

RELEASE IN PART B6

**From:** Sullivan, Jacob J <SullivanJJ@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 11, 2012 10:17 AM  
**To:** H  
**Subject:** Fw: Afghanistan

You will have seen the reports on the shooting - see below that Panetta will be in Afghanistan Wednesday.

----- Original Message -----

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 11, 2012 07:49 AM  
**To:** Brooke\_D\_Anderson [REDACTED] <Brooke\_D\_Anderson [REDACTED]> Sullivan, Jacob J;  
Samantha\_E\_Vinograd [REDACTED] <Samantha\_E\_Vinograd [REDACTED]> Kristie\_A\_Canegallo [REDACTED]  
<Kristie\_A\_Canegallo [REDACTED]> Lute\_D [REDACTED] <Lute\_D [REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Afghanistan

B6

Terrible incident of a US Servicemember leaving his base and going into a village and shooting civilians.

We are still planning to leave tmrw for the region and will be there Wednesday.

[REDACTED]

STATEMENT (from press release):

A United States service member was detained today in connection to an incident that resulted in Afghan casualties in Kandahar province. This is a deeply regrettable incident and we extend our thoughts and concerns to the families involved. U.S. Forces-Afghanistan (USFOR-A), in cooperation with Afghan authorities, will investigate this incident and may release additional information as appropriate. Requests for information regarding Afghan casualties should be referred to the Ministry of Interior.

RTQ:

Q1. Was this incident an act of revenge from past incidents when Afghans have turned their weapons on ISAF Service Members?

A1. It is not clear at this time and we cannot speculate what the individual's motives were for this incident.

Q2. Did the individual know those he shot?

A2. It is not clear at this time and we do not know if this alleged individual had any ties or issues with those he allegedly wounded.

Q3. What nationality was the shooter?

A3. Initial reports indicate the alleged shooter is a United States service member. U.S. Forces-Afghanistan (USFOR-A), in cooperation with Afghan authorities, will investigate this incident and may release additional information if appropriate.

Q4. How many were killed and injured?

A4: Initial reporting indicates that multiple civilians were wounded and are currently receiving care at coalition medical facilities. Please refer additional questions to the MOI.

Q5. Where did the incident take place?

A5. The incident took place in Kandahar province, Southern Afghanistan.

Q6. Is the shooter in custody?

A6. Yes, coalition forces have the alleged shooter in custody.

Q7. How many shooters were involved?

A7. Initial reports indicate there was one alleged shooter.

Q8. Were the casualties evacuated and treated at ISAF medical facilities?

A8. Initial reporting indicates that multiple civilians were wounded and are currently receiving care at coalition medical facilities.

Q9: Will there be an investigation?

A9: U.S. Forces-Afghanistan (USFOR-A), in cooperation with Afghan authorities, will investigate this incident and may release additional information if appropriate. More details may be released as appropriate.

Q10: Were any ANSF personnel wounded or killed in the incident?

A10: No ANSF personnel were involved.

Q11: How will this effect future operations and relations with the Afghan government?

A11: This event will not affect our continued resolve to support the GIRoA. Coalition forces will continue to work with Afghan forces.

Q12: Did this occur on-post or off?

A12: The incident occurred off post.

Q13: We are hearing rumors that up to 14 Afghan civilians have been murdered by a US soldier. Can you confirm that 14 civilians have been killed in Kandahar?

A13: Initial reporting indicates an unconfirmed number of casualties.

Multiple Afghan civilians were wounded and are currently receiving treatment at coalition medical facilities. Additional information may be released as appropriate. Please refer to the MOI for specific information regarding Afghan casualties.

Q14: Has a protest started?

A14: There is a peaceful gathering of approximately 50 individuals outside of the post near where this incident occurred.