



# OES/OFS IN BRIEF

This quarterly report submitted by the Lead Inspector General for Operation Enduring Sentinel (OES) and Operation Freedom's Sentinel (OFS) summarizes the events that took place in Afghanistan, including the U.S. efforts to begin the new “over-the-horizon” counterterrorism activities under OES and end the 5-year OFS mission.

## DoD Has Not Conducted Any Strikes in Afghanistan Since the Withdrawal

pp. 8–10

The DoD plans to monitor and strike terrorist targets in Afghanistan from **over-the-horizon**, but this strategy faces several **challenges**:

- **Lack of physical presence** in Afghanistan or neighboring countries.
- Reliance upon neighboring states for **overflight permission**.
- **Long distances** that aircraft must fly to reach targets limits their operational time.
- Loss of **human intelligence** assets in Afghanistan.

## ISIS-K Remains the Top Terrorist Threat in Afghanistan

pp. 14–16

This quarter, ISIS-K:

- Had approximately **2,000** members in Afghanistan.
- Claimed **41 attacks** in Afghanistan and Pakistan.
- Focused attacks on the **Taliban, religious minorities, and economic infrastructure**.
- Aimed to **undermine** Taliban rule through **attacks and propaganda**.
- Conducted a suicide bombing that **killed at least 63** and **wounded 200** at a Shia mosque in Peshawar, Pakistan.

## 59% of Afghans Require Critical Humanitarian Assistance

pp. 35–42

- **Food shortages** caused **7 in 10** Afghan families to adversely alter their diets.
- **Multiple disease outbreaks**, including COVID-19, continued to strain the Afghan healthcare system.
- Taliban bureaucratic constraints and other interference, as well as security threats, crime, and logistical issues, **hindered humanitarian operations**.
- The U.S. remains the largest donor of humanitarian assistance in Afghanistan, providing more than **\$720 million** since August 2021.

## No Sovereign State Recognized the Taliban, but Some Engaged Diplomatically

pp. 18–19, 27–29

- The Taliban **seek** international recognition.
- Russia, China, Pakistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan accepted **Taliban-appointed “diplomats.”**
- The U.S. urged other countries not to normalize relations with the Taliban until it shows progress on **human rights** and **counterterrorism**.

## DoD No Longer Hosting Afghan Evacuees on Domestic Military Bases

pp. 31–32

- All Afghans previously housed on bases have been **resettled** in communities across the U.S.
- Approximately **2,800** Afghans remained at facilities in the UAE and Qatar.

## DoD Continues to Account for Materiel Left in Afghanistan

pp. 13–14

- DoD estimated that it left **\$7.1 billion** of U.S.-funded weapons and equipment in Afghanistan.
- This equipment had been provided to the former Afghan military and was **less sophisticated** than that used by U.S. troops.
- Departing U.S. forces **destroyed** many major items, but the Taliban acquired some **functional vehicles**, including **aircraft**.

## Oversight and Investigations

pp. 11–12, 33–34, 60

- DoD OIG issued 9 management advisories concerning inadequate **security, screening, and medical care** for Afghan evacuees.
- Lead IG investigations resulted in the **arrest** of a U.S. Navy Reservist for **fraud** related to the DoS Afghan Special Immigrant Visa program.
- The IG community continued its work on 17 projects related to the Afghanistan **withdrawal, evacuation, and resettlement** efforts.