

From: LTCOL McKinstry
Sent: Wednesday, 25 August 2010 5:33 a.m.
To: COL Kelly
Subject: ~~(SECRET)~~ External release Update Obj Burnham Op 21 Aug 10 Update 2
Importance: High

CLASSIFICATION: ~~SECRET~~

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Hi Boss update on BDA attached, however we are still building this picture.

Tonight we (myself, ^{PSR(S)1, PSR(S)2, PSR(IC)2} (Ground Commander) Cpl ^{PSR(S)1, PSR(S)2, PSF} (JTAC) and ^{PSR(S)1, PSR(S)2, PSR(IC)2, 1}) attended a VTC meeting with MG ^{PSR(S)1, PSR(S)2, PSF} from ISAF HQ DCOS SPA. Also involved in that VTC was IJC Ops Chief, ISAF SOF Ops ^{PSR(S)1} and BG ^{PSR(S)1, PSR(S)2} US Airforce (IJC air plans projects officer). The aim of the VTC was to establish the facts as they are know around the conduct of Obj Burnham. The meeting was convened to keep key ISAF leaders apprised of this Afghan claimed CIVCAS event. **PSR(R)1, PSR(IC)4**

Reference to conversation which took place in confidence on the fact that compensation may be paid by ISAF for CIVCAS and the need to establish the facts of the matter

Not an easy task and I understand that in the past, a payment may not necessarily mean an acknowledgement of fault, rather a strategy of COIN to do the right thing if the facts are unclear. Over the past 48 hours the task force has worked hard to develop post action product to understand our actions and those of other contributing forces. This definitely played out well. **PSR(R)1, PSR(IC)4**

Reference to conversation which took place in confidence, NZDF co-operation welcome, process of investigation explained

PSR(B)1, PSR(IC)4

Reference to conversation which took place in confidence, details of proposed ISAF investigation steps

Bottom line at this stage is that there may or may not have been some CIVCAS. This is to be determined by the investigation team in order to inform command action in the matter. The intelligence coming off the OBJ is still very raw and this investigation is welcomed in order to help to clarify ISAF and TF81 actions. I am confident our actions

and tactics on the objective were sound and in accordance with ROE, LOAC and the Comd ISAF Tactical Directive. It will be saddening if there has been unnecessary CIVCAS as a result but the reason for looking into this matter is sound.

I will keep you posted.

Rian

Update Obj Burnham Op 21 Aug 10 Update 2.doc

Update Obj Burnham Op 21 Aug 10 Update 2.doc

From: Intelligence Officer

Sent: Tuesday, 24 August 2010 7:17 p.m.

To: LTCOL McKinstry

Subject: ~~SECRET~~ Update Obj Burnham Op 21 Aug 10 Update 2

CLASSIFICATION: ~~SECRET~~

Sir

Please find attached update 2. We will continue to monitor reflections over the next few days, then we will possibly be able to make a final assessment.

PSR(5)2.P

Update Obj Burnham Op 21 Aug 10 Update 2.doc

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24 Aug 10 – Int Update Obj Burnham Op 21/22 Aug 10 (Update 2)

Various reports from a number of sources have been received following the Op against Obj Burnham on the night of 21-22 Aug 10 in TIRIGAN Village BAGHLAN Province. Reports have indicated that a number of TB INS and a small number of civilians, have been killed or wounded.

Early reflections indicate that between six and nine people have been killed, five people wounded and a number (2-4) people are currently missing. Various names of individuals have been supplied by sources including those of known INS but again these can not yet be corroborated and some of this reporting may be circular.

The following outlines those individuals listed in the various reports who have been reported by sources as killed; wounded or injured to date. In time more accuracy will be put to this list as it priority effort for TF81.

Likely Killed	Possibly Killed	Injured	Missing
PSR(R)1, PSR(IC)4 (INS) father of PSR(R)1, PSR(IC)4	PSR(R)1, PSR(IC)4 (NFI)	Son of PSR(R)1, PSR(IC)4 (INS)	Abdullah KULTTA (INS – Obj BURNHAM)
PSR(R)1, PSR(IC)4 (INS)	PSR(R)1, PSR(IC)4 (NFI)	(Possibly) Daughter of PSR(R)1, PSR(IC)4	Maulawi NEMATULLAH (INS – Obj NOVA)
2x Sons of PSR(R)1, P both (INS)	Sister of PSR(R)1, PSR(IC)4	(Possibly) Unk Female	Four UNK LN
Son of PSR(R)1, PSR(IC)4 (INS)		PSR(R)1, PSR(IC)4 (INS)	
1 x Unidentified male (INS)		PSR(R)1, PSR(IC)4 (INS)	

In the table above, names and other details that identify individuals have been redacted from this document for reasons of privacy and because some identifying informations may have been obtained by means that would cause prejudice to protected interests if disclosed. However, and noting that some individuals have since been publicly identified, the individuals identified in this table appear to correlate with some of those who have been publicly identified.

Confidential source PSR(R)1, PSR(IC)4 have reported that the remains of four men have been recovered on a hillside near Tigiran Village. Two of them were the sons of PSR(R)1, PSR(IC)4 and one was the son of PSR(R)1, PSR(IC)4. The fourth individual remains unidentified. PSR(R)1, PSR(IC)4 were unaware of the actual names of the deceased, but confirmed that all four were INS under the command of Abdullah KULTTA.

Confidential source

Confidential source The reporting has been received from four sources plus intelligence passed from PSR(R)1, PSR(IC)4). All sources are assessed as being C3. There are reflections that NEMATULLAH (Obj NOVA) and KULTTA (Obj BURNHAM) may be still alive, this can not be confirmed at this time.

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TF81 S2 COMMENT: The ages of these siblings is unconfirmed however those identified as INS are assessed to be FAM. Obj BURNHAM is reported to be aged between 40-50 years and is assessed to have adult children. **COMMENT ENDS.**

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