

OES IN BRIEF

This quarterly report submitted by the Lead Inspector General for Operation Enduring Sentinel (OES) summarizes the events that took place in Afghanistan this quarter, including the status of terrorist organizations, such as ISIS-Khorasan (ISIS-K) and al-Qaeda, as well as U.S. diplomatic and humanitarian efforts related to Afghanistan.

U.S. Officials Call for Continued Vigilance Against Global ISIS-K Threat

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- FBI Director Christopher Wray told Congress that he worries the deadly ISIS-K attack in Russia in March could inspire violence in the United States.
- The Afghanistan-based ISIS-K has been recruiting Central Asians, for use in attacks like the assaults in Russia and Iran earlier this year.
- The Intelligence Community raised concerns that ISIS-K could recruit Central Asians to mount similar attacks in Europe or the United States.

United States and Pakistan Agree to Deepen Joint Counterterrorism Efforts

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- The **United States and Pakistan** agreed to intensify their **counterterrorism cooperation**.
- The two countries said that their bilateral partnership to counter ISIS-K, TTP, and other violent extremist organizations will address transnational terrorism threats.

Taliban Attend UN-Sponsored Doha Meeting for the First Time

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- Envoys from Afghanistan, the United States, and other countries discussed engagement with Afghans on June 30 and July 1 at the UN-hosted "Doha III" meeting.
- The talks were held without Afghan civil society members—including women—at the discussions, a precondition the Taliban had demanded.
- The meeting concluded with no pledges of reform from the Taliban or concessions from the international community.

State Continues to Support Relocations of Afghans

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- State issued more than 8,000 Afghan Special Immigrant Visas (SIVs) during the quarter. Between July 2023 and June 2024, State issued more than 29,500 SIVs.
- DHS said that USCIS continued to expand Afghan refugee processing of all priority categories in countries worldwide. As of May 22, more than 8,400 Afghan refugees had arrived in the U.S. in FY 2024.

Treasury Warns of ISIS-K Efforts to Enable Terrorist Attacks Worldwide

- ISIS-K, from its base in Afghanistan, worked to establish external financial and logistical cells to enable terrorist attacks worldwide, Treasury said.
- ISIS-K continued to serve as a regional hub, transferring hundreds of thousands of dollars to financial facilitators and providing personnel and weapons for external operations.

About 23.7 Million Afghans Need Humanitarian Assistance

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- About 14.2 million Afghans experience acute food insecurity, while droughts, floods, and limited job opportunities, continued to necessitate food assistance.
- Taliban restrictions on women limited the effectiveness of humanitarian operations in Afghanistan.

Oversight and Investigations

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- A Department of Homeland Security (DHS) OIG evaluation determined that DHS has inefficient processes for identifying derogatory information on Afghan evacuees paroled into the United States.
- Lead IG investigators conducted investigations on procurement fraud, corruption, theft, hacking, and human trafficking.