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Gillespie, Edward (Ed) - Confidential Files

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Folder Title:

[Video Teleconference with Afghanistan Provincial Reconstruction Team Leaders and Brigade Combat Commanders, 03/13/2008, 0800707]

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DOCUMENT NO.	FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
001	Briefing	Video Teleconference with Afghanistan Provincial Reconstruction Team Leaders and Brigade Combat Commanders	3	03/12/2008	P5;
002	Talking Points	Points to be Made for Video Teleconference with Afghanistan Provincial Reconstruction Team Leaders and Brigade Combat Commanders	1	N.D.	P5;
005	Report	PRT Descriptions	10	N.D.	P1/b1;

COLLECTION TITLE:

Counselor's Office

SERIES:

Gillespie, Edward (Ed) - Confidential Files

FOLDER TITLE:

[Video Teleconference with Afghanistan Provincial Reconstruction Team Leaders and Brigade Combat Commanders, 03/13/2008,

FRC ID:

39235

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
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PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

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Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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FOLDER TITLE:

[Video Teleconference with Afghanistan Provincial Reconstruction Team Leaders and Brigade Combat Commanders, 03/13/200

FRC ID:

39235

FOIA IDs and Segments:

2014-0301-F

OA Num.:

CF 0841

NARA Num.:

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PARTICIPANTSWhite HouseThe Vice President

Robert Gates, Secretary of Defense

Joshua Bolten, Chief of Staff

Steve Hadley, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs

Ed Gillespie, Counselor to the President

John Negroponte, Deputy Secretary of State

General James Cartwright, Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

Mark Pfeifle, Deputy Assistant to the President and

Deputy National Security Advisor for Strategic Communications and Global Outreach

Gordon Johndroe, Deputy Assistant to the President and National Security Council Spokesman

Terry Wolff, Special Assistant to the President and

Senior Director for Iraq and Afghanistan

John Wood, Senior Director for Afghanistan

Lieutenant General John Sattler, Director for Strategic Plans and Policy, J-5

Christa Skerry, Director for Afghanistan

MaryAnn Cummings, Director for Strategic Communications

John Hannah, Assistant to the Vice President for National Security Affairs

Paul Ware, M.D., U.S. Agency for International Development Officer, Paktika Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT), Afghanistan

Craig Bryant, U.S. Department of State Officer and former Bamian PRT Member

Toby Zacaria, Reuters

Kabul

Ambassador Bill Wood, Embassy Kabul

Major General David Rodriguez, Commanding General, 82nd Airborne Division/Commanding General, Combined Joint Task Force 82

Colonel Martin Schweitzer, Commander, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, Regional Command East

Command Sergeant Major Richard Flowers, Command Sergeant Major, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division

Dennis Hearne, Department of State Political Advisor to the 4th Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division

Susan DeCamp, U.S. Agency for International Development Advisor to the 82nd Airborne at Task Force Fury, Regional Command East

Commander Captain (Select) Scott Cooledge, U.S. Navy, Ghazni PRT Commander

Zach Harkenrider, Department of State Officer, Ghazni PRT

Rachel Grant, U.S. Agency for International Development Officer,
Ghazni PRT

Commander Frank Hughlett, U.S. Navy, Farah PRT Commander

Karen Chandler, Department of State Officer, Farah PRT

Gary Domian, U.S. Department of Agriculture Officer, Farah PRT

Rory Donohoe, U.S. Agency for International Development Officer,
Helmand PRT

BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON MEETING PARTICIPANTS**I. PRT Leaders Participating from Washington, D.C.**

Paul Ware, M.D., U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) Officer at Paktika PRT (Regional Command-East): Served with the PRT since August 2007. Chief Physician at the Navy Seal Training School in California, 1998-2003. Awarded two Navy and Marine Corps Commendation medals. M.D. from Dartmouth-Brown Joint Program in Medicine (1998); master's degree in International Public Policy from Johns Hopkins University, School for Advanced International Studies.

Craig Bryant, U.S. Department of State (DOS) Officer (Former DOS Officer at Bamian PRT): Desk officer in the State Department's Office for Afghanistan since September 2007. DOS officer to the PRT in Bamian Province, February-August 2007; military component of the PRT provided by the New Zealand Defense Force since the PRT was established in 2004. Previous Foreign Service assignments: Jerusalem, Canada, and Cameroon. Law degree from Washington University in St. Louis.

II. PRT Leaders and Brigade Combat Commanders Participating from Afghanistan**Task Force Fury, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, Regional Command East**

Colonel Martin Schweitzer, Commander, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 82d Airborne Division: Serving his second command tour in Operation Enduring Freedom. Participated in Operation Just Cause and Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm. Commissioned an infantry officer in 1985. Over 23 years of service; commanded at every level from platoon to brigade. Also performed various staff functions, including duty on the Joint Staff.

Command Sergeant Major Richard Flowers, Command Sergeant Major, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 82d Airborne Division: Joined the U.S. Army in 1980 as an infantryman. Has 27 years of service served in positions from rifleman to brigade command sergeant major. Served in the 82d Airborne Division for over 6 years with multiple combat deployments. He is married and has two sons, one who also serves in the U.S. Army.

Dennis Hearne, DOS Political Advisor to the 4th Brigade Combat Team, 82d Airborne Division: In Afghanistan through summer of 2009. Joined the Foreign Service in 1985. Served in Croatia and

Bosnia-Herzegovina (1993-1996) coordinating emergency services and refugee processing, and reporting on political-military issues. Also served in Brazil, Portugal, and Washington. Speaks Portuguese and Croatian. Received four State Department Superior Honor Awards. Graduate, National War College; B.A. in 1982 from Wake Forest University.

Susan DeCamp, USAID Development Advisor to the 82nd Airborne at Task Force Fury (Regional Command-East): Over 4 years' experience in Afghanistan. Began in 2002 with training Afghan journalists in radio production skills. Spent several years as Communication Director for USAID's Rebuilding Agricultural Markets Program before joining the Task Force. Conducted research and public outreach programming on domestic terrorism and extremist groups operating in the United States. Served as Executive Director for the Billings Community Cable Corporation and had her own program for 5 years.

PRT Ghazni, Regional Command East

Commander (CDR) Captain (Select) Scott Cooleage, U.S. Navy, Ghazni PRT Commander: In command of PRT from March 2007. Operates from a forward operating base in southeast Afghanistan; conducted over 500 ground assault convoys into Afghanistan's fifth largest province. Recipient of the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, and four Navy Commendation Medals. A native of Portland, Maine, and a 1985 graduate of Maine Maritime Academy. M.S., Global Leadership, University of San Diego.

Zach Harkenrider, DOS Officer: Arrived at Ghazni PRT in August 2007; will complete his tour in August 2008. Joined the Foreign Service in March 2002, and has since served in India and Niger. After a year of training in Dari, will return to Afghanistan for a tour in Embassy Kabul. A native of upstate New York and a (2001) graduate of the University of Rochester.

Rachel Grant, USAID Officer: Served as USAID's Ghazni Field Program Officer since June 2007. Previously served with USAID in Malawi as the Food for Peace Officer and Mission Disaster Response Officer (September '05 to May '07). Before joining USAID spent 10 years with World Vision, primarily managing USAID's Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance and Food For Peace projects in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Has a degree in Political Science from Westmont College.

PRT Farah, Regional Command-West

Commander Frank Hughlett, PRT Commander, U.S. Navy: Commanding officer of PRT Farah. Surface warfare officer from Sterling, Virginia, and a 1985 graduate of Virginia Tech. Previously commanded Beachmaster Unit Two in Little Creek, Virginia, where he led the Joint Force Maritime Component Commander's Naval Support Element during Combined Joint Task Force Katrina/Rita. Previous tours: service on cruisers and destroyers in both the Atlantic and Pacific Fleets, instructor tours, and a tour in the Office of Secretary of Defense. Selected for promotion to Captain in 2008.

Karen Chandler, DOS Officer: With the Farah PRT since September 2007. Previously, Special Assistant to the State Department's Coordinator for Counterterrorism. From 2002 until 2006, was East Asia Regional Advisor in the same office. Overseas assignments include the Philippines and the U.S. Pacific Command's Joint Interagency Coordinating Group for Combating Terrorism. Joined the Foreign Service in 2002 as a Presidential Management Fellow. Recipient: DOS Meritorious Honor Award.

Gary Domian, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Officer: Seven months at the Farah PRT in 2007; now serving in Kabul through April 2008. A 37-year career employee with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. Worked in several states as a soil scientist and conservationist. Overseas assignments include Indonesia, Thailand, Taiwan, and the Dominican Republic. In 2005, worked on Katrina Hurricane recovery with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Has a degree in Soil and Water Science from the University of New Hampshire.

Helmand (Lashkar Gah), Regional Command-South

Rory Donohoe, USAID Officer: In Helmand Province from January 2007; just began a second year at the PRT. Manages \$165 million Alternative Development Program for southern Afghanistan. Previously with USAID in Nicaragua and Washington. Expertise forming public-private alliances to leverage private sector resources for development. Prior to USAID, worked at a Fortune 500 company and a technology start-up. B.A. in Asian and Middle Eastern Studies from the University of Pennsylvania. Has a master's degree in Business Administration from Georgetown University.

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ISAF REGIONAL COMMANDS
& PRT LOCATIONS

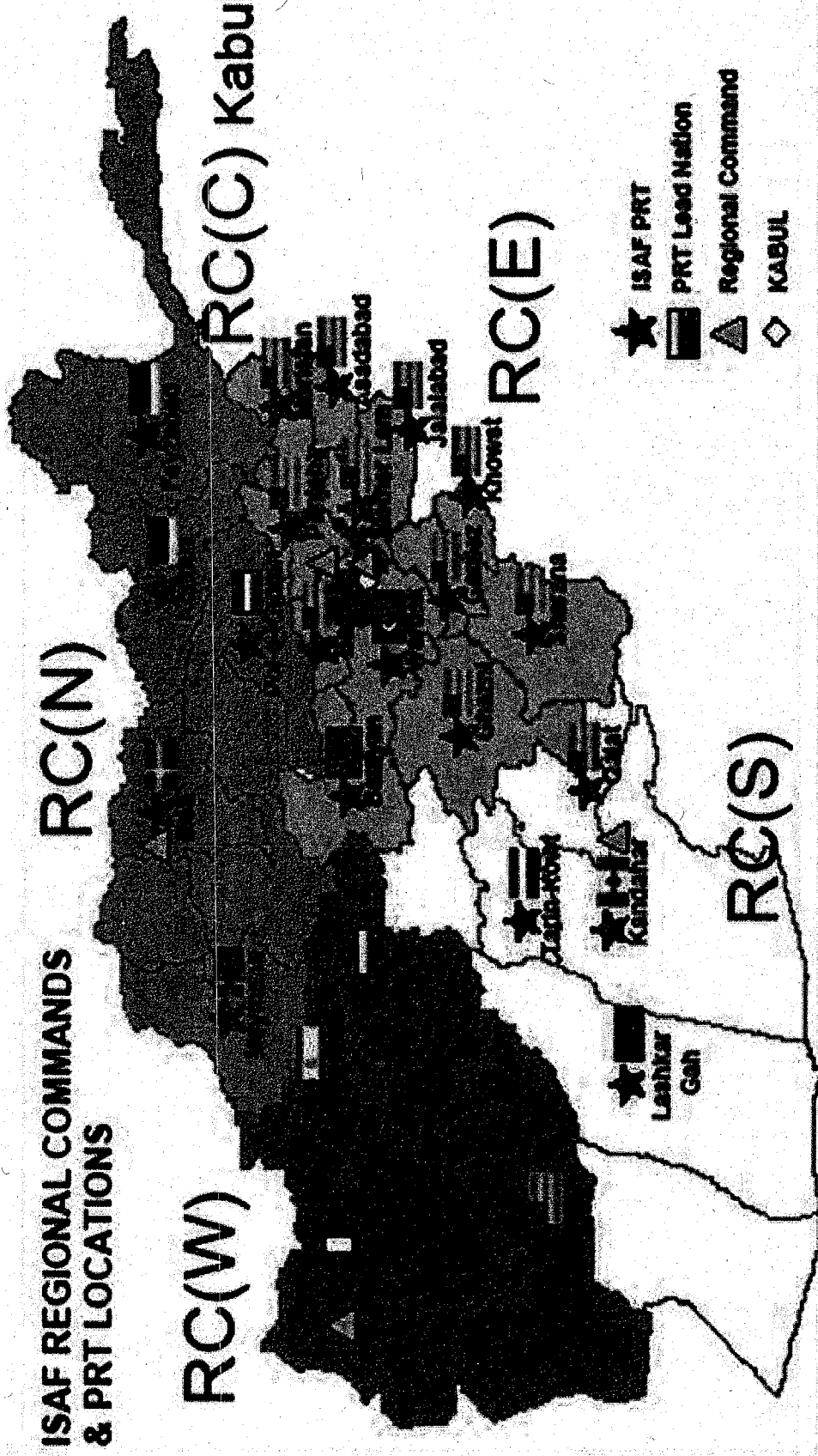
RC(N)

RC(W)

RC(C) Kabul

RC(E)

RC(S)



- ★ ISAF PRT
- ▭ PRT Lead Nation
- ▲ Regional Command
- ◇ KABUL

PRESS POINTS FOR
VIDEO TELECONFERENCE WITH
AFGHANISTAN PROVINCIAL RECONSTRUCTION TEAM LEADERS
AND BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM COMMANDERS

- I just spoke via Video Teleconference with Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) leaders and Brigade Combat Team Commanders in Afghanistan.
- Two Afghanistan PRT team members joined our discussion here at the White House. Thank you for coming.
- These brave Americans serve under difficult conditions, often at great hardship, far from family and home. PRT leaders are drawn from many Federal agencies, and many serve closely with our Coalition partners. I told these leaders that they have our Nation's full support.
- The PRT leaders told me about their role building capacity and helping Afghanistan's democracy succeed. I heard stories about on-the-ground progress in several Afghan provinces. When our provincial reconstruction team members help build the capacity of the Government of Afghanistan, Afghan leaders are better able to deliver on the needs of the Afghan people -- and demonstrate the benefits of democracy.
- PRT team members are building roads and infrastructure, promoting responsible governance, assisting local entrepreneurs, constructing schools, and bringing healthcare to remote provinces of Afghanistan.
- We remain committed to the millions of Afghan men and women who desire a life free from tyranny. We will continue to partner with the men and women of Afghanistan as they fight radical extremism.