 14 January 2005, accessed at <http://www.cbc.ca/news/background/hillier/timeline.html> on 5 February 2010.

¹³² Maclean, William, "New Evidence of Qaeda Tie to Madrid Blast," *Reuters*, 12 January 2010, accessed at <http://www.reuters.com> on 10 February 2010; ---, Al Qaeda Operational Tempo – Madrid Follow-on Attack Assessment – v1.0, Intel Center, 14 March 2004, accessed at <http://www.intelcenter.com/Qaeda-Op-Madrid-v1-0.pdf> on 10 February 2010.

5.4 April 2004

No significant events.

5.5 May 2004

- **Operation Damocles** – search and destroy mission in rural regions west of Kabul by 3 R22R (Van Doos) with support from 52nd Combat Engineering Squadron. The operation results in the destruction of large quantity of enemy artillery and small arms ammunition.

5.6 June 2004

- Deployment of Régiment du Génie de Combat as part of Roto 1, Phase 1, Op Athena.¹³³

4 June

- Deployment of Lt.-Col. Robert Jansen as military advisor to UNAMA under Operation Accius.¹³⁴

5.7 July 2004

No significant events.

5.8 August 2004

- Deployment of Roto 2, Phase 1, Op Athena [August 2004-February 2005] – 1 PPCLI Reconnaissance Squadron, Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) 11 Field Squadron, 1 Combat Engineer Regiment.¹³⁵

9 August

- France's Lieutenant-General Jean-Louis Py assumes command of ISAF.¹³⁶

5.9 September 2004

No significant events.

¹³³ DND, Operation Athena.

¹³⁴ DND, "Military Advisor Deploys to Afghanistan," DND-CF News Release, 4 June 2004, accessed at <http://www.forces.gc.ca/site/news-nouvelles/news-nouvelles-eng.asp?cat=00&id=1395> on 26 February 2010.

¹³⁵ DND, Operation Athena.

¹³⁶ Ibid.

5.10 October 2004

9 October

- Afghanistan holds first democratic election, with Hamid Karzai elected as president.¹³⁷

21 October

- As part of a PRT initiative, Canada deploys a reconnaissance team led by Lt.-Col. R. Landry to Afghanistan to determine a location for its base.¹³⁸

5.11 November 2004

No significant events.

5.12 December 2004

9 December

- Hamid Karzai inaugurated as President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.¹³⁹

¹³⁷ DND, Operation Athena.

¹³⁸ “From Peacekeepers to Taliban Hunters,” *Maclean’s*, accessed at <http://www.canada.com/ottawacitizen/news/observer/story.html?id=97373d9e-6a7d-4c13-b833-46659de04495> on 6 February 2010.

¹³⁹ DND, Operation Athena.

6 2005

6.1 January 2005

14 January

- Lt.-Gen. Rick Hillier appointed as Chief of Defence Staff.¹⁴⁰

6.2 February 2005

- Deployment of fourth rotation (Roto 3), Phase 1, Operation Athena [February-July 2005], includes 23 Field Squadron, 2 Combat Engineer Regiment.¹⁴¹

13 February

- Defence Minister Bill Graham announces that by the summer Canada would double the number of CF personnel in Afghanistan and that they would redeploy from Kabul to Kandahar to assume command of the PRT.¹⁴²

6.3 March 2005

- 1 RCR deployed as part of Roto 3, Phase 1, Operation Athena [March-July 2005].¹⁴³

21 March

- General Rick Hillier announced the deployment of a battle group to Kandahar, the closing of Camp Julien in May, and movement of Canada's focus in Afghanistan to Kandahar.¹⁴⁴

28 March

- A roadside explosion destroys a Canadian diplomatic vehicle, wounding a passenger (a local security guard).¹⁴⁵

¹⁴⁰ CBC, "Lt.-Gen. Rick Hillier," 2005.

¹⁴¹ DND, Operation Athena.

¹⁴² Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 201.

¹⁴³ DND, Operation Athena.

¹⁴⁴ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 104.

¹⁴⁵ *Ibid.*, p.107.

6.4 April 2005

- Second deployment (Roto 1) of Op Altair [April-October 2005], HMCS Winnipeg from Esquimalt to operate with the U.S. Fifth Fleet.¹⁴⁶

6.5 May 2005

- Prime Minister Paul Martin announced sending Canadian troops to Kandahar, a more volatile region than Kabul.¹⁴⁷

12 May

- GoC Cabinet approval of CF mission in Kandahar province.

6.6 June 2005

- The Force Protection Company arrives in Kandahar (from Camp Julien).¹⁴⁸
- PRT declared operational

Summer 2005

- Canadian SOF return to RC South as CF contribution to CJSOTF-A

29 June

- Canadian soldiers began deploying to Kandahar Airfield—HQ of the Multinational Brigade for Regional Command South (RC South), where approx. 9000 soldiers, airmen, and civilian personnel are stationed.¹⁴⁹

6.7 July 2005

- CF mission in Kandahar, **Operation Archer**.¹⁵⁰ Primary objective of Operation Archer is the training and mentoring of Afghan Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Interior personnel by senior CF personnel with the Combined Security Transition Command—Afghanistan. Includes organizing, training, equipping, employing and supporting the Afghan National Army and the Afghan National Police.¹⁵¹

¹⁴⁶ DND, Operation Altair, 2010.

¹⁴⁷ Geddes, “Bullets Fly,” 2006.

¹⁴⁸ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 105.

¹⁴⁹ Ibid.

¹⁵⁰ CBC, “Canadian Units,” CBC InDepth: Afghanistan, 19 June 2006, accessed at <http://www.cbc.ca/news/background/afghanistan/cdnunits.html> on 9 February 2010.

¹⁵¹ DND, “Operation Archer,” DND-CF, 5 January 2010, accessed at <http://www.cefcom-comfec.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/ops/archer/index-eng.asp>.

7 July

- London bombings by al Qaeda, timed to coincide with the G8 Summit,¹⁵² killing 52 people.¹⁵³

14 July

- General Hillier announces that JTF2 would deploy to Afghanistan to fight Al Qaeda and Taliban elements, described by Hillier as “detestable scumbags and murderers.”¹⁵⁴

6.8 August 2005

- **Operation Athena Phase II**—ISAF extends operations beyond Kabul in an effort to expand the Government of Afghanistan’s sphere of influence.¹⁵⁵
- CF transition from Kabul to Kandahar; assumption of control of Kandahar Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT)¹⁵⁶ activities from the U.S.¹⁵⁷ The Kandahar PRT CF contingent was drawn from Land Force Western Area, personnel from DFAIT, CIDA, Correctional Service of Canada, and RCMP elements which contribute to the civilian police section. The military component includes the following:
 - ♦ The KPRT Commander’s Tactical Headquarters Group, comprised of soldiers who protect the KPRT Commander and his staff and operate their vehicles;
 - ♦ An infantry company from the 1st Battalion PPCLI to defend Camp Nathan Smith, protect KPRT teams visiting projects outside Kandahar City, and provide a quick reaction force for Kandahar City;
 - ♦ Military engineers to manage quick-impact reconstruction and development projects;
 - ♦ A Civil-Military Cooperation (CIMIC) platoon made up of Army Reserve soldiers from Land Force Western Area; and

¹⁵² BBC, “London Rocked by Terrorist Attacks,” BBC News, 7 July 2005, accessed at <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/4659093.stm> on 6 February 2010.

¹⁵³ BBC, “London Bombers: Key Facts,” BBC News, 21 July 2005, accessed at http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/4676861.stm on 6 February 2010.

¹⁵⁴ ----, “Canada’s JTF2 to Hunt al Qaeda in Afghanistan,” CTV News, 15 July 2005, accessed at http://www.ctv.ca/servlet/ArticleNews/story/CTVNews/112143377212_154 on 24 February 2010.

¹⁵⁵ DND, Operation Athena.

¹⁵⁶ The KPRT is comprised of 350 personnel from the CF, a political director from DFAIT, 3 development officers from CIDA, 2 officers from Correctional Services Canada, and nine civilian police officers from the RCMP – Cox, “Afghanistan: The Canadian Military Mission,” p. 2.

¹⁵⁷ Ibid.

- ◆ Service and support elements drawn from across Canada¹⁵⁸
- First Rotation (Roto 0), Phase II, Op Athena [August 2005-February 2006] in Kandahar, 2nd Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group.¹⁵⁹
- Canadian battle group comprised of a full infantry battalion, tank squadron, armoured reconnaissance squadron, battery of field artillery, and field engineer squadron.¹⁶⁰
- First Canadian Operational Mentor and Liaison Team (OMLT) deployed to Kandahar Province to work with 1st Brigade, 205 Corps, Afghan National Army.¹⁶¹

6.9 September 2005

- **Operation Argus:** Implementation of Strategic Advisory Team—Afghanistan (SAT-A). SAT-A mandate is a Canadian initiative to provide assistance to senior bureaucrats in Afghan government ministries. SAT-A staffed by 15 CF members augmented by a CIDA officer.¹⁶²
- Lower House (*Wolesi Jirga*) and Provincial Council elections, involving the Joint Electoral Management Body in Kabul with UN assistance, with security reinforced by a boost in international forces—the Election Support Force.¹⁶³

6.10 October 2005

- David Sproule replaces Chris Alexander as Canadian ambassador to Afghanistan.¹⁶⁴
- A rocket hits the Canadian Embassy in Kabul.¹⁶⁵

1 October

- Taliban begins a wave of suicide attacks targeting CF in Afghanistan [18-month period lasting until March 31 2007, 26 attacks in total].¹⁶⁶

¹⁵⁸ DND, “Kandahar Provincial Reconstruction Team,” DND-CF Backgrounder, 5 January 2010, accessible at <http://www.cefcom.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/nr-sp/doc-eng.asp?id=2596> on 9 February 2010.

¹⁵⁹ DND, Operation Athena.

¹⁶⁰ Ibid.

¹⁶¹ Ibid. .

¹⁶² Cox, “Afghanistan: The Canadian Military Mission,” p. 3.

¹⁶³ Maloney, *Confronting the Chaos*, p.110.

¹⁶⁴ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 106.

¹⁶⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶⁶ Fraser, Andrew, “Deadly Ends: Canada, NATO and Suicide as a Weapon of War in Modern Afghanistan,” *Canadian Army Journal*, Vol. 12, No. 2, Summer 2009, p. 50.

5 October

- A vehicle laden with explosives attempts to strike a CF convoy on Highway 4 just outside of Kandahar. A local farmer was injured and his son was killed, 3 CF personnel suffered minor injuries.¹⁶⁷

18 October

- End of Operation Athena in Kabul.¹⁶⁸

6.11 November 2005

24 November

- Private Braun Woodfield killed when a 2 RCR armoured vehicle rolled over.¹⁶⁹

29 November

- CF Camp Julien in Kabul turned over to Afghan Ministry of Defence and German forces.¹⁷⁰

6.12 December 2005

- General Hillier and Afghan's Defence Minister signed a deal that all terrorism suspects and Taliban militants captured by CF in Afghanistan are to be turned over to the ANA or ANP.¹⁷¹
- End of Op Athena Phase I.

19 December

- Afghan National Assembly inaugurated.¹⁷²

¹⁶⁷ Fraser, "Deadly Ends," p. 50.

¹⁶⁸ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p.106.

¹⁶⁹ CBC, "In the Line of Duty," 2010; Red Fridays, "Fallen Canadians," 2010.

¹⁷⁰ DND, Information Operation Athena, 2008.

¹⁷¹ Koring, Paul, "Amnesty Slams Canada over Afghan Detainees," *Globe and Mail*, 21 February 2007, accessed at <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/article743285.ece>. See also "Arrangement for the Transfer of Detainees between the Canadian Forces and the Ministry of Defence of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan," signed in Kabul on 18 December 2005 by Afghan Minister of Defence, Abdul Raheem Wardak, and Canadian Chief of Defence Staff, General R.J. Hillier, accessed at <http://www.afghanistan.gc.ca/canada-afghanistan/assets/pdfs/Dec2005.pdf>.

¹⁷² MacNamara, Don, and Ken Summers, "A Week in Afghanistan – A Snapshot," *On Track*, No. 12, No.1, 2007, p. 33, accessed at <http://www.cda-cdai.ca/cdai/uploads/cdai/2008/12/ontrack12n1.pdf> on 22 February 2010.

7.1 January 2006

- Task Force Orion from 1 PPCLI BG (commanded by Lt.-Col. Ian Hope, January-August 2006) deployed for training to prepare for operations against Taliban in Kandahar province—to provide security from insurgents in Kandahar city and defeat insurgents (*Dushman*) elsewhere in the province.¹⁷³
- U.S. Military Police work with Canadian MPs so that the Canadians of 1 MP Platoon would become familiar with the landscape, Afghan National Police, and tactics, techniques, and procedures of the task.¹⁷⁴
- Signing of Afghanistan Compact, which requires the Afghan government to build an Afghan National Army of 70000 soldiers by 2010.¹⁷⁵ The creation of the Compact was a joint venture that included the Canadian Strategic Advisory Team.

11 January

- **Operation Sextant:** Deployment of HMCS *Athabaskan* as a flagship [11 January-31 July 2006] of the Standing NATO Maritime Group I and NATO Response Force with the mission of deterring and disrupting piracy and to defend merchant vessels in the Gulf of Aden.¹⁷⁶

15 January

- Canadian diplomat Glyn Berry is killed by a suicide bomber. Characterized by the Pakistani Inter-Services Intelligence Service as a warning by the Taliban,¹⁷⁷ Berry's death causes major limitations to be placed on civilian GoC activities in Afghanistan.¹⁷⁸

¹⁷³ Cox, "Afghanistan: The Canadian Military Mission," p. 2; Peebles, Mark, "Patricias Take Charge of Kandahar Province," Land Forces Western Area—Joint Task Force West, DND, 2008-12-01, accessed at http://www.army.dnd.ca/lfwa/feature_patricias_kandahar.asp on 8 February 2010; Hope, Ian, *Dancing with the Dushman: Command Imperatives for the Counter-Insurgency Fight in Afghanistan* (Kingston: Canadian Defence Academy Press, 2008), p. 73.

¹⁷⁴ Peebles, 2008.

¹⁷⁵ DND, "Operational Mentor and Liaison Team," DND – CF Backgrounder, 5 January 2010, accessed at <http://www.cefcom.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/nr-sp/doc-eng.asp?id=2596> on 9 February 2010.

¹⁷⁶ DND, Operation Sextant, DND-CF, 5 January 2010, accessed at <http://www.cefcom.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/ops/sextant/index-eng.asp> on 25 February 2010.

¹⁷⁷ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 107.

¹⁷⁸ Teeple interview with LCol. Ian Hope, Royal Military College of Canada (RMCC), Kingston, 12 March 2010.

23 January

- Stephen Harper was becomes Prime Minister of Canada with a minority in the House of Commons.¹⁷⁹

7.2 February 2006

- The Multinational Medical Unit (MMU) Role 3 hospital begins operating at Kandahar Airfield. Its Health Service Support Company, comprised of personnel from 1 Field Ambulance in Edmonton and 1 Canadian Field Hospital in Petawawa, provides all the medical staff for Kandahar Airfield's Role 1 medical unit.¹⁸⁰
- Second Deployment (Roto 1) of Phase 2, Operation Athena [February – July 2006], 1 PPCLI.¹⁸¹

1 February

- Effective start date of **Afghanistan Compact**, an agreement between the Afghan government and coalition forces. The agreement affirms objectives for achieving stability and security by reinforcing the Afghan government through strengthening Afghan institutions with the support of NATO-ISAF and Operation Enduring Freedom (U.S.). The compact includes coordinating counter-terrorism operations closely with the Afghan government and expanding ISAF's presence throughout Afghanistan with the establishment of Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRTs). Also sets benchmarks for the following: Internal Security Forces, Afghan National Army, Afghan National and Border Police, Disbandment of Illegal Armed Groups, Counter-Narcotics, Mine Action and Ammunition.¹⁸²

3-4 February

- CF involved in firefights with Taliban in Northern Kandahar province.¹⁸³

6 February

- Stephen Harper sworn in as the Prime Minister of Canada.¹⁸⁴

¹⁷⁹ Stein and Lang, *The Unexpected War*, p. 231.

¹⁸⁰ DND, "Health Services Support Company," DND-CF Backgrounder, 5 January 2010, accessed at <http://www.cefcom.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/nr-sp/doc-eng.asp?id=2596> on 9 February 2010.

¹⁸¹ DND, Operation Athena.

¹⁸² United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, *The Afghanistan Compact, Building on Success: The London Conference on Afghanistan*, London, 31 January-1 February 2006, accessed at <http://unama.unmissions.org/Portals/UNAMA/Documents/AfghanistanCompact-English.pdf> on 29 January 2010.

¹⁸³ Teeple interview with LCol. Ian Hope, RMCC, Kingston, 12 March 2010.

¹⁸⁴ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 111.

11 February

- CF artillery used operationally for first time since Korean War.¹⁸⁵

19 February

- Relief-in-Place begins between US forces and Task Force Orion.¹⁸⁶

24 February

- Soldiers from 1 PPCLI BG Task Force Orion officially assume responsibility for operations in Kandahar.¹⁸⁷

28 February

- Brig.-Gen. David Frasier assumes command of the multinational brigade (including 2200 CF personnel) based in Kandahar.¹⁸⁸

7.3 March 2006

- Prime Minister Stephen Harper travels to Islamabad, and then Kandahar.¹⁸⁹

2 March

- LAV III rolls over into a ditch after collision with civilian taxi in Kandahar city. Corporal Paul Davis dies at the scene while Master Corporal Timothy Wilson dies in Germany on 4 March.¹⁹⁰ Both from 2 PPCLI.

4 March

- CIMIC officer Trevor Greene attacked by an axe-wielding Taliban supporter as part of a larger ambush while at a *shura* in Shinkay.¹⁹¹

¹⁸⁵ Teeple interview with LCol. Ian Hope, RMCC, 12 March 2010. See also Christie Blatchford, *Fifteen Days* (Toronto: Doubleday, 2007), pp. 167-168.

¹⁸⁶ Teeple interview with LCol. Ian Hope, RMCC, 12 March 2010.

¹⁸⁷ Peebles, 2008.

¹⁸⁸ CBC, "Canadian Units," *CBC News: Afghanistan*, 19 June 2006, accessed at <http://www.cbc.ca/news/background/afghanistan/cdnunits.html> on 9 February 2010.

¹⁸⁹ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 112.

¹⁹⁰ CBC, "In the Line of Duty," 2010. See also Blatchford, *Fifteen Days*, pp. 131-136; Red Fridays, "Fallen Canadians."

¹⁹¹ Blatchford, *Fifteen Days*, pp. 122-127.

4 to 28 March

- TF Orion engaged in constant combat with Taliban forces in northern Kandahar¹⁹²

17 March

- An IED strike against a CF convoy near Shinkay forces evacuation of CF CDS Hillier who was participating in a *shura* nearby.¹⁹³

28 March

- Private Robert Costall of 1 PPCLI killed during a firefight with Taliban insurgents at FOB Robinson.¹⁹⁴ Military investigations into whether this private and a U.S. soldier (Sgt. John Thomas Stone of the Vermont National Guard) were killed by friendly fire was undertaken and concluded in July 2006.¹⁹⁵

7.4 April 2006

2 April

- CF presence at FOB Robinson contributes to insertion of additional British forces into Helmand province without Taliban interference. This facilitates Stage 3 of NATO expansion of British and Dutch operations into Helmand.¹⁹⁶

14 April

- CF begins operations in the Zhari-Panjwai district of Kandahar province with B Company 1 PPCLI, Afghan National Police, and Afghan National Army.¹⁹⁷

22 April

- IED strike against a LAV III near Gumbad kills Bombardier Myles Mansell, 5th Field Artillery Regiment, Corporal Matthew Dinning, 2nd Military Police Platoon, Corporal Randy Payne, CFB/ASU Wainwright Military Police Platoon, and Lieutenant William Turner, Land Force Western Area HQ.¹⁹⁸

¹⁹² Teeple interview with LCol. Ian Hope, RMCC, Kingston, 12 March 2010.

¹⁹³ Ibid.

¹⁹⁴ CBC, "In the Line of Duty;" Red Fridays, "Fallen Canadians."

¹⁹⁵ ---, "No Charges in Friendly Fire Death: Army Report," *CTV News*, 8 August 2007, accessed at http://www.ctv.ca/servlet/ArticleNews/story/CTVNews/20070807/ffire_report_070807/20070808/ on 10 March 2010.

¹⁹⁶ Teeple. interview with LCol. Ian Hope, RMCC, Kingston, 12 March 2010.

¹⁹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁹⁸ CBC, "In the Line of Duty;" Red Fridays, "Fallen Canadians."

- Volatility in the region near Gumbad Platoon House reached levels requiring helicopter air support. Poor location causes establishment of new FOB Martello (in June) on a strategically important road running between Terenkhot and Aruzgan province.¹⁹⁹

7.5 May 2006

- Local Taliban commander (involved in IED cells) Mullah Ibrihim was captured in Panjwaii by Afghan National Police and became prisoner of ANA. His liver disease brought him to the Canadian hospital in Kandahar, where he engaged Lt.Col. Ian Hope and Sean Maloney who convinced him to renounce the Taliban and join the Amnesty Program. This event was a strategic success and demonstrated the importance of the Amnesty Program in rehabilitating Taliban militants so that they could rejoin Afghan society.²⁰⁰

16 May

- **Operation Mountain Thrust** [15 May-31 July 2006] NATO operation in the Zhari and Panjwaii districts to decrease Taliban influence and military activity in SE Afghanistan. Operations include an increased security presence and aid programs intended to win local support.²⁰¹
- **Operation Bravo Guardian**—CF to clear known Taliban safe-havens in the Zhari-Panjwaii districts of Kandahar province—focussed on the nearby village of Bayanzi where intelligence indicated that Taliban forces were massing. Largely a CF/Afghan effort with U.S. support, including Apache attack helos. CF elements include B Coy, 2 PPCLI and a platoon from C Coy, 1 PPCLI, a section of Engineers from 1 Combat Engineer Regiment, and a section from 1 RCHA, and a forward observation officer. A Taliban ambush CF at Bayanzi and was repelled with significant casualties.²⁰²

17 May

- Prime Minister Stephen Harper introduces a motion in the House of Commons for support of a two-year extension of Canada's mission in Afghanistan.²⁰³
- Sustained combat against massed insurgent forces begins.²⁰⁴
- Captain Niccola Goddard, 1 RCHA, killed by RPG strikes on her LAV III.²⁰⁵

¹⁹⁹ Teeple interview with LCol. Ian Hope, RMCC, Kingston, 12 March 2010.

²⁰⁰ Ibid.

²⁰¹ Roggio, Bill, "Three Days of Operation Mountain Thrust in Kandahar," *Long War Journal*, 14 June 2006, accessed at http://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2006/06/three_days_of_operat.php on 27 February 2010.

²⁰² Power, Dennis, "Canadians Involved in Afghan Village Firefight," Canadian Army, DND-CF, 18 May 2006, accessed at <http://www.army.gc.ca/land-terre/news-nouvelles/text-texte-eng.asp?id=1067> on 27 February 2010.

²⁰³ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 113.

²⁰⁴ Teeple interview with LCol. Ian Hope, RMCC, Kingston, 12 March 2010.

²⁰⁵ CBC, "In the Line of Duty;" Red Fridays, "Fallen Canadians;" Blatchford, *Fifteen Days*, pp. 168-170.

23 May

- Task Force Orion engages Taliban up to 37 times between 23 May and 14 June.²⁰⁶ These engagements prevent the insurgents from entering Kandahar city proper, avoiding potentially disastrous urban combat and highlighting NATO forces ability to protect civilian population.²⁰⁷

30 May

- Defence Minister Gordon O'Connor addresses the House of Commons regarding Canada's role in Afghanistan – in which he declared that Canada is not a nation at war.²⁰⁸

7.6 June 2006

- Taliban increased the frequency of suicide attacks.²⁰⁹

2 June

- Arrest of 17 terrorist suspects in Toronto (the “Toronto 17”—later the “Toronto 18”)—possibly Al Qaeda inspired—who had planned to take hostages on Parliament Hill and kill the Prime Minister unless Canada withdrew its troops from Afghanistan and release all Muslims from Canadian prisons.²¹⁰

7 June

- Death of Jordanian Abu Musab Zarqawi—who ran al-Tawhid wal-jihad (Al Qaeda in Iraq) and was an associate of Osama bin Laden—in Baqubah, Iraq, following strikes by U.S. F16 fighter jets on a safe house, using laser-guided bombs. Sheik Abdul Rahman also died in the U.S. air strikes.²¹¹ Zarqawi is reported to have operated a militant training camp near Herat in Afghanistan.²¹²

²⁰⁶ Teeple interview with LCol. Ian Hope, RMCC, Kingston, 12 March 2010.

²⁰⁷ Ibid.

²⁰⁸ Taylor, Scott, “Is Canada at War in Afghanistan, or not?” *Esprit de Corps*, 4 June 2006, accessed at http://www.espritdecorps.ca/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=338:is-canada-at-war-in-afghanistan-or-not&catid=40:afghanistan&Itemid=83 on 6 February 2010.

²⁰⁹ Teeple interview with LCol. Ian Hope, RMCC, Kingston, 12 March 2010.

²¹⁰ ----, “Al Qaeda Warns Canada,” *National Post*, 28 October 2006, accessed at <http://www.canada.com/nationalpost/news/> on 19 February 2010.

²¹¹ Knickmeyer, Ellen and Jonathan Finer, “Insurgent Leader Al-Zarqawi Killed in Iraq,” *Washington Post*, 8 June 2006, accessed at <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/06/08/AR2006060800114.html> on 11 March 2010; Roberts, Joel, “What’s Next After Zarqawi’s Death?” *CBS News*, 8 June 2006, accessed at <http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2006/06/08/iraq/main1692753.shtml> on 11 March 2010.

²¹² Roggio, Bill, “Saif al-Adel, Zarqawi, al Qaeda and Iran,” *Long War Journal*, 15 June 2006, accessed at http://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2005/06/saif_aladel_zar.php on 11 March 2010.

10 June

- The CF begins operations from FOB Martello near El Bak, 100 km North of Kandahar, strategically located in a region known for Taliban transit and smuggling.²¹³

14 June

- B Coy 2 PPCLI continues to operated in Panjwaii [14 June-7 July 2006] while A and C Coys deploy to FOB Martello.²¹⁴

15 June

- CF engaged in Operation Mountain Thrust until July 31st.²¹⁵

7.7 July 2006

- Al Qaeda's information and strategy committee released a document warning Canada to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan or "face an operation similar to New York, Madrid, London and their sisters, with the help of Allah." The document also condemns Canada's role in the "Christian Crusade" against Al Qaeda and cause damage to Muslims. The document makes note of the divisions in Canada—namely public opinion polls and parliamentary opposition—regarding the nation's mission in Afghanistan.²¹⁶

1 July

- Canadian Forces Personnel Support Agency opened the first Tim Hortons at Kandahar Air Field.²¹⁷
- Second deployment Operation Sextant: HMCS Iroquois deployed as flagship [1 July to 31 December 2006].²¹⁸

8 to 12 July

- **Operation Zahar**—1 PPCLI A and C Coys redeploy to Panjwaii-Zhari to assist B Coy in a joint Afghan National Army and Coalition security operation to remove Taliban from the

²¹³ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 118.

²¹⁴ Teeple interview with LCol. Ian Hope, RMCC, Kingston, 12 March 2010.

²¹⁵ Ibid.

²¹⁶ ----, "Al Qaeda Warns Canada, *National Post*, 28 October 2006, accessed at <http://www.canada.com/nationalpost/news/story.html?id=e9f20f44-ec19-470c-9ac3-6c79218d4d91&k=70612> on 19 February 2010.

²¹⁷ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 117.

²¹⁸ DND, Operation Sextant.

district and replace it with authority of the Afghan government.²¹⁹ Success of operation buys time and disrupts Taliban plans to attack Kandahar city.²²⁰

9 July

- Corporal Anthony Boneca, Lake Superior Scottish Regiment, killed during combat with Taliban.²²¹

13 July

- **Operation Hewad**—CF provide support to British forces in Sangin and Gereshk districts of Helmand to disrupt Taliban command and control.²²²

17 July

- Task Force Orion engaged the Taliban in clearing the towns of Nawa and Garmsir in Helmand of insurgents. Taliban from Helmand went into Panjwahi-Zhari district putting pressure on B Coy there.²²³

22 July

- Corporal Francisco Gomez, 1 PPCLI; and Corporal Jason Warren, The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) of Canada killed when their Bison armoured vehicle is struck by a VBIED on the outskirts of Kandahar city.²²⁴ Another suicide bomber detonates himself in the crowd of civilians around the site of the VBIED attack.
- Erroneous reporting by CTV News alleges that Canadian troops fired into the crowd of civilians

31 July

- British Lt.-Gen. David Richards put in charge of NATO forces in Southern Afghanistan, as NATO assumed command of all military operations in southern Afghanistan, which included 2200 CF personnel (increased to 2500 in September).²²⁵

²¹⁹ DND, “Soldier Dies in Firefight with Taliban,” DND—Canadian Army, 14 July 2006, accessed at <http://www.armee.forces.gc.ca/land-terre/news-nouvelles/story-reportage-eng.asp?id=1150> on 20 February 2010.

²²⁰ Teeple interview with LCol. Ian Hope, RMCC, Kingston, 12 March 2010.

²²¹ CBC, “In the Line of Duty;” Blatchford, *Fifteen Days*, pp. 89-90; Red Fridays, “Fallen Canadians.”

²²² Teeple interview with LCol. Ian Hope, RMCC, Kingston, 12 March 2010.

²²³ Ibid.

²²⁴ CBC, “In the Line of Duty;” Blatchford, *Fifteen Days*, pp. 232-234; Red Fridays, “Fallen Canadians.”

²²⁵ ---, “Canada in Afghanistan,” CBC News In Depth, 10 February 2009, accessed at <http://www.cbc.ca/canada/story/2009/02/10/f-afghanistan.html> on 9 March 2010.

7.8 August 2006

- Third Deployment (Roto 2) of Op Athena, Phase II [August 2006-February 2007] deployment of 1st Battalion, RCR Battle Group.²²⁶
- The Global Islamic Media Front called for a “media war” against the U.S. media to influence American public opinion: “People of jihad have to create a media war that goes parallel to the military war. They should not be short on anything because we see the effect the media has on the nation and people in supporting or denouncing.”²²⁷

1 August

- CF in Afghanistan transferred from the U.S.-led OEF to NATO.²²⁸

2-3 August

- **Operation Bravo Corridor:** CF operations commenced in the Pashmul region in the Panjwahi-Zhari district [2 August–14 October 2006].²²⁹ Locals report that the Taliban planned an offensive for August 19 (Afghan Independence Day). 1 PPCLI took the initiative and engaged the Taliban in two schools (on in the North, one in the South)—the defensive position of Taliban within the Pashmul region.²³⁰
- Corporal Christopher Reid, Corporal Bryce Keller, Sergeant Ingram Vaughan, and Private Kevin Dallaire, all from 1 PPCLI are killed during intense close combat with insurgents.²³¹ 11 CF personnel were seriously wounded.

5 August

- Master Corporal Raymond Arndt, Loyal Edmonton Regiment, killed in a vehicle accident south of Kandahar.²³²

²²⁶ DND, Operation Athena.

²²⁷ ----, “Global Islamic Media Front,” Homeland Security – *GlobalSecurity.Org*, 15 November 2006, accessed at http://www.globalsecurity.org/security/profiles/global_islamic_media_front.htm on 19 February 2010.

²²⁸ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 122.

²²⁹ Day, Adam, “Operation Medusa: The Battle for Panjwahi, Part 3: The Fall of Objective Rugby,” *Legion Magazine*, 28 January 2008, accessed at <http://www.legionmagazine.com/en/index.php/2008/01/operation-medus-part-3-the-fall-of-objective-rugby/> on 8 February 2010.

²³⁰ Teeple interview with LCol. Ian Hope, RMCC, Kingston, 12 March 2010.

²³¹ CBC, “In the Line of Duty;” Blatchford, *Fifteen Days*, pp. 19-30; Red Fridays, “Fallen Canadians.”

²³² CBC, “In the Line of Duty;” Red Fridays, “Fallen Canadians.”

6 August

- **Operation Guardian:** 1 PPCLI successfully prevent planned Taliban attack on Kandahar city.²³³

9 August

- Master Corporal Jeffrey Walsh, 2 PPCLI, accidentally shot by a fellow soldier.²³⁴

11 August

- Corporal Andrew Eykelenboom, 1st Field Ambulance, KIA in suicide attack South of Kandahar.²³⁵

19 August

- Masum Ghar—Taliban assault (300 insurgents) on 40-50 CF personnel from 1RCR, 2 Combat Engineer Regiment, 2 Royal Canadian Horse Artillery, medics from 2 Field Ambulance and various support staff²³⁶ and some from ANA and ANP.²³⁷

22 August

- Corporal David Braun, 2 PPCLI, killed by a suicide attacker in Kandahar.²³⁸

7.9 September 2006

- Third deployment (Roto 2) of Op Altair [September 2006-March 2007]: HMCS *Ottawa* deployed from Halifax to operate with USS Boxer Expeditionary Strike Group.²³⁹

2 to 10 September

- **Operation Medusa**—800 coalition soldiers on the ground: 1 PPCLI C Coy in the South, coming through Bazaar-e-Panjwai, with Bravo Company in the North, fighting southward. On one flank was Task Force 31, comprised of coalition—mainly U.S.—Special Forces and also Task Force Grizzly, an American company; with a Danish squad in position to the west and a Dutch Company patrolling the perimeter to the North.

²³³ Teeple interview with LCol. Ian Hope, RMCC, Kingston, 12 March 2010.

²³⁴ Red Fridays, “Fallen Canadians;” ----, “Soldier Killed in Accident Had Just Returned to Afghanistan,” *Ottawa Citizen*, 10 August 2006, accessed at <http://www.canada.com/ottawacitizen/news/story.html?id=afc3f136-0e82-4bd6-ba64-9e8891c7a5aa> on 11 February 2010.

²³⁵ CBC, “In the Line of Duty;” Red Fridays, “Fallen Canadians.”

²³⁶ Day, “Operation Medusa, Part 1.”

²³⁷ Teeple interview with Lt.-Col. Ian Hope, RMCC, Kingston, 12 March 2010.

²³⁸ CBC, “In the Line of Duty;” Red Fridays, “Fallen Canadians.”

²³⁹ DND, Operation Altair.

- Charles Company was to seize the high features around Panjwai–Masum Ghar and Mar Ghar—and isolate the town of Panjwai itself, advancing up to the south bank of the Arghandab River.
- NATO allies provided air support around Panjwai – fighters, bombers, attack helicopters, unmanned drones and even spy planes.²⁴⁰
- Objective Rugby—the White Schoolhouse—Pashmul—across from the Arghandab River.²⁴¹

3 September

- CF Charles Company at the White Schoolhouse (Objective Rugby).²⁴² Casualties: Sgt. Shane Stachnik, 2nd Combat Engineer Regiment; W/O Richard Nolan, 1 RCR; W/O Frank Mellish, 1 RCR; and Private William Cushley, 1 RCR.²⁴³

4 September

- Friendly fire incident—C Coy RCR BG hit by U.S. A-10, killing one CF member and wounding 30.²⁴⁴ Private Mark Graham, 1 RCR, is killed.²⁴⁵ C Coy is rendered combat ineffective.

17 September

- Lt.-Gen. David Richards announced the successful completion of Operation Medusa against the Taliban in the Panjwaii district near Kandahar.²⁴⁶ An estimated 500 Taliban wounded (and some killed).²⁴⁷
- A local farmer reported that “The bombing and the fighting destroyed our mosque, our homes and our vineyards ... The Taliban are gone, but so is most everything else.” Canadian NATO commander in southern Afghanistan, General David Fraser, explained that “There has been battlefield damage largely because of where the Taliban went. We will go back out there and we will help rebuild that.”
- CF began construction of Route Summit—a road from Panjwaii to Kandahar city.²⁴⁸
- Prime Minister Stephen Harper acknowledged that Canada was fighting a war in Afghanistan (in an interview on CBC radio).²⁴⁹

²⁴⁰ Day, “Operation Medusa, Part 3.”

²⁴¹ Day, “Operation Medusa, Part 1.”

²⁴² Ibid.

²⁴³ CBC, “In the Line of Duty.”

²⁴⁴ Day, “Operation Medusa, Part 3.”

²⁴⁵ CBC, “In the Line of Duty.”

²⁴⁶ ---, “Operation Medusa a ‘Significant’ Success: NATO,” *CTV News*, 17 September 2006, accessed at http://www.ctv.ca/servlet/ArticleNews/story/CTVNews/20060917/suicide_bomb_060917/20060917/ on 20 February 2010.

²⁴⁷ Teeple interview with LCol. Ian Hope, RMCC, Kingston, 12 March 2010.

²⁴⁸ Day, *Medusa*, 2008.

18 September

- The worst incident of suicide attack against CF – a suicide bomber on a bicycle detonated around a large contingent of soldiers dismounted in Kafir Band village in the Panjwaii district. Four soldiers were killed and 21 were injured.²⁵⁰ The dead are Corporal Keith Morley, 2 PPCLI; Corporal Shane Keating, 2 PPCLI; Private David Byers, 2 PPCLI; and Corporal Glen Arnold, 2nd Field Ambulance.²⁵¹

21 to 23 September

- Afghan President Hamid Karzai visits Ottawa and Montreal and commends the CF on its efforts in Afghanistan.²⁵²

29 September

- Private Josh Klukie, 1 RCR, is killed by an IED in Panjwaii district.²⁵³

7.10 October 2006

- CF deploys Leopard tanks and armoured engineers to Afghanistan to better protect infantry soldiers in the complex terrain in Southern Afghanistan.²⁵⁴

3 October

- Mortar attack on Patrol Base Wilson.²⁵⁵
- Corporal Robert Mitchell, Royal Canadian Dragoons and Sgt. Craig Gillam, Royal Canadian Dragoons were killed by RPG and rifle assault, while working on road construction project 20 km South of Kandahar.²⁵⁶

7 October

- Trooper Mark Wilson, Royal Canadian Dragoons, is killed by an IED in Panjwaii district.²⁵⁷

²⁴⁹ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 129.

²⁵⁰ Fraser, "Deadly Ends, p. 51.

²⁵¹ CBC, "In the Line of Duty."

²⁵² Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 127.

²⁵³ CBC, "In the Line of Duty."

²⁵⁴ Cadieu, Trevor, "Canadian Armour in Afghanistan," *Canadian Army Journal*, Vol. 10, No. 4, Winter 2008, p. 5, accessed at http://www.army.forces.gc.ca/caj/documents/vol_10/iss_4/CAJ_vol10.4_03_e.pdf on 18 February 2010.

²⁵⁵ Pigott, *Canada in Afghanistan*, p. 129.

²⁵⁶ CBC, "In the Line of Duty."

²⁵⁷ CBC, "In the Line of Duty."

14 October

- Private Blake Williamson and Sgt. Darcy Tedford, 1 RCR, killed in an ambush by insurgents on Hwy 1 (“Ambush Alley) in the Panjwaii district.²⁵⁸
- In response to the casualties, Prime Minister Stephen Harper declares “Whatever they [the insurgents] destroy, we will rebuild.”²⁵⁹

7.11 November 2006

1 November

- Netherlands Maj.-Gen. Ton Van Loon assumes command of ISAF Southern Region.²⁶⁰
- Command of Canadian Task Force Kandahar assumed by Brig.-Gen. Tim Grant.²⁶¹

27 November

- Corporal Albert Storm, 1 and Chief W/O Robert Girouard, 1 RCR, killed by a suicide attack in the Panjwaii district.²⁶²

7.12 December 2006

- In preparation for the next rotation in February ’07, the Peace Support Training Centre in Kingston sends a team of Islamic and Afghan Pashtu cultural and language specialists to Gagetown to augment pre-deployment training.²⁶³

15 December

- Commencement of ISAF/ANAF **Operation Baaz Tsuka (Falcon Summit)** in the Taliban-held Panjwaii-Zhare district—Canadian troops, tanks, and armoured vehicles were sent into the village of Howz-e Madad. Part of the operation includes persuasion by CF personnel to convince second-tier Taliban fighters to disarm and return to their villages.²⁶⁴

²⁵⁸ CBC, “In the Line of Duty.”

²⁵⁹ ----, “2 Canadian Soldiers Killed in Afghan Ambush,” *CBC News*, 15 October 2006, accessed at <http://www.cbc.ca/world/story/2006/10/14/afghanistan.html> on 10 March 2010.

²⁶⁰ MacNamara, Don, and Ken Summers, “A Week in Afghanistan – A Snapshot,” *On Track*, No. 12, No.1, 2007, p. 34, accessed at <http://www.cda-cdai.ca/cdai/uploads/cdai/2008/12/ontrack12n1.pdf> on 22 February 2010.

²⁶¹ Ibid.

²⁶² CBC, “In the Line of Duty.”

²⁶³ Windsor, Lee, David Charters, and Brent Wilson, *Kandahar Tour: The Turning Point in Canada’s Afghan Mission* (Mississauga: John & Wiley Sons Canada, Ltd., 2008), pp. 79-80.

²⁶⁴ ----, “Commander Says Baaz Tsuka Offensive a Success,” *CTV News*, 2 January 2007, accessed at http://www.ctv.ca/servlet/ArticleNews/story/CTVNews/20070102/afghan_baaz_070102/20070102/ on 24 February 2010; Hutchinson, Brian, “Operation Baaz Tsuka Moves into Next Phase,” *Canwest News*

19 December

- CF shells Taliban positions with artillery fire and tank barrage prior to advancing on Howz-e-Madad.
- Coalition forces killed Mullah Akhtar Usami and two other deputies in an airstrike in Helmand province. Usami was a former deputy of Mullah Omar, member of Taliban Shura Majlis (executive council), former foreign minister, and operational commander in Uruzgan, Nimroz, Kandahar, Farah, Herat, and Helmand—he was central in facilitating operations involving Taliban, Al Qaeda and Jalaluddin Haqqani’s group. Sources also indicate that Usami personally vouched for the safety and location of Osama bin Laden and Mullah Omar. Notably, the Taliban denied that Usami was killed.²⁶⁵

Service, 5 December 2006, accessed at <http://www.calgaryherald.com/Archive+Operation+Baaz+Tsuka+moves+into+next+phase/1036692/story.html> on 24 February 2010; ----, “Operation Baaz Tsuka Will Send a Strong Message to Taliban from Afghan People,” NATO-ISAF News Release, 15 December 2006, accessed at <http://www.nato.int/ISAF/docu/pressreleases/2006/pr061215-365.htm> on 24 February 2010.

²⁶⁵ Roggio, Bill, “Taliban Commander Mullah Akhtar Usami Killed in Airstrike,” *Long War Journal*, 23 December 2006, accessed at http://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2006/12/taliban_commander_mu.php on 19 February 2010.

8 2007

8.1 January 2007

2 January

- Brigadier-General Tim Grant announced the success of Operation Baaz Tsuka in disrupting the Taliban, separating the tier-one militants from the tier-two volunteers, in the Panjwaii-Zhare district.²⁶⁶
- Taliban top commander Mullah Dadullah warns of a spring offensive: “Suicide and guerrilla attacks on NATO, American and coalition forces will continue and increase this year. The Taliban will inflict heavy casualties on them.”²⁶⁷

25 January

- Joint Intelligence Operations Center (JIOC) opened at ISAF HQ.²⁶⁸

8.2 February 2007

- Fourth Deployment (Roto 3), Phase II, Op Athena [February-August 2007]—deployment of 2 RCR Battle Group,²⁶⁹ under deputy commander LCol Rob Walker.²⁷⁰
- Objectives included JTFA to secure, patrol, and expand the Kandahar Afghan Development Zone (from the 2006 Afghan National Development Strategy)—expanding inkblot method of state-building and COIN (based on the British in Malaya in 1950s). The battlegroup opened road access on Highway 1 between Kandahar City and Helmand Province, to ensure the safe flow of commercial traffic and improve the flow of civilian traffic [a process described by LCol Robert Walker: “restoring civilian freedom of movement was key to getting life back to something like normal in Kandahar.”]²⁷¹
- Emergence of allegations that Afghan detainees were abused while in custody of Canadian Forces, as a result of University of Ottawa law professor Amir Attaran’s going public with the issue after reviewing DND documents obtained through the Access to Information Act.

²⁶⁶ CTV, “Baaz Tsuka a Success,” 2007.

²⁶⁷ CTV, “Baaz Tsuka a Success,” 2007.

²⁶⁸ Shafran, Stacie N. (Capt.), “Joint Intelligence Operations Center Opens,” ISAF Mirror, March 2007, p. 5, accessed at http://www.nato.int/isaf/docu/mirror/2007/mirror_38_200702-03.pdf on 24 February 2010.

²⁶⁹ DND, Operation Athena.

²⁷⁰ Windsor, et al, *Kandahar Tour*, p. 1.

²⁷¹ Windsor, et al, *Kandahar Tour*, pp. 90-91.

The issue continued to be a feature in the media throughout 2008-2009 to 2010 concerning so-called “human rights abuses” in Afghanistan.²⁷²

1 February

- Taliban assert control over Musa Qala district in Helmand Province (known as the biggest producer of opium in the world).²⁷³

4 February

- U.S. General Dan McNeill replaces British General David Richards as commander of NATO-ISAF.²⁷⁴

8.3 March 2007

5 March

- Taliban claimed to have kidnapped a Briton and two Afghan journalists in Helmand, on accusations of spying on the insurgents.²⁷⁵

6 March

- NATO-ISAF launch **Operation Achilles** in northern Helmand and western portions of Kandahar province, targeting Taliban guerrillas, foreign terrorists, and drug traffickers.²⁷⁶ The operation is intended to establish the basis for security in the region, in anticipation of an expected Taliban spring offensive.²⁷⁷ Approximately 5500 NATO and Afghan troops deployed in Northern Helmand province to focus on the violent districts of this region, where the Taliban control Musa Qala, Washir, and Nawzad.²⁷⁸ According to Brig-Gen. Tim

²⁷² “Military Probe Abuse Allegations in Afghanistan,” *CBC News*, 6 February 2007, accessed at <http://www.cbc.ca/world/story/2007/02/06/military-probe.html>; Koring, Paul, “Amnesty Slams Canada over Afghan Detainees,” *Globe and Mail*, 21 February 2007, accessed at <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/article743285.ece>.

²⁷³ ----, “NATO Launches Major Offensive in Southern Afghanistan,” *Spiegel International*, 6 March 2007, accessed at <http://www.spiegel.de/international/0,1518,470083,00.html> on 23 February 2010.

²⁷⁴ ----, “US General Now Leads NATO Forces in Afghanistan,” *CTV News*, 4 February 2007, accessed at http://www.ctv.ca/servlet/ArticleNews/story/CTVNews/20070204/afghanistan_command_070204?s_name=&no_ads= on 24 February 2010; ----, “Commander ISAF,” NATO-ISAF, ISAF Who’s Who, 27 August 2007, accessed at <http://www.nato.int/isaf/structure/bio/comisaf/mcneill.html>. Accessed 24 February 2010.

²⁷⁵ ----, “NATO Launches Major Offensive in Southern Afghanistan,” *Spiegel Online*, 6 March 2007, available at: <http://www.spiegel.de/international/0,1518,470083,00.html> on 11 March 2010.

²⁷⁶ ----, “Canadian, British Troops Launch Taliban Offensive,” *Canwest News Service*, 6 March 2007, accessed at <http://www.canada.com/topics/news/story.html?id=36941133-9c79-4f26-b65c-b103ed3c878b> on 22 February 2010.

²⁷⁷ Spiegel, “NATO Launches Major Offensive.”

²⁷⁸ Roggio, Bill, “Operation Achilles: NATO’s Offensive in Helmand Province,” *Long War Journal*, 6 March 2007, accessed at http://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2007/03/operation_achilles_n.php on 19 February 2010.

Grant, Canada's role in the operation was intended to be a supporting role.²⁷⁹ One source stated that the objective of Operation Achilles was to keep the Taliban off balance, until NATO mounted **Operation Nawruz**—a spring offensive—involving British, American, Canadian, and Polish forces, with German and French air support—under British command of ISAF-South.²⁸⁰

- Corporal Kevin Megeney, Nova Scotia Highlanders (North), is accidentally shot and killed at Kandahar airfield.²⁸¹
- Voice of Jihad website (www.alemarah.org) run by Taliban insurgents was blocked by providers in Pakistan. The site was used to disseminate propaganda and claim responsibility for attacks on Afghan and foreign forces.²⁸²
- Taliban initiates spring offensive with a wave of suicide attacks.²⁸³

8.4 April 2007

1 April

- Taliban suicide attacks against CF diminished significantly in Kandahar in favour of roadside bombs.²⁸⁴ Ultimately, the suicide attacks did not significantly disrupt the scope or scale of CF operations, although Canadians were targeted with greater frequency than other major contributors to the Afghan mission.²⁸⁵

6 April

- Increasing frequency of roadside bombs.²⁸⁶

8 April

- 6 CF soldiers killed by a roadside bomb west of Kandahar City near the border between Kandahar and Helmand provinces:
 - ◆ Sergeant Donald Lucas, 2 RCR;
 - ◆ Corporal Christopher Paul Stannix, a Reservist from the Princess Louise Fusiliers, based in Halifax, N.S.;

²⁷⁹ ----, "Afghan Offensive," *Maclean's*, 6 March 2007, accessed at http://www.macleans.ca/article.jsp?content=20070306_100137_8608 on 22 February 2010.

²⁸⁰ ----, "Operation Achilles—A British Perspective: Clashes are Clearing the Way for a Bloodier Struggle to Come," *CASR*, March 2007, accessed at <http://www.casr.ca/np-afghan-07.htm> on 22 February 2010.

²⁸¹ CBC, "In the Line of Duty."

²⁸² ----, "Taliban Website Blocked as NATO Offensive Begins," *South Asia News*, 6 March 2007, accessed at http://www.monstersandcritics.com/news/southasia/news/article_1273321.php/Taliban_website_blocked_as_NATO_offensive_begins_Extra on 19 February 2010.

²⁸³ Spiegel, "NATO Launches Major Offensive."

²⁸⁴ Fraser, "Deadly Ends," p. 50.

²⁸⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 58.

²⁸⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 54.

- ◆ Corporal Aaron E. Williams, 2 RCR;
- ◆ Private Kevin Vincent Kennedy, 2 RCR;
- ◆ Private David Robert Greenslade, 2 RCR;²⁸⁷
- ◆ Corporal Brent Poland, 2 RCR.²⁸⁸

11 April

- Master Corporal Allan Stewart and Trooper Patrick Pentland, Royal Canadian Dragoons killed by a roadside bomb west of Kandahar en route to assist 3 injured CF soldiers injured by a roadside bomb one hour beforehand.²⁸⁹

18 April

- Master Corporal Anthony Klumpenhauer dies after falling from a communications tower in Kandahar.²⁹⁰

23 April

- Issue of mistreatment of Afghan detainees surfaces in media reports, creating a venue for public criticism of Canada's mission in Afghanistan, and providing the opposition with arguments calling for the resignation of Defence Minister Gordon O'Connor. According to the handover agreement between CF and Afghan authorities (signed by General Hillier in 2005), once the detainee is questioned at Kandahar Air Field, he is handed over to the Afghan intelligence police—the National Directorate of Security. Colonel Shir Ali Saddiqui, human-rights ombudsman for the Kandahar police department was quoted in the media as stating that his colleagues at the NDS sometimes needed to get rough with detainees, “In these cases, these people need some torture, because without torture they will never say anything.”²⁹¹

²⁸⁷ DND, “Names of Five Canadian Soldiers Killed in Afghanistan Released,” DND-CF, 8 April 2007, accessed at <http://www.dnd.ca/site/news-nouvelles/news-nouvelles-eng.asp?cat=00&id=2239> on 23 February 2010.

²⁸⁸ CBC, “In the Line of Duty.”

²⁸⁹ CBC, “In the Line of Duty;” ----, “2 Canadian Soldiers Killed in Afghanistan,” *CBC News*, 11 April 2007, accessed at <http://www.cbc.ca/world/story/2007/04/11/afghan-deaths.html> on 11 March 2010.

²⁹⁰ CBC, “In the Line of Duty;” ----, “Fall from Tower Kills Canadian Soldier in Kandahar,” *CBC News*, 19 April 2007, accessed at <http://www.cbc.ca/world/story/2007/04/18/soldier-death.html> on 11 March 2010.

²⁹¹ ----, “Critics Blast Tories over Afghan Detainees,” *CTV News*, 23 April 2007, accessed at http://www.ctv.ca/servlet/ArticleNews/story/CTVNews/20070423/afghanistan_jails_070423/20070423/ on 24 February 2010.

8.5 May 2007

- Canadian OMLTs begin working with the 1st Brigade of 205 Corps Afghan National Army, based in Kandahar province. 1 Brigade consists of an HQ, 3 infantry battalions, 1 combat support battalion, and one logistics battalion.²⁹²

3 May

- Canada signs a re-written prisoner transfer agreement with Afghanistan that would allow them more access to insurgents captured by Canadians and turned over to Afghan authorities. The new agreement is to guarantee that prisoners would be interviewed in private without intimidation of Afghan authorities.²⁹³

12 May

- Taliban military commander Mullah Dadullah is killed in a clash with NATO-ISAF and Afghan forces in Helmand province. Taliban sources confirmed his death.²⁹⁴

22 to 24 May

- Prime Minister Stephen Harper travels to Afghanistan during the parliamentary break to meet with Hamid Karzai and review mission objectives. During this meeting Karzai outlined the benefits that his country has seen as a result of Canada's efforts:
 - ♦ 10,000 jobs have been created in Kandahar;
 - ♦ 30,000 people, mostly women, have had access to microcredit loans; and
 - ♦ 40,000 more infants have survived childbirth.²⁹⁵

30 May

- Master Corporal Darrell Priede, Army News Team, 3 Area Support Group—killed in a helicopter crash when the U.S. CH-47 Chinook he was in is shot down in Helmand province

²⁹² DND, "Mentoring the Afghan National Army," DND –CF Backgrounder, 5 January 2010, accessed at <http://www.cefcom.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/nr-sp/doc-eng.asp?id=2596> on 9 February 2010.

²⁹³ ----, "Canada Signs New Prisoner Transfer Agreement," *CTV News*, 3 May 2007, accessed at http://www.ctv.ca/servlet/ArticleNews/story/CTVNews/20070503/detainee_humanrights_070503/20070503/ on 24 February 2010.

²⁹⁴ ----, "Afghan Taleban Commander Killed," *BBC News*, 13 May 2007, accessed at <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/6650755.stm> on 23 February 2010; ----, "Timeline: Afghanistan in Crisis," Al Jazeera, 28 January 2010, accessed at <http://english.aljazeera.net/focus/2010/01/201012855829544554.html> on 23 February 2010; Conroy, Scott, "NATO: Top Taliban Commander Killed," *CBS News*, 13 May 2007, accessed at <http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2007/05/13/world/main2795244.shtml> on 23 February 2010.

²⁹⁵ ----, "Afghanistan Wants Canada's Help, Harper Says," *CTV News*, 22 May 2007, accessed at http://www.ctv.ca/servlet/ArticleNews/story/CTVNews/20070522/harper_afghanistan_070522/20070522/ on 24 February 2010.

near the Kajaki area. Six other NATO troops are killed in the crash. ISAF forces exchanged fire with Taliban when they arrived at the crash scene.²⁹⁶

8.6 June 2007

11 June

- Trooper Darryl Caswell, Royal Canadian Dragoons is killed and two others are injured when their vehicle is struck by an IED during a Combat Logistics Patrol convoy resupply mission to CF and Afghan forces in Kharkriz, North of Kandahar.²⁹⁷

18 June

- ABC news obtained video footage of an al Qaeda-Taliban training camp graduation ceremony, reportedly held on June 9. Taliban commander Dadullah Mansoor (brother of the late Mullah Dadullah) claimed that they are ready to take the fight to NATO countries. A Pakistani journalist and Al Qaeda operative both recorded the event. U.S. intelligence officials responded that the video demonstrated an aggressive and sophisticated propaganda campaign.²⁹⁸

20 June

- Private Joel Wiebe, Sergeant Christos Karigiannis, and Corporal Stephen Bouzane, 3 PPCLI are killed when their vehicle is struck by a roadside bomb in the Panjwaii district.²⁹⁹

²⁹⁶ CBC, "In the Line of Duty;" ----, "Canadian Confirmed Dead in Afghanistan Helicopter Crash," *CBC News*, 31 May 2007, accessed at <http://www.cbc.ca/canada/story/2007/05/31/chinook-afghanistan.html> on 12 March 2010.

²⁹⁷ CBC, "In the Line of Duty;" ----, "Canadian Soldier Killed by Roadside Bomb in Afghanistan," *CBC News*, 12 June 2007, accessed at <http://www.cbc.ca/world/story/2007/06/11/soldier-killed.html> on 12 March 2010.

²⁹⁸ ----, "Taliban Bombing Claim Alarms Canadian Officials," *CTV News*, 18 June 2007, accessed at http://www.ctv.ca/servlet/ArticleNews/story/CTVNews/20070618/taliban_bombers_070618/20070618/ on 24 February 2010; Ross, Brian, "Exclusive Suicide Bomb Teams Sent to U.S., Europe," *ABC News*, 18 June 2007, accessed at http://blogs.abcnews.com/theblotter/2007/06/exclusive_suici.html on 24 February 2010; ABC, "Inside a Taliban 'Commencement,'" *ABC News*, 18 June 2007, accessed at <http://abcnews.go.com/Video/playerIndex?id=3290535> and <http://abcnews.go.com/Video/playerIndex?id=3291853> on 24 February 2010; "Taliban: Mansour Dadullah," *BBC News* (source uncertain), 25 June 2007, accessed at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JJVQym0320w> on 24 February 2010.

²⁹⁹ CBC, "In the Line of Duty."

8.7 July 2007

4 July

- 6 CF soldiers and an Afghan interpreter are killed when their RG-31 Nyala armoured vehicle hit a roadside bomb en route from combat in the Panjwahi district:
 - ♦ Capt. Matthew Johnathan Dawe, 3^r PPCLI
 - ♦ Cpl. Cole Bartsch, 3 PPCLI
 - ♦ Pte. Lane Watkins, 3 PPCLI
 - ♦ Master Cpl. Colin Bason, Royal Westminster Regiment.³⁰⁰
 - ♦ Corporal Jordan Anderson, 3 PPCLI
 - ♦ Captain Jefferson Francis, 1 RCHA.³⁰¹

20 July

- Deployment of HMCS *Toronto* on Operation Sextant [July 20 – December 18 2007].³⁰²

8.8 August 2007

- Fifth Rotation (Roto 4), Phase II, Operation Athena (August 2007 – February 2008) – deployment of 3rd Battalion, Royal 22e Régiment Battle Group.³⁰³

1 August

- Brigadier-General Guy LaRoche assumes command of Task Force Afghanistan.

14 August

- Peter McKay appointed Minister of Defence, replacing Gordon O'Connor.³⁰⁴

³⁰⁰ ----, "Six Soldiers Killed by Massive Roadside Bomb," *CTV News*, 4 July 2007, accessed at http://www.ctv.ca/servlet/ArticleNews/story/CTVNews/20070704/afghan_soldiers_070704/20070704/ on 24 February 2010.

³⁰¹ CBC, "In the Line of Duty."

³⁰² DND, Operation Sextant.

³⁰³ DND, Operation Athena.

³⁰⁴ ----, "MacKay Named New Defence Minister in Cabinet Shuffle," *CBC News*, 14 August 2007, accessed at <http://www.cbc.ca/canada/story/2007/08/14/cabinet-shuffle.html> on 24 February 2010.

19 August

- Private Simon Longtin, 3 Royal 22nd Regiment, killed when his LAV III is struck by a roadside bomb just east of Masum Ghar.³⁰⁵

22 August

- Master Warrant Officer Mario Mercier, 2 Royal 22^e Regiment; and Master Corporal Christian Duchesne, 5th Field Ambulance, 5 Area Support Group, are killed when their LAV III hits an IED near Masum Ghar.³⁰⁶

29 August

- Major Raymond Ruckpaul, Armoured Corps, Royal Canadian Dragoons, died of a gunshot wound.³⁰⁷

8.9 September 2007

- **Operation Sardiq Sarbaz:** CF operations in Zhari-Panjwai district.³⁰⁸
- In Kandahar province, Canadian OMLT formed a sub-unit involving the ANP in a POMLT initiative—a temporary group with a mandate to provide training and mentoring encouraging professionalism and autonomy of the ANP, and facilitating liaison between the ANP, ANA, and ISAF, ultimately extending the legitimacy and authority of the Afghan government.³⁰⁹

24 September

- Corporal Nathan Hornburg of the King's Own Calgary Regiment, is killed while he was repairing a tank track under fire during a patrol west of Kandahar City.³¹⁰

8.10 October 2007

- Creation of the Independent Panel on Canada's Future Role in Afghanistan to advise the government on mission options following February 2009 (withdrawal date)—the panel was

³⁰⁵ CBC, "In the Line of Duty."

³⁰⁶ Ibid.

³⁰⁷ Ibid.

³⁰⁸ Croteau, Pascal, "Lessons Learned from the Use of Tanks in ROTO 4," *Canadian Army Journal*, Vol. 11, No. 2, Summer 2008, pp. 21, 24.

³⁰⁹ DND, "Operation Mentor and Liaison Teams," DND-CF, 5 January 2010, accessed at <http://www.comfec-cefcom.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/fs-fr/omlt-eng.asp> on 14 March 2010.

³¹⁰ CBC, "In the Line of Duty."

chaired by former Deputy Minister John Manley and involved consultations within Canada and Afghanistan, including an on-the-ground assessment of the situation in Afghanistan.³¹¹

- Revision of policy on the release of information relating to battle and non-battle casualties for operational security reasons. For some time the army had banned the release of photographs of damaged vehicles from enemy attack, which would otherwise assist the Taliban in improving their IED capabilities. Other restrictions on the flow of information were cited in order to prevent the enemy from using the information to improve their tactics.³¹²

8.11 November 2007

- Fourth deployment (Roto 3) of Operation Altair [November 2007-April 2008]: HMCS *Charlottetown* deployed from Halifax to operate with the USS Harry S. Truman Carrier Strike Group.³¹³

17 November

- Private Michel Levesque, 3 Royal 22e Regiment, and Corporal Nicholas Beauchamp, 5th Field Ambulance, 5 Area Support Group, are killed when their LAV III is struck by an IED in Zhari district.³¹⁴

8.12 December 2007

30 December

- Gunner Jonathan Dion, 5e Regiment d'artillerie legere du Canada, is killed when his armoured vehicle is struck by an IED in Zhari district. 4 others are wounded.³¹⁵

³¹¹ Cox, "Afghanistan: The Canadian Military Mission."

³¹² Brewster, Murray, "Canada Forbids Reporting on Battlefield Wounded," *Globe and Mail*, 23 March 2010, accessed at <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/>.

³¹³ DND, Operation Altair.

³¹⁴ CBC, "In the Line of Duty."

³¹⁵ CBC, "In the Line of Duty."

9.1 January 2008

- Sixth rotation (Roto 5) of Op Athena—2500 CF personnel deployed to Afghanistan and the Persian Gulf. The Theatre Support Element is comprised of 200 CF personnel deployed in the Persian Gulf providing aviation technical and logistics support to JTF Afghanistan.³¹⁶

6 January

- Corporal Eric Labbe, 2 Royal 22e Regiment and W/O Hani Massouh, 2 Royal 22e Regiment are killed when their LAV III rolled over in Zhari. This incident is not related to any enemy activity.³¹⁷

15 January

- Trooper Richard Renaud, 12e Regiment blindé du Canada is killed by a roadside bomb during a routine patrol in Arghandab district, Kandahar province. One other soldier was injured.³¹⁸

22 January

- Release of the **Manley Panel Report**, which recommended that the CF should remain in Afghanistan beyond February 2009 and that Canada must develop a more comprehensive strategy with greater focus on diplomacy. The report identified 2 conditions: 1. an additional battle group of 1000 personnel be assigned to Kandahar by NATO and/or other allies prior to February 2009; 2. the government acquire new medium-lift helicopters and high-performance UAVs for ISR prior to February '09; in addition to recommendations that Canada role must place greater emphasis on diplomacy and reconstruction, with a gradual military shift from combat to training Afghan national security forces. With these recommendations JTF-AFG would be able to accelerate the mentoring and training of Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) with the objective to transfer security responsibility for Kandahar to ANSF by 2011 with the expiration of the Afghan Compact.³¹⁹

³¹⁶ DND, “Rotation 5 of Operation Athena,” DND – CF Backgrounder, 5 January 2010, accessed at <http://www.cfc.com.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/nr-sp/doc-eng.asp?id=2596> on 9 February 2010.

³¹⁷ CBC, “In the Line of Duty.”

³¹⁸ CBC, “In the Line of Duty.”

³¹⁹ ----, “Canada in Afghanistan,” CBC News In Depth, 10 February 2010, accessed at <http://www.cbc.ca> on 9 March 2010; Manley, John (Senator), et al. *Independent Panel on Canada’s Future Role in Afghanistan*. Final Report, January 2008. Cat. No: FR5-20/1-2008; Cox, “Afghanistan: The Canadian Military Mission.”

23 January

- Corporal Etienne Gonthier, 5e Regiment de genie de combat, is killed and two others injured, when their LAV III is struck by an IED while road clearing in the Panjwaii district.³²⁰

28 January

- Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced the extension of the Canadian mission in Afghanistan to 2011, provided that NATO partners also contribute more combat troops to southern Afghanistan.³²¹

9.2 February 2008

- Sixth Rotation (Roto 5), Phase II, Op Athena [February-August 2008], deployment of 2nd Battalion PPCLI Battle Group.³²²

2 February

- Maj-Gen Lessard assumes command of Regional Command South from UK Maj-Gen. Jacko Page. Maj-Gen Lessard became responsible for CF and coalition operations in Southern Afghanistan—Day Kondi, Zabul, Kandahar, Uruzgan, Helmand, and Nimruz—with the role of assisting Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan in establishing and maintaining security in this region—until November 2008.³²³

17 to 19 February

- NATO meeting in Brussels—over 100 parliamentarians—to examine the situation in Afghanistan, with briefings from Commander Joint Force Brunssum General Egon Ramms, who oversaw ISAF operations. Although Canadians attempted to discuss central items of the Manley Report, the Europeans refused to discuss it. Member countries expressed the need for a clear, comprehensive NATO strategy for Afghanistan.³²⁴

³²⁰ CBC, “In the Line of Duty.”

³²¹ ----, “Canada Wants NATO Help in Afghanistan,” USA Today, 28 January 2008, accessed at http://www.usatoday.com/news/world/2008-01-28-canada-afghanistan_N.htm?csp=34 on 13 February 2010.

³²² DND, Operation Athena.

³²³ Government of Canada, Canadian General Assumes Command of Coalition Troops in Southern Afghanistan, Canada’s Engagement in Afghanistan, 2 February 2008, accessed at http://www.afghanistan.gc.ca/canada-afghanistan/news-nouvelles/2008/2008_02_02.aspx?lang=en on 14 March 2010.

³²⁴ Cox, “Afghanistan: The Canadian Military Mission.”

9.3 March 2008

2 March

- Trooper Michael Hayakaze, Lord Strathcona's Horse, is killed when his LAV III is struck by an IED in Panjwaii.³²⁵

11 March

- Bombardier Jeremie Ouellet, 1 RCHA, died at KAF in a non-combat related incident.³²⁶

16 March

- Sgt. Jason Boyes, 2 PPCLI, is killed by an IED on foot patrol with ANSF southwest of Kandahar.³²⁷

20 March

- Renewal of UNAMA mandate under Security Council Resolution 1806.³²⁸

9.4 April 2008

- Fifth Deployment (Roto 4) of Op Altair [April October 2008]: HMCS *Iroquois* from Halifax deployed with HMC Ships *Protecteur* and *Calgary* from Esquimalt.³²⁹

4 April

- Private Terry Street, 2 PPCLI, is killed in Panjwaii when his vehicle is struck by an IED.³³⁰

2 to 4 April

- NATO summit meeting in Bucharest where some member states committed additional troops and capabilities for ISAF. Results in the Bucharest Summit Declaration: requirements for a broader, more comprehensive strategic effort which includes all major partners and requires the international community to work closely in the comprehensive approach in addressing security challenges of the day and in the future. NATO endorsed an Action Plan—proposals from improving the coherent application of NATO's crisis

³²⁵ CBC, "In the Line of Duty."

³²⁶ Ibid.

³²⁷ Ibid.

³²⁸ DND, Joint Task Force Afghanistan, 2010.

³²⁹ DND, Operation Altair.

³³⁰ CBC, "In the Line of Duty."

management apparatus, enhanced practical cooperation at all levels with other actors, and provisions for support to stabilization and reconstruction.³³¹

27 April

- Taliban attack ceremony commemorating Afghanistan's independence, in which Afghan President Hamid Karzai was attendance, in addition to local and foreign dignitaries – U.S. and UK ambassadors, and the NATO commander in Afghanistan. The attack has been criticized as one of many assassination attempts against President Karzai, and underscores significant security challenges.³³²

9.5 May 2008

- Hunger strike of Taliban prisoners in the Sarposa Prison in Kandahar in protest against alleged torture within the prison. Sources indicate that some prisoners had sewn their mouths shut to demonstrate their commitment.³³³

6 May

- Corporal Michael Starker, 15th Field Ambulance, is killed and another soldier wounded by enemy fire in Pashmul region in Zhari district.³³⁴

14 May

- Brigadier-General Dennis Thompson replaces Brig.-Gen. Guy LaRoche as commander of Joint Task Force Afghanistan.³³⁵

9.6 June 2008

- Canada announces 6 priorities for its Afghan mission:
 - ♦ maintain a more secure environment and establish law and order by building the capacity of the Afghan National Army and Police, and support complementary efforts in the areas of justice and corrections;

³³¹ Cox, "Afghanistan: The Canadian Military Mission;" NATO, Bucharest Summit Declaration, 3 April 2008, available at: http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/official_texts_8443.htm.

³³² Burton, Fred and Scott Stewart, "Kabul Attack: Afghani Security Woes or Taliban Incompetence?" Stratfor Global Intelligence, 30 April 2008, accessed at http://www.stratfor.com/weekly/taliban_s_squandered_opportunity on 14 March 2010.

³³³ French, Nils N. (Capt.), "The Sarposa Prison Break," *Canadian Army Journal*, Vol. 11, No. 2, Summer 2008, p. 8.

³³⁴ CBC, "In the Line of Duty."

³³⁵ DND, "New Commander for Task Force Afghanistan," DND-CF News Release, 14 May 2008, accessed at <http://www.cfc.com.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/nr-sp/doc-eng.asp?id=2650> on 24 February 2010.

- ♦ provide jobs, education, and essential services, like water;
- ♦ provide humanitarian assistance to people in need, including refugees;
- ♦ enhance the management and security of the Afghanistan-Pakistan border;
- ♦ build Afghan institutions that are central to our Kandahar priorities and support democratic processes such as elections; and
- ♦ contribute to Afghan-led political reconciliation efforts aimed at weakening the insurgency and fostering a sustainable peace.³³⁶

3 June

- Combined Task Force 150 commanded by Commodore Bob Davidson on HMCS *Iroquois* [June 3 – September 15 2008].³³⁷
- Captain Richard Leary, 2 PPCLI, is killed when insurgents fired on a security foot patrol in Panjwaii.³³⁸

7 June

- Captain Jonathan Snyder, 1 PPCLI, dies after falling into an open, 20 metre-deep well (*kariz*), during a patrol in Zhari district.³³⁹

13 June

- **Sarposa Prison Attack:** Taliban fighters launched a night attack on Sarposa Prison in Kandahar. A large truck filled with explosives destroyed the prison's main gate and a militant wearing an explosive vest destroyed another. Ultimately, 30 Taliban on motorcycles raided the prison using RPG and small arms fire, killing 9 prisoner staff. 1100 prisoners escaped. An unconfirmed estimate of 400 Taliban or Taliban supporters escape into the Arghandab district.³⁴⁰ Taliban spokesperson was quoted in the Indian media as confirming that 30 insurgents on motorbikes and 2 suicide bombers managed to break 400 of their people from the prison.³⁴¹

³³⁶ DND, Operation Athena.

³³⁷ DND, Operation Altair.

³³⁸ CBC, "In the Line of Duty."

³³⁹ Ibid.

³⁴⁰ Nils N. "The Sarposa Prison Break," p. 8.

³⁴¹ ----, "Taliban Free 1200 in Attack on Kandahar Prison," India Server, 15 June 2008, accessed at <http://www.india-server.com> on 14 March 2010. Stratfor reports that 350-400 Taliban militants were freed of 1100 inmates incarcerated at Sarposa prison. The report also indicates that 6-15 guards (number undetermined) were killed in the attack – Fred Burton and Scott Stewart, "The Destruction of Sarposa," *Stratfor Global Intelligence*, 18 June 2008, accessed at http://www.stratfor.com/weekly/terrorism_weekly_june_18 on 14 March 2010.

9.7 July 2008

- Deployment of ScanEagle UAV system—the first of the recommendations of the *Manley Report* that was put into action.

4 July

- **Operation Accius:** Brigadier-General Mark Skidmore and Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Haindl deployed to Afghanistan for one year – Brig.-Gen. Skidmore in command of the Military Advisory Unit and Lt.-Col. Haindl as Military Liaison Officer.³⁴²
- Corporal Brendan Downey, Military Police Detachment, died in military base quarters in the Persian Gulf, in a non-combat related incident.³⁴³

6 July

- Private Colin Wilmot, 1 Field Ambulance, is killed by an IED while on foot patrol with 1 PPCLI in Panjwaii district.³⁴⁴

17 July

- HMCS *Ville de Quebec* deployed on Operation Sextant [27 July–22 December 2008].³⁴⁵

18 July

- Corporal James Arnal, 2 PPCLI, is killed by a roadside IED while on foot patrol in Panjwaii district.³⁴⁶

9.8 August

- Canadian task force operations in Kandahar Province bolstered by the addition of a U.S. Army infantry regiment.³⁴⁷
- Seventh Rotation (Roto 6), Phase II, Op Athena [August 2008-February 2009]—deployment of 3 RCR Battle Group.³⁴⁸

³⁴² DND, Operation Accius, DND-CF, 5 January 2010, accessed at <http://www.cefc.comfec.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/ops/accius/index-eng.asp> on 26 February 2010.

³⁴³ CBC, “In the Line of Duty.”

³⁴⁴ Ibid.

³⁴⁵ DND, Operation Sextant.

³⁴⁶ CBC, “In the Line of Duty.”

³⁴⁷ DND, Operation Athena.

³⁴⁸ Ibid.

8 August

- Minister of National Defence Peter MacKay and Minister of Public Works Christian Paradis announced a number of aerospace platforms, including UAVs, C-177 Globemaster III, C-130J Hercules, CH-47D Chinook helicopters, and a number of commercial charter program (helicopter and Scan Eagle and Heron UAV) to provide necessary air assets for ground support and ISR in Afghanistan with initial delivery in early 2009.³⁴⁹

9 August

- Master Corporal Josh Roberts, 2 PPCLI, is killed during a firefight with Taliban in Zhari district.³⁵⁰ Speculation that he was accidentally shot by a Private Military Contractor (PMC) in the area have been raised in media, as he was in a joint operation when the incident occurred.³⁵¹

11 August

- Master Corporal Erin Doyle, 3 PPCLI, is killed when insurgents attacked his combat outpost in Panjwahi.³⁵²

20 August

- Corporal Dustin Wasden, Sapper Stephen Stock, Sgt. Shawn Eades, 1 Combat Engineer Regiment, are all killed when an IED detonates next to their armoured vehicle in Zhari district.³⁵³

9.9 September 2008

3 September

- Corporal Mike Seggie, Private Chad Horn, and Corporal Andrew Grenon, PPCLI, are killed when their armoured vehicle was attacked by insurgents in the Zhari district. Five other soldiers are wounded.³⁵⁴

³⁴⁹ Government of Canada, “Ministers MacKay and Paradis Announce Equipment for Canadian Forces that will Strengthen National Sovereignty,” Canada’s Engagement in Afghanistan, 8 August 2008, accessed at http://www.afghanistan.gc.ca/canada-afghanistan/news-nouvelles/2008/2008_08_08a.aspx on 14 March 2010.

³⁵⁰ CBC, “In the Line of Duty.”

³⁵¹ ---, “Canadian Soldier Dies in Firefight in Afghanistan,” *CBC News*, 9 August 2008, accessed at <http://www.cbc.ca/world/story/2008/08/09/soldier-killed.html>.

³⁵² CBC, “In the Line of Duty.”

³⁵³ Ibid.

³⁵⁴ Ibid.

7 September

- Sgt. Prescott Shipway, 2 PPCLI, is killed and 7 injured, when their armoured vehicle is struck by an IED in Panjwahi district.³⁵⁵

13 September

- A series of terrorist attacks occurred in New Delhi, killing 8 and injuring 70 people. The Indian Mujahideen – which is believed to be an amalgam of the SIMI and Lashkar-i-Toiba - claimed responsibility.³⁵⁶

9.10 October 2008

16 to 18 October

- ANA, CF, and British forces defend the Helmand capital of Lashkar Gah against the Taliban.³⁵⁷

30 October

- 12 serial bomb blasts were carried out in Guwahati and three other regions in western Assam, India, killing 77 people and injuring more than 450. The Islamic Security Force – Indian Mujahideen organization claimed responsibility via a text message sent to the Newslive television network in Assam.³⁵⁸

9.11 November 2008

26 to 29 November

- A series of coordinated gun and grenade attacks were launched at 8 popular tourist locations in the financial centre of Mumbai, India, including a railway station, a restaurant, and a number of luxury hotels. At least 80 people (later confirmed 172) were killed and 250 injured. A group called the Deccan Mujahideen claimed responsibility for the attacks.

³⁵⁵ CBC, “In the Line of Duty.”

³⁵⁶ ---, “Terrorist Group Indian Mujahideen Claim 9 Blasts at Delhi,” Thaindian News, 13 September 2008, available at: http://www.thaindian.com/newsportal/india/terrorist-group-indian-mujahideen-claim-9-blasts-at-delhi_10095555.html. Accessed 13 February 2010.

³⁵⁷ Rennie, Steve, “Canadian Soldier Charged with Murder,” *The Toronto Star*, 2 January 2009, available at: <http://www.thestar.com/Article/560822>. Accessed 22 February 2010.

³⁵⁸ ---, “The Islamic Security Force—Indian Mujahideen Claims Responsibility for Assam Serial Blasts,” IndiaServer.com, 1 November 2008, accessed at <http://www.india-server.com/news/the-islamic-security-force-indian-4472.html> on 13 February 2010. The ISF-IM are believed to have been established in 2000 in western Assam to counter elements of the Bodo Liberation Tigers and NDFB militants, which campaigns against Muslims from Bangladesh; ---, “Islamic Group Claims Responsibility for India’s Serial Blasts,” Channel News Asia, 31 October 2008, accessed at http://www.channelnewsasia.com/stories/afp_asiapacific/view/386863/1.html on 13 February 2010.

Westerners were held hostage at the Taj Mahal hotel in the Colaba district and the Trident hotel.³⁵⁹ Members of the Pakistani militant organization Lashkar-i-Taiba claimed responsibility for the attacks, and sources have noted that the ISI assisted in the creation, financing, and training of Lashkar in the 1980s conflict with India in Kashmir.³⁶⁰ The organization is reported to be comprised of cadres from Pakistan and Afghanistan, in addition to militants from Sudan, Bahrain, Central Asia, Turkey, and Libya funded by the Pakistani ISI. Its main area of operations is Jammu and Kashmir, but is known to operate in other regions of India (as noted in the Mumbai attacks). In addition to its ISI connection (and sponsorship), Lashkar is reported to be closely linked with the Taliban and Al Qaeda. Therefore, the Mumbai attacks may be linked in some way to the Afghanistan conflict.³⁶¹

9.12 December 2008

5 December

- W/O Robert Wilson, 1 RCR; Corporal Mark McLaren, 1 RCR; and Private Demetrios Diplaros, 1 RCR, are killed when their armoured vehicle is struck by an IED in Zhari district.³⁶²

6 December

- Establishment of Joint Task Force Afghanistan Air Wing³⁶³—which comprised all CF air assets deployed in Southwest Asia—at Kandahar Airfield. JTF-Afghanistan Air Wing controls all CF aircraft arriving in and departing from the theatre of operations, including the CC-150 Polaris and the CC-177 Globemaster III strategic airlifters. Its four main theatre components are:
 - ♦ Canadian Helicopter Force Afghanistan (CHFA), operating D-model CH-147 Chinook medium-to heavy- lift helicopters, CH-146 Griffon escort helicopters, and chartered Mi-8 cargo helicopters. The helicopters contribute to a pool of aircraft managed by the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force’s Regional Command South Headquarters;

³⁵⁹ ----, “Scores Killed in Mumbai Attacks,” Al Jazeera, 27 November 2008, accessed at <http://english.aljazeera.net> on 13 February 2010. A chronology of details of the incident is available in a RAND Occasional Paper, “The Lessons of Mumbai,” RAND Corporation, 2009, 23-24, accessed at http://rand.org/pubs/occasional_papers/2009/RAND_OP249.pdf on 14 March 2010.

³⁶⁰ Opiel, Richard A., and Salman Masood, “Pakistani Militants Admit Role in Siege, Official Says,” *New York Times*, 31 December 2008, accessed at http://www.nytimes.com/2009/01/01/world/asia/01pstan.html?_r=1 on 14 March 2010.

³⁶¹ SATP, “Lashkar-e-Toiba, ‘Army of the Pure,’” South Asia Terrorism Portal, undated, accessed at http://satp.org/satporgtp/countries/india/states/jandk/terrorist_outfits/lashkar_e_toiba.htm on 14 March 2010.

³⁶² CBC, “In the Line of Duty.”

³⁶³ DND, Joint Task Force Afghanistan (JTF-AFG) Air Wing, Canada’s Air Force Operations in Afghanistan, 2008, accessed at <http://www.airforce.forces.gc.ca/vital/v2/docs/jtfa-foia/jtf-afg-eng.pdf> on 14 March 2010.

- ♦ Canadian Heron UAV Detachment (CHUD), operating the CU-170 Heron unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV). With its great range and varied package of high performance sensors, the Heron UAV can cover the entire Canadian area of responsibility to provide critical intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance;
- ♦ Tactical Airlift Unit (TAU), operating the CC-130 Hercules transport aircraft that transports CF personnel and equipment in and out of Kandahar, and is flown throughout Afghanistan in support of NATO missions; and
- ♦ Theatre Support Element (TSE), providing aviation, technical and logistics support services to CF personnel and units deployed in Afghanistan from its location in the Persian Gulf region. The TSE is a critical component of the air bridge between Canada and Afghanistan, handling the transfer of passengers and cargo between strategic and tactical transport aircraft arriving and departing around the clock, as well as providing other services and support. The TSE comprises several subunits that support Canadian operations in Afghanistan.³⁶⁴

13 December

- Private Justin Jones, Corporal Thomas Hamilton, and Private John Curwin, 2 RCR, are killed by an IED in their armoured vehicle in Kandahar province.³⁶⁵

26 December

- Private Michael Freeman, 3 RCR, killed and 3 others injured when an IED detonated near their vehicle, in Zhari district.³⁶⁶

27 December

- W/O Gaetan Roberge, Royal 22nd Regiment; and Sgt. Gregory Kruse, 2 Combat Engineer Regiment, are killed by an IED on security patrol in Panjwaii district. 4 others were injured.³⁶⁷

27-28 December

- **Operation ATAL 47**—A disruption and search operation, near Senjaray, Zharey District, to enhance security for voter registration. 1 Brigade HQ directed its own troops (205 Corps), Afghan National Police, members of the National Directorate of Security and ISAF soldiers. Afghan National Security Forces discovered and destroyed three IED production facilities and IED making components; discovered weapons caches of small arms, rockets, grenades,

³⁶⁴ DND, “Joint Task Force Afghanistan Air Wing,” DND-CF, 5 January 2010, accessed at <http://www.cefcom-comfec.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/ops/fs-fr/aw-ea-eng.asp> on 20 February 2010.

³⁶⁵ CBC, “In the Line of Duty.”

³⁶⁶ Ibid.

³⁶⁷ Ibid.

significant quantities and assortment of ammunition; assisted in neutralizing an insurgent in the act of planting an IED; and captured a suspected local insurgent commander.³⁶⁸

31 December

- Captain Robert Semrau is charged with second degree murder for killing an unarmed Taliban insurgent. The charge came at the same time that a Canadian Forces National Investigation Service launched an investigation into the alleged incident.³⁶⁹

³⁶⁸ ----, "ANA Takes the Lead in Recent Operation," ISAF News Release, NATO-ISAF, 3 January 2009, accessed at <http://www.nato.int/isaf/docu/pressreleases/2009/01/pr090103-014.html> on 18 February 2010.

³⁶⁹ ----, "Family of Soldier Charged with Murder 'Shocked'," *Canwest News Service*, 3 January 2009, accessed at <http://www.nationalpost.com/news/story.html?id=1138920> on 22 February 2010; Armstrong, Jane; Bill Curry; Graeme Smith, "Soldier's Murder Charge Raises Questions About Secrecy," *Globe and Mail*, 3 January 2009, accessed at <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/world/article964309.ece> on 22 February 2010.

10 2009

- Canadian OMLTs expanded to support Afghan National Police detachments across Kandahar Province.³⁷⁰

10.1 January 2009

2 January

- Captain Robert Samrau charged on December 31 2008 with second-degree murder in the death of a severely wounded unarmed Taliban insurgent in the October 2008 battle of Lashkar Gah, Helmand Province. Omar Samad, Afghan Ambassador to Canada, stated that the allegation should not taint the previous work done by Canadian military mentors. A statement from the Afghan Army General Sher Muhammad Zazai indicated that he had not heard of any “inappropriate conduct” concerning the death of the insurgent.³⁷¹
- CF soldiers prevented suicide attack by a man attempting to drive a vehicle laden with explosives (two 250-kilogram and one 100-kilogram Soviet-era aircraft bombs) into their security patrol in the district of Shawwali Kot, North of Kandahar city. The soldiers shot and killed the would-be-suicide bomber. The potential effect on coalition forces was noted by Major David Warnke, commander of the counter-IED squadron in Kandahar—that the explosives had the potential to kill everyone on foot within a 260-metre range, and to cause significant damage within a 1,500-metre range. Major Warnke indicated that the Taliban construct devices that are designed to target the Afghan National Army, some to target the police, and some to target coalition-force vehicles.³⁷²

7 January

- Trooper Brian Good, Royal Canadian Dragoons, is killed in Shah Wali Kowt district in northern Kandahar province when an IED detonated close to his vehicle. Three other soldiers were injured.³⁷³

³⁷⁰ DND, Operation Athena.

³⁷¹ Rennie, Steve, “Canadian Soldier Charged with Murder,” *The Toronto Star*, 2 January 2009, accessed at <http://www.thestar.com/Article/560822> on 22 February 2010; ---, “Family of Soldier Charged with Murder ‘Shocked’,” *Canwest News Service*, 3 January 2009, accessed at <http://www.nationalpost.com/news/story.html?id=1138920> on 22 February 2010; O’Neill, Juliet, “Move Court Martial to Afghanistan: Lawyer,” *Canwest News Service*, 26 January 2010, accessed at <http://www.nationalpost.com/news/canada/story.html?id=2484105> on 22 February 2010.

³⁷² Hansen, Darah, “Afghan Suicide Bomber Thwarted, Killed,” *Canwest News Service*, 2 January 2009, accessed at <http://www.ottawacitizen.com/news/world/Canadian+soldiers+foil+suicide+attack/1132811/story.html> on 22 February 2010.

³⁷³ CBC, “In the Line of Duty.”

31 January

- Sapper Sean Greenfield, 2 Combat Engineer Regiment, is killed when a bomb exploded beneath his armoured vehicle in the Zhari district.³⁷⁴

10.2 February 2009

- Eighth Rotation (Roto 7), Phase II, Op Athena [February-August 2009]; deployment of 2nd Battalion, Royal 22e Régiment Battle Group.³⁷⁵
- Canadian contingent in Southern Afghanistan accepts delivery of 6 CH-47D Chinooks from the U.S. Army. The Chinooks provide greater lift capacity and flies faster than any craft the Canadians have in Afghanistan, according to Corporal Chris Sample; and are the medium-lift helicopter of choice, according to Lt.-Col. Peter Steel of 50 Aviation Wing, Australia, who stated that “it’s the thing that can operate here high and hot and heavy, it’s guaranteed.” The craft is understood by the RAF as a “force multiplier.”³⁷⁶
- Brig.-Gen. Jonathan Vance took command of Task Force Kandahar

10.3 March 2009

- **Operation Kalay I:** Village (“kalay”) approach—Clear, Hold, Build strategy—clearing insurgents out of areas in Kandahar province village by village, followed by CIMIC operations to assist in re-establishing order and rebuilding. Task Force Kandahar begins by securing the village against the insurgency, separating the insurgents from the population, the ANA and ANP with CF and RCMP support securing the village boundaries, preventing insurgents from terrorizing the population, and allows Canadian development and reconstruction teams (CIDA and DFAIT with CF) to assist the locals in the building phase.³⁷⁷

3 March

- Corporal Kenneth O’Quinn, 2 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group, Headquarters and Signals Squadron; Corporal Dany Fortin, 425 Tactical Fighter Squadron; and W/O Dennis Brown of the Lincoln and Welland Regiment, are killed when an IED detonated near their armoured vehicle while on patrol in Arghandab district.³⁷⁸

³⁷⁴ Ibid.

³⁷⁵ DND, Operation Athena.

³⁷⁶ Nelson, Brian, “Rotorcraft in Afghanistan,” Air Force News, DND – Canada’s Air Force, 19 January 2010, accessed at <http://www.airforce.forces.gc.ca/v2/nr-sp/index-eng.asp?id=9942> on 16 February 2010.

³⁷⁷ Kellerman, Jennifer, “Operation Kalay: Moving on to Build in the South,” DND-CF, 18 September 2009, accessed at <http://comfec-cefcom.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/fs-ev/2009/09/18-eng.asp> on 14 March 2010.

³⁷⁸ CBC, “In the Line of Duty.”

8 March

- Trooper Marc Diab, Royal Canadian Dragoons, is killed and 4 injured when their armoured vehicle is struck by an IED in Shah Wali Kot district.³⁷⁹

20 March

- Master Corporal Scott Vernelli and Corporal Tyler Crooks, 3 RCR, and Troopers Corey Hayes and Jack Bouthillier, Royal Canadian Dragoons, are killed when an IED exploded near their patrol in the Zhari district.

10.4 April 2009

Spring 2009

- The Canadian operation in the Deh-e-Bagh village (see March 2009 entry) has received positive response from the international community as the model for ISAF operations. In addition to providing security in and around the village, the approach has provided employment for Afghans to pave roads, repair mosques, and dig new irrigation canals.

2 April

- HMCS *Winnipeg* deployed on Operation Sextant [April 2 – June 2 2009].³⁸⁰

13 April

- Trooper Karine Blais, 12e Regiment blindé du Canada, is killed and 4 others injured when their armoured vehicle is struck by a roadside bomb in Shaw Wali Kot district.³⁸¹

23 April

- Major Michelle Mendes, Chief of Defence Intelligence, dies in a non-combat related incident at Kandahar Airfield.³⁸²

10.5 May 2009

- No significant events.

³⁷⁹ CBC, “In the Line of Duty.”

³⁸⁰ DND, Operation Sextant.

³⁸¹ CBC, “In the Line of Duty.”

³⁸² Ibid.

10.6 June 2009

- Canadian Forces' Brigadier-General Eric Tremblay deployed to Kabul as NATO-ISAF spokesperson.³⁸³
- General Stanley A. McChrystal appointed to command NATO-ISAF.³⁸⁴

8 June

- Private Alexandre Peloquin, 3 Royal 22e Regiment, is killed by an IED while on foot patrol in Nakhoney, Panjwaii district.³⁸⁵

14 June

- Corporal Martin Dube, 5 Combat Engineer Regiment, is killed while attempting to defuse an IED, southwest of Kandahar city. The explosion also killed an Afghan police officer and injured an interpreter.³⁸⁶

23 June

- *Shura* meeting in the Afghan village of Deh-e-Bagh in the Dan district of Kandahar. Participants included Canadian representatives Ken Roswell, Deputy Head of **Operation Kantolo**, Brig.-Gen. Jonathan Vance, Commander of JTFA, and Ken Lewis, Canada's representative in Kandahar met with Tooryalai Wesa, Governor of Kandahar, and Ahamadullah Nazak, District Chief of Dand.³⁸⁷ Operation Kantolo is based on COIN principles, which aims to bring lasting security to Kandahar City and key villages in surrounding districts – thus the focus is on the population. Operation Kalay is the village-level application of Kantolo, with four key objectives: shape, clear, hold, build.
- Master Corporal Charles-Philippe Michaud, 2 Royal 22nd Regiment, was injured when an IED detonated near his dismounted patrol in Panjwaii. He died on June 28, 2009.³⁸⁸

23 June

- Villagers of Deh-e-Bagh take initiative to provide for their own security, supported by ANSF positioned to protect the village in the Dand district. Neighbouring communities emulate this effort.³⁸⁹

³⁸³ ISAF – Who's Who, NATO-ISAF, 23 July 2009, accessible at <http://www.nato.int/isaf/structure/bio/spokesperson/tremblay.html> on 18 February 2010.

³⁸⁴ ISAF Who's Who, NATO-ISAF, 10 August 2009, accessed at <http://www.nato.int/isaf/structure/bio/comisaf/mcchrystal.html> on 18 February 2010.

³⁸⁵ CBC, "In the Line of Duty."

³⁸⁶ Ibid.

³⁸⁷ Government of Canada, "Op Kantolo," 15 July 2009, accessed at http://www.afghanistan.gc.ca/canada-afghanistan/tbrief-seancedit/2009_06_23.aspx?lang=eng on 25 February 2010.

³⁸⁸ ---, "Canadian Soldier Wounded in Afghanistan Dies," CBC News, 5 July 2009, accessed at <http://www.cbc.ca/canada/story/2009/07/05/wounded-soldier-dies.html> on 14 March 2010.

³⁸⁹ Kellerman, Operation Kalay, 2009.

10.7 July 2009

3 July

- Corporal Nick Bulger, 3 PPCLI, is killed when an IED detonated near his LAV III. The explosion narrowly missed the vehicle ahead of Corporal Bulger's, in which Brig.-Gen. Jonathan Vance, commander of coalition troops in Kandahar, was a passenger.³⁹⁰

6 July

- Corporal Martin Joannette, 3 Royal 22nd Regiment, Master Corporal Patrice Audet, 430 Tactical Helicopter Squadron, and a British soldier, were killed, and 3 other CF soldiers were injured, in a helicopter crash in Zabul province.³⁹¹

16 July

- Private Sebastien Courcy, 2 Royal 22nd Regiment, was killed when he fell from high ground where he had been positioned on operations in Panjwai district.³⁹²

10.8 August 2009

- Ninth Rotation (Roto 8), Phase II, Op Athena [August 2009-February 2010], deployment of 1st Battalion PPCLI Battle Group.³⁹³
- William Crosbie appointed Canada's fifth ambassador to Afghanistan.³⁹⁴

1 August

- Corporal Christian Bobbitt and Sapper Matthieu Allard, 5 Combat Engineer Regiment are killed by an IED near Sanjaray, in Zhari district.³⁹⁵

20 August

- Afghan federal election, is successfully completed but with some allegations of fraud.³⁹⁶ During the Afghan national elections, there were nearly 450 security incidents, reportedly

³⁹⁰ ----, "Roadside Bomb Kills Canadian Soldier in Afghanistan," CBC News, 3 July 2009, accessed at <http://www.cbc.ca/world/story/2009/07/03/soldier-afghanistan.html> on 14 March 2010.

³⁹¹ ----, "2 Canadian Soldiers Die in Afghanistan Helicopter Crash," CBC News, 7 July 2009, accessed at <http://www.cbc.ca/world/story/2009/07/06/afghanistan-canadiansoldiers.html>.

³⁹² ----, "Canadian Soldier Dies in Afghanistan," CBC News, 16 July 2009, accessed at <http://www.cbc.ca/world/story/2009/07/16/canadian-soldier-killed.html> on 14 March 2010.

³⁹³ DND, Operation Athena.

³⁹⁴ Government of Canada, *Canada's Engagement in Afghanistan, Quarterly Report to Parliament for the Period of July 1 to September 30, 2009* (Ottawa: Government of Canada, 2009), p. 3.

³⁹⁵ ----, "2nd Canadian Soldier Killed in Blast Named," CBC News, 3 August 2009, accessed at <http://www.cbc.ca/canada/ottawa/story/2009/08/03/allard-soldier-afghanistan.html> on 14 March 2010.

³⁹⁶ Government of Canada, "Afghanistan Elections 2009," *Canada's Engagement in Afghanistan*, 23 October 2009, accessed at <http://www.afghanistan.gc.ca/canada-afghanistan/progress-progress/elections.aspx?lang=eng> on 14 March 2010.

the highest number on a single day since 2001. Fewer Afghans voted than in the 2004 elections, the lowest numbers occurred in Kandahar.³⁹⁷

25 August

- **Operation Kalay II**—to stabilize Dand district and implement the build stage in Southern Afghanistan.³⁹⁸

30 August

- ISAF Commander General Stanley McChrystal recommended the implementation of a COIN strategy that gives priority to protecting Afghans rather than seizing terrain or killing insurgents—akin to approach of Canadian Forces in Operation Kantolo—and includes a unity of effort among coalition partners and between military and civilian organizations at all levels.³⁹⁹

10.9 September 2009

6 September

- Major Yannick Pepin and Corporal Jean-Francois Drouin, 5 Combat Engineer Regiment, are killed when an IED detonated next to their LAV III in Dand district.⁴⁰⁰

13 September

- Private Patrick Lormand, 2 Royal 22nd Regiment, is killed and 4 others injured when an IED detonated next to his armoured vehicle on patrol in Panjwaii district.⁴⁰¹

17 September

- Private Jonathan Couturier, 2 Royal 22nd Regiment, is killed and 11 injured when an IED detonated next to his LAV III in Panjwaii district.⁴⁰²

³⁹⁷ Canada's Engagement in Afghanistan, p. 3.

³⁹⁸ Kellerman, Jennifer, "Operation KALAY: Moving to Build in the South," DND-CF, 18 September 2009, accessed at <http://www.cefcom.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/fs-ev/2009/09/18-eng.asp> on 25 February 2010.

³⁹⁹ Canada's Engagement in Afghanistan, p. 3.

⁴⁰⁰ CBC, "In the Line of Duty."

⁴⁰¹ Ibid.

⁴⁰² Ibid.

10.10 October 2009

9 October

- Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced that Canada would end its combat mission in Afghanistan in 2011⁴⁰³

25 October

- Commencement of **Operation Saiph** - Canadian Forces' contribution to maritime security operations against terrorism in the North Arabian Sea–Persian Gulf region, and counter-piracy operations in the waters around the Horn of Africa. Combined Task Force 150 led by the U.S. NAVCENT conducts the multinational counter-terrorism component of Op Saiph. NATO conducts the anti-piracy mission under Operation Ocean Shield under direction of the Allied Maritime Component Command HQ Northwood in UK.
- First deployment (ROTO 1) of Operation Saiph: HMCS *Fredericton* from Halifax under command of Cdr Steven Waddell, in conjunction with operations of CTF 150 and the Standing NATO Maritime Group 1.⁴⁰⁴

28 October

- Lieutenant Justin Boyes, 3 PPCLI, is killed and 2 others injured, by an IED on foot patrol in Pajwaii district.⁴⁰⁵

30 October

- Sapper Steven Marshall, 1 Combat Engineer Regiment, is killed by an IED while on foot patrol in Panjwaii district.⁴⁰⁶

10.11 November

15 November

- **Operation Hydra**—Joint Canadian-Afghan operation (C Coy, 1 PPCLI—led by Lt.-Col. Jerry Walsh; 2nd Kandak, 1 Brigade, 205 Corps ANA—led by Lt.-Col. Sakhi Mohammed

⁴⁰³ “Troops to Get Non-Combat Role in Afghanistan after 2011,” CBC News, 10 October 2010, accessed at <http://www.cbc.ca/canada/story/2009/10/09/afghanistan-soldiers-canadian.html>.

⁴⁰⁴ DND, “Operation Saiph, DND-CF, 17 February 2010, accessed at <http://www.cefcom.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/ops/saiph/index-eng.asp> on 25 February 2010.

⁴⁰⁵ CBC, “In the Line of Duty.”

⁴⁰⁶ Ibid.

Barriz) to clear insurgents from Nakhonay and Hajji Baba villages in the Panjwaii district, in addition to clearing the area of IEDs.⁴⁰⁷

19 November

- Brigadier-General Daniel Menard becomes commander of Joint Task Force Afghanistan.⁴⁰⁸

10.12 December 2009

1 December

- U.S. President Barack Obama announced a 30, 000-strong surge for the war in Afghanistan.⁴⁰⁹

23 December

- Lieutenant Andrew Nuttal, 1 PPCLI, is killed by an IED while on foot patrol in Panwaii district.⁴¹⁰

25 December

- Attempted bombing of U.S. Delta/Northwest flight 253 from Amsterdam to Detroit, by Nigerian Al Qaeda operative Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab who was relieved by passengers of a remote explosive device poised to detonate explosives hidden in his underwear.⁴¹¹ Reports later revealed that this operative was trained by Al Qaeda in Yemen, which could become an alternative to Afghanistan, as a training ground for Islamic terrorism.⁴¹²

⁴⁰⁷ Angell, Lena, "Operation Hydra: Joint Canadian-Afghan Force Clears Insurgents from Panjwayii Villages," DND-CF, 5 January 2010, accessed at <http://www.cefcom.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/fs-ev/2009/12/07-eng.asp> on 24 February 2010.

⁴⁰⁸ Desbiens, Yves, "New Commander for Joint Task Force Afghanistan," DND-CF, 5 January 2010, accessed at <http://www.cefcom.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/fs-ev/2009/11/19-eng.asp> on 24 February 2010.

⁴⁰⁹ ---, "Barack Obama to Announce 30,000 US Troop Surge to Afghanistan," *Telegraph*, 1 December 2009, accessed at <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/asia/afghanistan/6703226/Barack-Obama-to-announce-30000-US-troop-surge-to-Afghanistan.html> on 13 February 2010.

⁴¹⁰ CBC, "In the Line of Duty."

⁴¹¹ ---, "Explosive Device Set Off Aboard Airliner," *CNN*, 25 December 2009, accessed at <http://www.cnn.com/2009/TRAVEL/12/25/airliner.firecrackers/index.html>.

⁴¹² Worthington, Peter, "Another Quagmire in Hunt for al-Qaida?" *Toronto Sun*, 8 January 2010, accessed at http://www.torontosun.com/news/columnists/peter_worthington/2010/01/08/12387726-sun.html on 15 January 2010; Simpson, Jeffrey, "The 'Accidental Guerrilla' is the Latest Jihadi Threat," *Globe and Mail*, 11 January 2010, accessed at <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/opinions/Somnia/article1427526/> on 15 February 2010.

30 December

- Sgt. Kirk Taylor, 84 Independent Field Battery, Royal Canadian Artillery; Sgt. George Miok, 41 Combat Engineer Regiment; Corporal Zachery McCormack, Loyal Edmonton Regiment, and Private Garrett Chidley, 2 PPCLI⁴¹³ and Calgary Herald journalist Michelle Lang are killed when their LAV III is struck by an IED south of Kandahar city. Bushra Amjad Saeed, Foreign Affairs officer, who served as a political officer to the Kandahar PRT, is severely wounded.⁴¹⁴

⁴¹³ CBC, “In the Line of Duty.”

⁴¹⁴ Singer, Zev, & Matthew Pearson, “Foreign Affairs Officer Still in Critical Condition After IED Blast,” *Ottawa Citizen*, 5 January 2010, accessed at <http://news.globaltv.com/story.html?id=2406331> on 15 February 2010.

11 2010 (January to March)

11.1 January 2010

6 January

- Prime Minister Stephen Harper affirmed that the CF will leave Afghanistan at the end of 2011 [withdrawal from July – December 2011], indicating that Canada’s activity following 2011 will be a strictly civilian mission.⁴¹⁵ However, according to NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen “whatever Canada decides, NATO and ISAF (NATO military forces) will stay in Afghanistan as long as it takes to finish our job.”⁴¹⁶

16 January

- Sgt. John Faight, 1 PPCLI, is killed when he stepped on an IED while on foot patrol in Panjwaii district.⁴¹⁷

28 January

- 7th International Conference on Afghanistan in London, England⁴¹⁸—60 nation summit organized by British Prime Minister Gordon Brown—will include senior figures of the Afghan government, United Nations, U.S. military leadership. The objective is to attempt to reach a peace settlement with Taliban. A suggested strategy is “Tajikistanization” (in which the civil war in Tajikistan, circa 1997, was resolved by discussions that allowed warlords and Islamists to control 1/3 of government appointments and territory, which although lacking in democratic values and human rights, has achieved stability.⁴¹⁹
- President Hamid Karzai proposed the notion of creating an international fund to pay Taliban militants and leaders to join the Afghan government.⁴²⁰

⁴¹⁵ Akin, David, “Afghanistan will be “Strictly Civilian Mission” after 2011, PM Says,” *Canwest News Service*, 7 January 2010, accessed at <http://www.globalmaritimes.com/world/Somnia/2413812/story.html> on 15 February 2010.

⁴¹⁶ O’Neill, Juliet, “Canadians Shouldn’t Worry About Afghan Torture,” *Canwest News Service*, 13 January 2010, accessed at <http://news.globaltv.com/world/Somnia/2438492/story.html> on 15 February 2010.

⁴¹⁷ CBC, “In the Line of Duty.”

⁴¹⁸ O’Neill, “Canadians Shouldn’t Worry;” Banerjee, Nipa, “Past Failures Must Be Addressed in London,” *Global News*, 27 January 2010, accessed at <http://news.globaltv.com/money/story.html?id=2488543> on 16 February 2010. Previous International Conferences on Afghanistan were held annually from 2001 at Tokyo, Berlin, London, Paris, and the Hague.

⁴¹⁹ Saunders, Doug, “NATO Weighs Taliban Truce in Plans for Afghan Peace,” *Globe and Mail*, 26 January 2010, accessed at <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/world/Somnia/article1443756/> on 16 February 2010.

⁴²⁰ Saunders, Doug, “Canada on Sidelines of Afghan Strategy,” *Globe and Mail*, 28 January 2010, accessed at <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/world/canada-on-sidelines-of-afghan-strategy/article1446968/> on 17 February 2010.

- Minister of Foreign Affairs announced that the Canadian government is contributing toward counter-narcotic efforts in order combat the opium trade, in addition to improving policing and the criminal justice system in Afghanistan.⁴²¹

11.2 February 2010

- Afghan Taliban's No. 2 commander Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar was arrested in Karachi, Pakistan, by joint CIA and Pakistani security forces. Mullah Baradar was second in command to Taliban founder Mullah Mohammed Omar. The arrest has been linked to reports that the Taliban have been increasingly using Karachi—a predominantly Pashtun town—as a base.⁴²²

12 February

- Corporal Joshua Baker, Loyal Edmonton Regiment, died after a training accident at a shooting range near Kandahar.⁴²³

13 February

- **Operation Moshtarak**—largest air assault in the Afghan War involving Canadian, American, British, and other coalition forces, directed against the town of Marjah and the district of Nad Ali in the Helmand province—the last two regions of significant Taliban control in Helmand province. These locations represent the world's largest centre for poppy growing, and a major bomb-making and staging area for suicide bombers. Prior to the assault, ISAF had dropped leaflets in Pashtu and made broadcasts around Marjah, warning residents of the region of the impending operation.⁴²⁴
- Corporal Joshua Baker, Loyal Edmonton Regiment, killed in a training accident northeast of Kandahar city.⁴²⁵

⁴²¹ Brennan, Richard J., "Ottawa Adds \$25M to Fight Afghan Drug Trade," *The Toronto Star*, 28 January 2010, accessed at <http://www.thestar.com/news/canada/afghanmission/article/757014--ottawa-adds-25m-to-fight-afghan-drug-trade> on 17 February 2010.

⁴²² Brummitt, Chris, "Taliban Leader's Arrest Raises Hopes," *Associated Press*, 16 February 2010, accessed at <http://cnews.canoe.ca/CNEWS/World/2010/02/16/12905291-ap.html> on 17 February 2010.

⁴²³ CBC, "In the Line of Duty."

⁴²⁴ Rennie, Steve, "Canadian Choppers Touch Down in Largest Air Assault of Afghan War," *The Canadian Press*, 13 February 2010, accessed at http://ca.news.yahoo.com/s/capress/100212/national/afghan_cda_air_attack on 13 February 2010.

⁴²⁵ ----, "Canadian Soldier Killed in Training Mishap," *The Canadian Press*, 13 February 2010, accessed at <http://cnews.canoe.ca/CNEWS/Canada/Afghanistan/2010/02/13/12864646-cp.html> on 13 February 2010.

14 February

- Many residents of Marjah who remained in their homes instead of fleeing as per the warning were subjected to air assaults from ISAF forces aimed at Taliban fighters battling coalition forces nearby. 12 civilians of Marjah were killed by rocket fire on a residence.⁴²⁶

18 February

- Reports from the battlefield at Marjah indicate that the Taliban are using human shields—women and children—at which troops are forbidden to fire unless they identify a target displaying “hostile intent.” NATO has confirmed 15 civilian deaths since the beginning of Operation Moshtarak; whereas Afghan rights groups claim 19 deaths.⁴²⁷

11.3 March 2010

- **Operation Cerberus**—shaping operation to prepare the battlefield for potentiall decisive major offensive expected in the summer—the operation is designed to push coalition forces west in Panjwaii while ensuring that no Taliban resurgence occurs in eastern Panjwaii and Dand districts.⁴²⁸

1 March

- Key bridge over the Tarnak River on the road between Kandahar city and Pakistan was badly damaged by a suicide attack on a NATO-led convoy, which killed 4 Afghan civilians and a foreign soldier⁴²⁹

13-14 March

- Five coordinated attacks by a squad of suicide bombers against a prison, police HQ, and other locations, in Kandahar, killed up to 35 civilians and injured 47.⁴³⁰

⁴²⁶ Wingrove, Josh, “NATO’s Novel Battle Tactic Spawns Opposite Effects,” *Globe and Mail*, 14 February 2010, accessed at <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/world/Somnia/article1468311/> on 16 February 2010.

⁴²⁷ De Montesquiou, Alfred, and Rahim Faiez, “Afghan Taliban Using Human Shields,” *Associated Press*, 18 February 2010, accessed at <http://cnews.canoe.ca/CNEWS/World/2010/02/15/12884881-ap.html> on 18 February 2010. The previous year’s public outrage over civilian deaths led NATO leadership to restrict the rules of combat, curbing airstrikes if civilians are believed to be at risk.

⁴²⁸ Fisher, Matthew, “Canadians, Afghans Beat Back Taliban in ‘Crazy’ Fightig: Soldier,” *Canwest News Service*, 10 March 2010, accessed at <http://news.globaltv.com/world/Somnia/2666480/story.html> on 14 March 2010.

⁴²⁹ “Canadians Repair Key Kandahar Bridge Blown Up in Suicide Bomber Attack,” *Canadian Press*, 11 March 2010, accessed at <http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/canada/breakingnews/canadians-repair-key-kandahar-bridge-blown-up-in-suicide-bomber-attack-87340617.html>.

⁴³⁰ Khan, Noor, “Suicide Bombers Kills at Least 30 in Co-ordinated Attacks in Kandahar,” *Globe and Mail*, 13 March 2010, accessed at <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/world/suicide-bombers-kill-at-least-30brin-co-ordinated-attacks-in-kandahar/article1499790/>.

20 March

- Corporal Darren James Fitzpatrick, 3 PPCLI, died of his injuries from an IED explosion during a patrol in Zhari district on March 6, 2010.⁴³¹

23 March

- Canadian Forces reveal that it will stop reporting on soldiers wounded on the battlefield in order to prevent the information from getting to the Taliban. According to Brig-Gen Dan Menard, such information could be used by the enemy to improve its tactics in the future to cause more Canadian casualties, the objective of this new policy is to prevent militants from linking the number of wounded with any particular incident.⁴³²

⁴³¹ “Canadian Soldier Dies in Edmonton Hospital,” CBC News, 22 March 2010, accessed at <http://www.cbc.ca/canada/edmonton/story/2010/03/22/edmonton-soldier-death-fitzpatrick.html>.

⁴³² Brewster, “Canada Forbids Reporting on Battlefield Wounded.”

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Annex A Canadian Operations in Afghanistan 2001 – 2009

- **Operation Support** 11 September 2001
- **Operation Enduring Freedom (U.S.)** 7 October 2001
- **Operation Apollo** 8 October 2001
- **Operation Harpoon** 13-18 March 2002
- **Operation Vigilant**
- **Operation Torii** 4 May–13 July 2002
- **Operation Cherokee Sky** 1 July 2002
- **Operation Accius** November 2002
- **Operation Athena Phase I (Kabul)** August 2003-December 2005
- **Operation Foundation** August 2003
- **Operation Altair** January 2004
- **Operation Tsunami** January 2004
- **Operation Damocles** May 2004
- **Operation Archer** July 2005
- **Operation Athena Phase II (Kandahar)** August 2005
- **Operation Argus** September 2005
- **Operation Sextant** January 2006
- **Operation Mountain Thrust** 15 May–31 July 2006
- **Operation Bravo Guardian** 17 May 2006
- **Operation Zahar** July 2006
- **Operation Hewad** Mid-July 2006
- **Operation Bravo Corridor** August 2006
- **Operation Guardian** August 2006
- **Operation Medusa** September–October 2006
- **Operation Falcon Summit** 15 December 2006
- **Operation Achilles** 6 March 2007
- **Operation Nawruz** March 2007
- **Operation Sardiq Sarbaz** September 2007

- **Operation Accius** July 2008
- **Operation Kalay I** March 2009
- **Operation Kantolo** June 2009
- **Operation Kalay II** August 2009
- **Operation Saiph** October 2009
- **Operation Hydra** November 2009
- **Operation Moshtarak** February 2009
- **Operation Cerberus** March 2009

Annex B Regional map of Afghanistan



Image adapted from: Government of Canada, "Afghanistan Map," Canada's Engagement in Afghanistan, 28 October 2008, accessed at <http://www.afghanistan.gc.ca/canada-afghanistan/projects-projets/map-carte.aspx> on 20 February 2010.

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List of symbols/abbreviations/acronyms/initialisms

AOR	Area of Operations
CDS	Chief of Defence Staff (Canadian)
CENTCOM	Central Command (US)
CF	Canadian Forces
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
Coy	Company
DFAIT	Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (Canada)
DND	Department of National Defence
DRDC	Defence Research & Development Canada
FOB	Forward Operating Base
JTFSWA	Joint Task Force South West Asia
KAF	Kandahar Airfield
OEF	Operation Enduring Freedom
ORT	Operational Reconnaissance Team
PPCLI	Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry
RCD	Royal Canadian Dragoons
RCR	The Royal Canadian Regiment
R22R	Royal 22 nd Regiment (Van Doos)
RC (South)	Regional Command South
SRT	Strategic Reconnaissance Team

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The following is a chronology of political and military events relating to Canada's military involvement in Afghanistan between September 2001 and March 2010. The chronology includes strategic, operational, and tactical level events and political or military information relating to the initial deployment of forces to Afghanistan. It also covers some global events related to Islamist objectives in Afghanistan and other global events related to the 'War on Terror'. The intent is to produce a rough timeline of major events that can be used to assist various types of qualitative research.

Ce qui suit est une chronologie des événements politiques et militaires concernant l'engagement militaire du Canada en Afghanistan entre septembre 2001 et mars 2010. Cette chronologie regroupe les événements de caractère stratégique, opérationnel et tactique ainsi que des renseignements politiques ou militaires concernant le déploiement initial de forces en Afghanistan. Elle englobe aussi certains événements mondiaux relatifs aux objectifs islamistes en Afghanistan et d'autres événements mondiaux concernant la lutte contre le terrorisme. L'objectif est de fournir une première ébauche de chronologie des principaux événements pouvant être utilisée comme support pour différents types de recherche qualitative.

14. **KEYWORDS, DESCRIPTORS or IDENTIFIERS** (Technically meaningful terms or short phrases that characterize a document and could be helpful in cataloguing the document. They should be selected so that no security classification is required. Identifiers, such as equipment model designation, trade name, military project code name, geographic location may also be included. If possible keywords should be selected from a published thesaurus, e.g. Thesaurus of Engineering and Scientific Terms (TEST) and that thesaurus identified. If it is not possible to select indexing terms which are Unclassified, the classification of each should be indicated as with the title.)

Afghanistan; chronology; military operations

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