


**SIGAR**

 Office of the Special Inspector General  
for Afghanistan Reconstruction

MEMORANDUM


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**DATE:** October 31, 2017

**FROM:** Research and Analysis Directorate, Office of the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction

**TO:** John Sopko, Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction

**SUBJECT:** Afghan National Defense and Security Forces Data Classified or Restricted for SIGAR's October 2017 *Quarterly Report to the United States Congress*


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Mr. Sopko,

Please find attached a table describing data pertaining to the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces (ANDSF) that was provided to SIGAR classified or otherwise restricted for SIGAR's October 2017 *Quarterly Report to the United States Congress*. The table includes the types of information that have been classified or restricted; when the data was classified; the current data classification level; the classification justification that we have received up to this point; the data classification level prior to this quarter; how long we have reported on the data in an unclassified manner; and other relevant notes.

United States Forces-Afghanistan informed SIGAR of the new classifications and restrictions on the data but have yet to formally disclose what party was responsible for approving the new classifications and restrictions. The guidance on pages 23–30 of the Department of Defense's (DOD) Manual, *Subject: DoD Information Security Program: Marking of Classified Information*, 5200.01, Volume 2 (March 19, 2013), requires that DOD entities provide a "classification authority block" on each classified document identifying the document's classifier, the reason for the classification, if and when the classification can be downgraded, and when the document can be declassified. This is the case for originally or derivatively classified documents. As of the date of this memorandum, SIGAR has yet to receive this required information for any of the data described in the attached table.

A few key points:

- With the exception of some of this data being briefly classified in January 2015, most of the data in question this quarter has previously been provided to us in an unclassified, releasable format for many years.
- All of this material is historical in nature (usually between one and three months old) because of delays incurred by reporting time frames, and thus only provides "snapshot" data points for particular periods of time in the past.



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- All of the data points classified or restricted are “top-line” (not unit-level) data. SIGAR currently does not publically report potentially sensitive, unit-specific data.
- None of the material now classified or otherwise restricted discloses information that could threaten the U.S. or Afghan missions (such as detailed strategy, plans, timelines, or tactics).
- All of the data include key metrics and assessments that are essential to understanding mission success for the reconstruction of Afghanistan’s security institutions and armed forces.

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Deborah Scroggins  
Director, Research and Analysis Directorate

**Data Classified or Restricted for SIGAR's October 2017 Quarterly Report to Congress**

\* United States Forces-Afghanistan (USFOR-A) informed SIGAR of these new classifications.  
 \*\* Nearly all of this data was temporarily and briefly classified in January 2015. "Reported unclassified since" dates do not include this period and are approximations.  
 \*\*\* "Top-line": the overall figure for that force element, not broken down to the lower corps (ANA) or zone (ANP) level.

<b>What</b>	<b>When*</b>	<b>Classification Level</b>	<b>Classification Justification</b>	<b>Prior Classification</b>	<b>Reported Unclassified Since**</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>Afghan National Defense and Security Forces (ANDSF) Casualties</b> (top-line,*** data 1-2 months old)	Received Classified on 9/21/2017	NATO Restricted	Afghan government classified, USFOR-A*/RS/CENTCOM concurred and restricted it as Foreign Government Information (FGI).	U.S. Unclassified or NATO Non-Sensitive Information Releasable to the Public (NSIRP)	Reported from July 2009 July 2010. No reporting from October 2010-October 2014. Reporting again since January 2015	SIGAR most recently reported ANDSF casualties cumulatively by year.
<b>Proportion of Assigned (actual) to Authorized (goal) Strength for the ANDSF</b> (i.e. The ANDSF are at 90% of their authorized strength) (top-line, percentage, data 3 months old)	Received: NATO Unclassified, 9/21/2017 Retroactively Classified: 10/15/2017	NATO Confidential	New interpretation based on NATO Resolute Support Mission (RS) Classification Guide	NATO Unclassified or NSIRP	January 2012	This means we cannot report on the ANDSF's progress toward achieving their goal strength.
<b>Proportion of Assigned (actual) to Authorized (goal) Strength for the Afghan National Army (ANA)</b> (i.e. The ANA is at 90% of its authorized strength) (top-line, percentage, data 3 months old)	Received: NATO Unclassified, 9/21/2017 Retroactively Classified: 10/15/2017	NATO Confidential	New interpretation based on RS Classification Guide	NATO Unclassified or NSIRP	January 2012	This means we cannot report on the ANA's progress toward achieving its goal strength.

<b>What</b>	<b>When*</b>	<b>Classification Level</b>	<b>Classification Justification</b>	<b>Prior Classification</b>	<b>Reported Unclassified Since**</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>Proportion of Assigned (actual) to Authorized (goal) Strength for the Afghan National Police (ANP)</b> (i.e. The ANP is at 90% of its authorized strength) (top-line, percentage, data 3 months old)	Received: NATO Unclassified, 9/21/2017  Retroactively Classified: 10/15/2017	NATO Confidential	New interpretation based on RS Classification Guide	NATO Unclassified or NSIRP	January 2012	This means we cannot report on the ANP's progress toward achieving its goal strength.
<b>Proportion of Assigned (actual) to Authorized (goal) Strength for the Afghan Air Force (AAF)</b> (i.e. The AAF is at 90% of its authorized strength) (top-line, percentage, data 3 months old)	Received: NATO Unclassified, 9/21/2017  Retroactively Classified: 10/15/2017	NATO Confidential	New interpretation based on RS Classification Guide	NATO Unclassified or NSIRP	January 2013	This means we cannot report on the AAF's progress toward achieving its goal strength.
<b>Proportion of Assigned (actual) to Authorized (goal) Strength for the Afghan Local Police (ALP)</b> (i.e. The ALP is at 90% of its authorized strength) (top-line, percentage, data 3 months old)	Received: NATO Unclassified, 9/21/2017  Retroactively Classified: 10/15/2017	NATO Restricted	New interpretation based on RS Classification Guide	U.S. Unclassified or U//FOUO	October 2011	This means we cannot report on the ALP's progress toward achieving its goal strength.

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<b>What</b>	<b>When*</b>	<b>Classification Level</b>	<b>Classification Justification</b>	<b>Prior Classification</b>	<b>Reported Unclassified Since**</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>Proportion of Assigned (actual) to Authorized (goal) Strength for ANDSF Civilian Personnel</b> (i.e. ANDSF civilians are at 90% of their authorized strength) (top-line, percentage, data 3 months old)	Received: NATO Unclassified, 9/21/2017  Retroactively Classified: 10/15/2017	NATO Confidential	New interpretation based on RS Classification Guide	NATO Unclassified or NSIRP	April 2014	This means we cannot report on the ANDSF's progress toward achieving its goal civilian strength.
<b>Proportion of Assigned (actual) to Authorized (goal) Strength for Female ANDSF Personnel</b> (i.e. Female ANDSF personnel are at 90% of their authorized strength) (top-line, percentage, data 3 months old)	Received: NATO Unclassified, 9/21/2017  Retroactively Classified: 10/15/2017	NATO Confidential	New interpretation based on RS Classification Guide	NSIRP	October 2010	This means we cannot report on the ANDSF's progress toward achieving its goal female personnel strength.
<b>Proportion of Assigned (actual) to Authorized (goal) Strength for ANDSF Medical Personnel</b> (i.e. ANDSF medical personnel are at 90% of their authorized strength) (top-line, percentage, data 3 months old)	Received: NATO Unclassified, 9/21/2017  Retroactively Classified: 10/15/2017	NATO Confidential	New interpretation based on RS Classification Guide	NATO Unclassified or NSIRP	January 2013	This means we cannot report on the ANDSF's progress toward achieving its goal medical personnel strength.

<b>What</b>	<b>When*</b>	<b>Classification Level</b>	<b>Classification Justification</b>	<b>Prior Classification</b>	<b>Reported Unclassified Since**</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>ANA Attrition Data</b> (top-line, monthly percentages for the previous quarter)	Received Classified on 9/21/2017	NATO Secret	New interpretation based on RS Classification Guide	NATO Unclassified	October 2013	
<b>ANP Attrition Data</b> (top-line, monthly percentages for the previous quarter)	Received Classified on 9/21/2017	NATO Secret	New interpretation based on RS Classification Guide	NATO Unclassified	October 2013	
<b>ANA Operational Readiness of Equipment at Corps Level and Higher</b> (an operational readiness rate percentage for each corps, data 1-2 months old)	Received: NATO Unclassified, 9/21/2017 Retroactively Classified: 10/15/2017	NATO Secret	New interpretation based on RS Classification Guide	NSIRP	April 2016	USFOR-A said the same standard did not apply to the AAF. Operational readiness of airframes was unclassified.
<b>ANP Operational Readiness of Equipment at Zone Level and Higher</b> (an operational readiness rate percentage for each zone, data 1-2 months old)	Received: NATO Unclassified, 9/21/2017 Retroactively Classified: 10/15/2017	NATO Secret	New interpretation based on RS Classification Guide	NSIRP	April 2017	USFOR-A said the same standard did not apply to the AAF. Operational readiness of airframes was unclassified.
<b>General ANA Performance Assessment at Corps Level and Higher</b> (data 1-2 months old)	Received Classified on 9/21/2017	NATO Secret	New interpretation based on RS Classification Guide	NSIRP	July 2009	The only assessment provided was classified. Usually a separate, unclassified assessment is provided but USFOR-A said it was unable to do so this quarter.

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<b>What</b>	<b>When*</b>	<b>Classification Level</b>	<b>Classification Justification</b>	<b>Prior Classification</b>	<b>Reported Unclassified Since**</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>General ANP Performance Assessment at Zone Level and Higher</b> (data 1-2 months old)	Received Classified on 9/21/2017	NATO Secret	New interpretation based on RS Classification Guide	NSIRP	July 2009	The only assessment provided was classified. Usually a separate, unclassified assessment is provided but USFOR-A said it was unable to do so this quarter.
<b>General Ministry of Defense Performance Assessment at the Headquarters Level</b> (data 1-2 months old)	Received Classified on 9/21/2017	NATO Secret	New interpretation based on RS Classification Guide	U.S. Unclassified or NSIRP	April 2012	The only assessment provided was classified. Usually a separate, unclassified assessment is provided but USFOR-A said it was unable to do so this quarter.
<b>General Ministry of Interior Performance Assessment at the Headquarters Level</b> (data 1-2 months old)	Received Classified on 9/21/2017	NATO Secret	New interpretation based on RS Classification Guide	U.S. Unclassified or NSIRP	April 2012	The only assessment provided was classified. Usually a separate, unclassified assessment is provided but USFOR-A said it was unable to do so this quarter.
<b>Exact figures for ANDSF assigned (actual) strength</b> (top-line, data 3 months old)	Received: NATO Unclassified, 9/21/2017 Retroactively Classified: 10/15/2017	NATO Confidential (in EXACT form)	New interpretation based on RS Classification Guide	NATO Unclassified or NSIRP	July 2009	We CAN report approximate figures in our unclassified report.

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<b>What</b>	<b>When*</b>	<b>Classification Level</b>	<b>Classification Justification</b>	<b>Prior Classification</b>	<b>Reported Unclassified Since**</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>Exact figures for ANA assigned (actual) strength</b> (top-line, data 3 months old)	Received: NATO Unclassified, 9/21/2017  Retroactively Classified: 10/15/2017	NATO Confidential (in EXACT form)	New interpretation based on RS Classification Guide	NATO Unclassified or NSIRP	July 2009	We CAN report approximate figures in our unclassified report.
<b>Exact figures for ANP assigned (actual) strength</b> (top-line, data 3 months old)	Received: NATO Unclassified, 9/21/2017  Retroactively Classified: 10/15/2017	NATO Confidential (in EXACT form)	New interpretation based on RS Classification Guide	NATO Unclassified or NSIRP	July 2009	We CAN report approximate figures in our unclassified report.
<b>Exact figures for AAF assigned (actual) strength</b> (top-line, data 3 months old)	Received: NATO Unclassified, 9/21/2017  Retroactively Classified: 10/15/2017	NATO Confidential (in EXACT form)	New interpretation based on RS Classification Guide	NATO Unclassified or NSIRP	April 2012	We CAN report approximate figures in our unclassified report.
<b>Exact figures for ALP assigned (actual) strength</b> (top-line, data 3 months old)	Received: NATO Unclassified, 9/21/2017  Retroactively Classified: 10/15/2017	NATO Restricted (in EXACT form)	New interpretation based on RS Classification Guide	U.S. Unclassified or U//FOUO	July 2011	We CAN report approximate figures in our unclassified report.



<b>What</b>	<b>When*</b>	<b>Classification Level</b>	<b>Classification Justification</b>	<b>Prior Classification</b>	<b>Reported Unclassified Since**</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>Exact figures for assigned (actual) strength of ANDSF Civilian Personnel</b> (top-line, data 3 months old)	Received: NATO Unclassified, 9/21/2017  Retroactively Classified: 10/15/2017	NATO Confidential (in EXACT form)	New interpretation based on RS Classification Guide	NATO Unclassified or NSIRP	July 2013	We CAN report approximate figures in our unclassified report.
<b>Exact figures for assigned (actual) strength of Female ANDSF Personnel</b> (top-line, data 3 months old)	Received: NATO Unclassified, 9/21/2017  Retroactively Classified: 10/15/2017	NATO Confidential (in EXACT form)	New interpretation based on RS Classification Guide	NSIRP	July 2010	We CAN report approximate figures in our unclassified report.
<b>Exact figures for assigned (actual) strength of ANDSF Medical Personnel</b> (top-line, data 3 months old)	Received: NATO Unclassified, 9/21/2017  Retroactively Classified: 10/15/2017	NATO Confidential (in EXACT form)	New interpretation based on RS Classification Guide	NATO Unclassified or NSIRP	October 2012	We CAN report approximate figures in our unclassified report.
<b>Exact figures for ANDSF authorized (goal) strength</b> (top-line, data 3 months old)	Received: NATO Unclassified, 9/21/2017  Retroactively Classified: 10/15/2017	NATO Confidential (in EXACT form)	New interpretation based on RS Classification Guide	NATO Unclassified or NSIRP	July 2009	This information is unclassified on its own but classified when reported with assigned personnel strength figures. This means we cannot report on the ANDSF's progress toward achieving their goal strength.

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<b>What</b>	<b>When*</b>	<b>Classification Level</b>	<b>Classification Justification</b>	<b>Prior Classification</b>	<b>Reported Unclassified Since**</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>Exact figures for ANA authorized (goal) strength</b> (top-line, data 3 months old)	Received: NATO Unclassified, 9/21/2017  Retroactively Classified: 10/15/2017	NATO Confidential (in EXACT form)	New interpretation based on RS Classification Guide	NATO Unclassified or NSIRP	July 2009	This information is unclassified on its own but classified when reported with assigned personnel strength figures. This means we cannot report on the ANA's progress toward achieving its goal strength.
<b>Exact figures for ANP authorized (goal) strength</b> (top-line, data 3 months old)	Received: NATO Unclassified, 9/21/2017  Retroactively Classified: 10/15/2017	NATO Confidential (in EXACT form)	New interpretation based on RS Classification Guide	NATO Unclassified or NSIRP	July 2009	This information is unclassified on its own but classified when reported with assigned personnel strength figures. This means we cannot report on the ANP's progress toward achieving its goal strength.
<b>Exact figures for AAF authorized (goal) strength</b> (top-line, data 3 months old)	Received: NATO Unclassified, 9/21/2017  Retroactively Classified: 10/15/2017	NATO Confidential (in EXACT form)	New interpretation based on RS Classification Guide	NATO Unclassified or NSIRP	July 2012	This information is unclassified on its own but classified when reported with assigned personnel strength figures. This means we cannot report on the AAF's progress toward achieving its goal strength.
<b>Exact figures for ALP authorized (goal) strength</b> (top-line, data 3 months old)	Received: NATO Unclassified, 9/21/2017  Retroactively Classified: 10/15/2017	NATO Restricted (in EXACT form)	New interpretation based on RS Classification Guide	U.S. Unclassified or U.S. For Official Use Only (U//FOUO)	October 2011	This information is unclassified on its own but classified when reported with assigned personnel strength figures. This means we cannot report on the ALP's progress toward achieving its goal strength.

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<b>What</b>	<b>When*</b>	<b>Classification Level</b>	<b>Classification Justification</b>	<b>Prior Classification</b>	<b>Reported Unclassified Since**</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>Exact figures for authorized (goal) strength of ANDSF Civilian Personnel</b> (top-line, data 3 months old)	Received: NATO Unclassified, 9/21/2017  Retroactively Classified: 10/15/2017	NATO Confidential (in EXACT form)	New interpretation based on RS Classification Guide	NATO Unclassified or NSIRP	April 2014	This information is unclassified on its own but classified when reported with assigned personnel strength figures. This means we cannot report on the ANDSF's progress toward achieving their goal civilian strength.
<b>Exact figures for authorized (goal) strength of Female ANDSF Personnel</b> (top-line, data 3 months old)	Received: NATO Unclassified, 9/21/2017  Retroactively Classified: 10/15/2017	NATO Confidential (in EXACT form)	New interpretation based on RS Classification Guide	NSIRP	October 2010	This information is unclassified on its own but classified when reported with assigned personnel strength figures. This means we cannot report on the ANDSF's progress toward achieving their goal female personnel strength.
<b>Exact figures for authorized (goal) strength of ANDSF Medical Personnel</b> (top-line, data 3 months old)	Received: NATO Unclassified, 9/21/2017  Retroactively Classified: 10/15/2017	NATO Confidential (in EXACT form)	New interpretation based on RS Classification Guide	NATO Unclassified or NSIRP	January 2013	This information is unclassified on its own but classified when reported with assigned personnel strength figures. This means we cannot report on the ANDSF's progress toward achieving their goal medical strength.

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