



# HISTORICAL CONTEXT

On October 14th, 2001, US CENTCOM released the following report about OEF:

(MacDill AFB, Fla., Oct 14, 2001)

United States Central Command entered its second week of Operation Enduring Freedom with renewed raids and humanitarian deliveries. The Taliban "are paying a price" for refusing to turn over Osama bin Laden, President Bush declared. In his weekly radio address, the President said seven days of bombing raids had "crippled Taliban air defenses and disrupted bin Laden's al-Qaida terrorist network."

Targets continued to be focused on Taliban military equipment, airfields, aircraft and ground forces. Raids were conducted from land-based stations and aircraft carriers. Both bombers and strike aircraft completed successful raids. Tomahawk Land Attack Missiles (TLAM) were also fired from both U.S. and UK naval vessels striking targets in Afghanistan.

Humanitarian efforts resumed utilizing the C-17 Globe Master with the completion of four flights and the delivery of over 68,000 meals. The U.S. military has now delivered 275,520 Humanitarian Daily Rations (HDR) to date (approximately 310 tons).

Two cable news networks, after being asked by the Bush administration to use discretion in showing videotapes from bin Laden's organization, refused to show the latest tape delivered Saturday. CNN aired a brief portion of the message from bin Laden spokesman Suleiman Abu Gheith about an hour after it was received from the Al-Jazeera television network, but Fox News Channel and MSNBC executives said the tape was not newsworthy.

A total of nineteen media representatives from 10 U.S. and international outlets were embedded on KC-135's utilized in refueling humanitarian missions staged from Ramstein Air Base, Germany. Coverage highlighted C-17 flights and HDR delivered in Afghanistan.

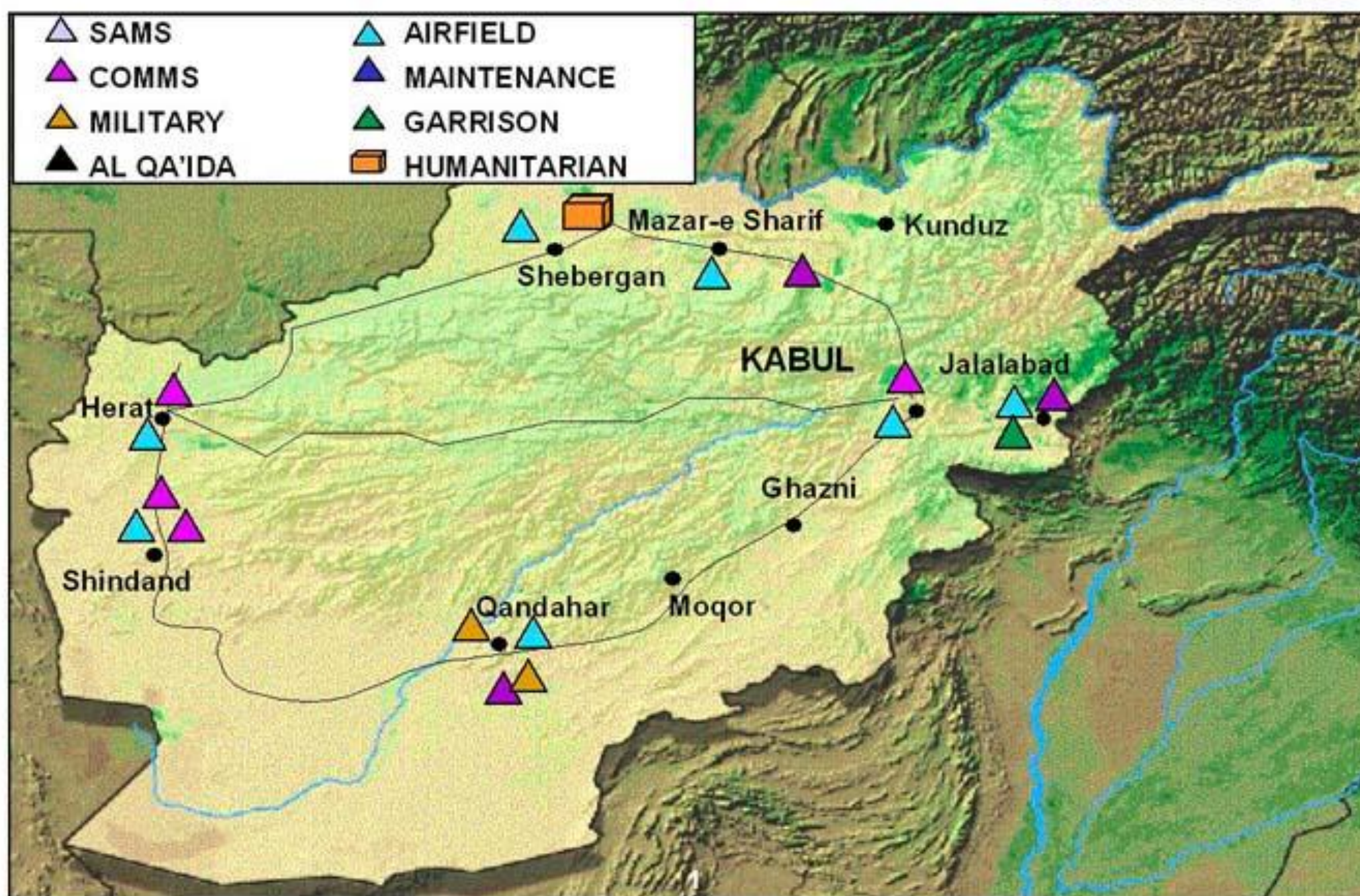




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This map was presented to the press:

## ENDURING FREEDOM October 13





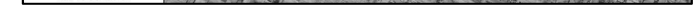
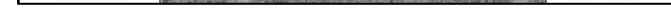
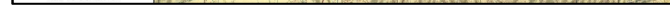


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Imagery documenting the results of coalition strikes against one of these targets was released that day:







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