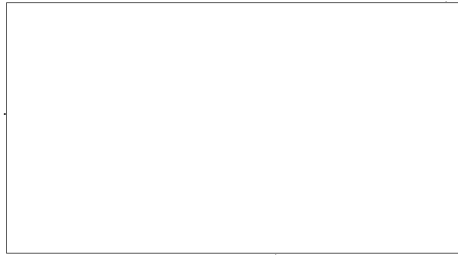




Directorate of Intelligence

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Afghanistan Situation Report



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14 January 1986

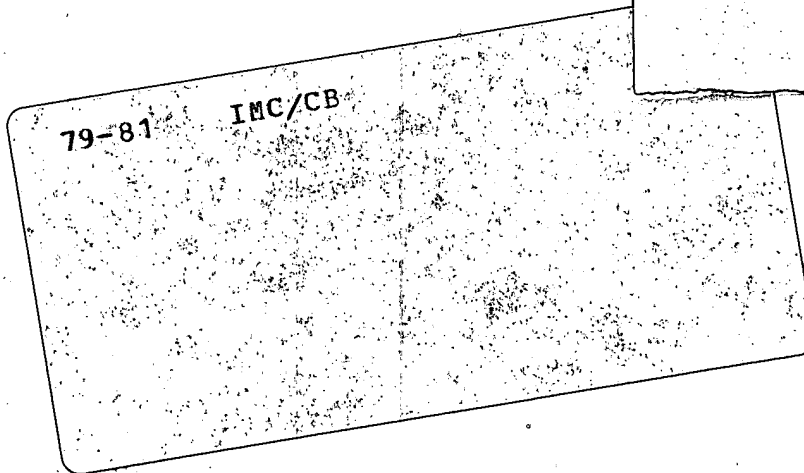
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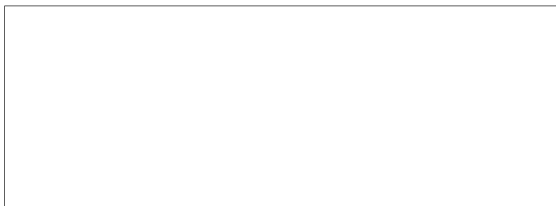
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AFGHANISTAN SITUATION REPORT



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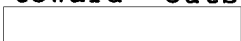
LACK OF RESISTANCE COOPERATION IN ORUZGAN PROVINCE



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The month-long seige of Deh Ravod ended with a withdrawal by Hizbi-Islami forces in the face of superior Soviet-Afghan forces without informing their local allies--a move that will probably increase the already suspicious attitude of local tribesmen toward "outsiders", at least in Oruzgan.



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PAKISTAN DELAYS ANNOUNCING CROSS-BORDER RELIEF AGENCY

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Islamabad's sensitivity about publicizing aid for the Afghan resistance is causing delays in the implementation of Pakistan Welfare International, a new humanitarian cross-border relief program.



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AFGHANISTAN: RESISTANCE SCORES FEW POINTS AT ISLAMIC CONFERENCE



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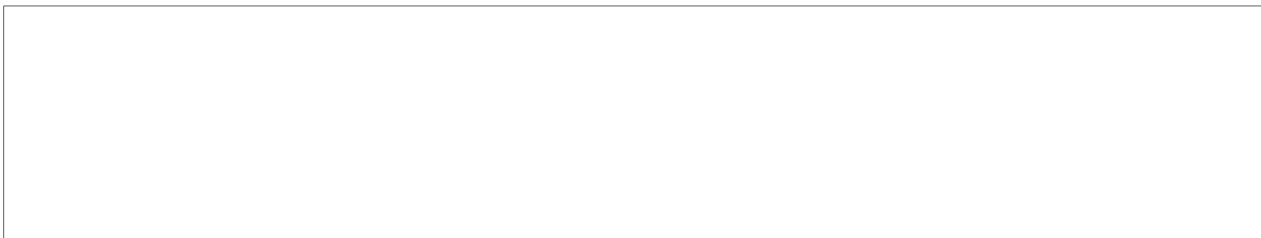
The Islamic Conference held last week in Morocco concentrated on Middle East issues and did not give formal recognition to the Afghan resistance delegation.



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LACK OF RESISTANCE COOPERATION IN ORUZGAN PROVINCE



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From mid-October to mid-November, [redacted] Hizbi-Islami (Khalis) insurgents--probably from the Qandahar-Helmand region--together with locally-based insurgents armed with rocket launchers, recoilless rifles, and mortars besieged the district center of Deh Ravod, Oruzgan Province, some 100 miles northwest of Qandahar,

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[redacted] Despite heavy Soviet and regime air strikes the insurgents penetrated the city limits and overran several military posts. Before the insurgents could seize control of the city, however, a large Soviet-Afghan armored convoy and Soviet paratroopers arrived, forcing the Hizbi-Islami insurgents to withdraw. The local insurgents, who were unaware of the Hizbi-Islami's night departure, found themselves in a hopeless situation and immediately fled to their villages and the nearby mountains. [redacted]

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[redacted] the siege of Deh Ravod followed an unsuccessful earlier attempt by the Hizbi-Islami to secure the cooperation of local insurgents for an assault on Tarin Kowt, the capital of Oruzgan Province. Local insurgents reportedly refused to participate because of the onset of winter, insufficient supplies from resistance parties in Quetta, and the inability of the Hizbi-Islami commanders to guarantee the security of the local populace. [redacted]

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[redacted] Local commanders, who were Durani tribesman, also distrusted the Hizbi commanders, who were Ghilzai tribesmen, and feared that the latter would seek to disarm the local insurgents. [redacted]

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Comment: Tribal rivalries, competition for arms and money, and deep suspicions of outsiders have repeatedly prevented insurgent groups from uniting across tribal and geographic boundaries. Local commanders fear that outsiders will engage in high-risk operations that endanger the local population. The groups also resent outside insurgent groups who, in their view, behave as conquering warlords, and do not share information or military assets. [redacted]

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PAKISTAN DELAYS ANNOUNCING CROSS-BORDER RELIEF AGENCY [REDACTED]

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Islamabad is delaying the official announcement and implementation of Pakistan Welfare International (PWI), the newly-formed clearing house for humanitarian assistance inside Afghanistan, according to US Embassy reporting. The delay has increased concern among private voluntary organizations that their role will be curtailed and that PWI may become a tool of US foreign policy rather than an impartial conduit for humanitarian assistance. [REDACTED]

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Comment: Islamabad will move cautiously on any program that increases the visibility of its support to the insurgents because of concern that publicity might increase Soviet pressure on Pakistan. In particular, Prime Minister Junejo, who with the transition to civilian rule now has a stronger role in foreign policy, may be dragging his feet. Nevertheless, there is still strong support within Pakistan for a program of cross-border humanitarian assistance and the program will probably be implemented within several months. [REDACTED]

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25X1**AFGHANISTAN: RESISTANCE DELEGATION SCORES FEW POINTS AT ISLAMIC CONFERENCE** [REDACTED]

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Despite Saudi claims that the Afghan insurgents would receive greater attention this year in the Islamic Conference (OIC), Afghanistan was assigned a low place on the agenda of the OIC's foreign ministers meeting in Morocco last week. At the opening session, the resistance delegation was denied entry to the main conference hall and was escorted to the gallery designated for observers and guests. Alliance spokesman Gailani was allowed to speak as a "guest," but no member government proposed granting the resistance formal status in the Conference. [REDACTED]

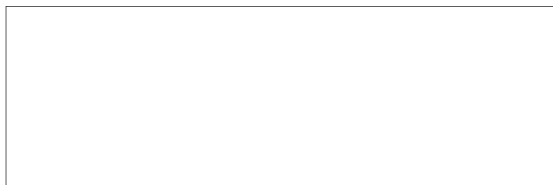
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Comment: Condemnation of US and Israeli threats against Libya, and political infighting between Syria and Egypt dominated the meeting. Absent strong leadership from Saudi Arabia or Pakistan, the Conference will continue to avoid giving greater

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prominence to Afghanistan, in favor of non-controversial items, such as opposition to the US-Israel alliance and support for the Palestinians. We believe the Conference resolution on Afghanistan will keep the weak language it has had since 1981. [redacted]

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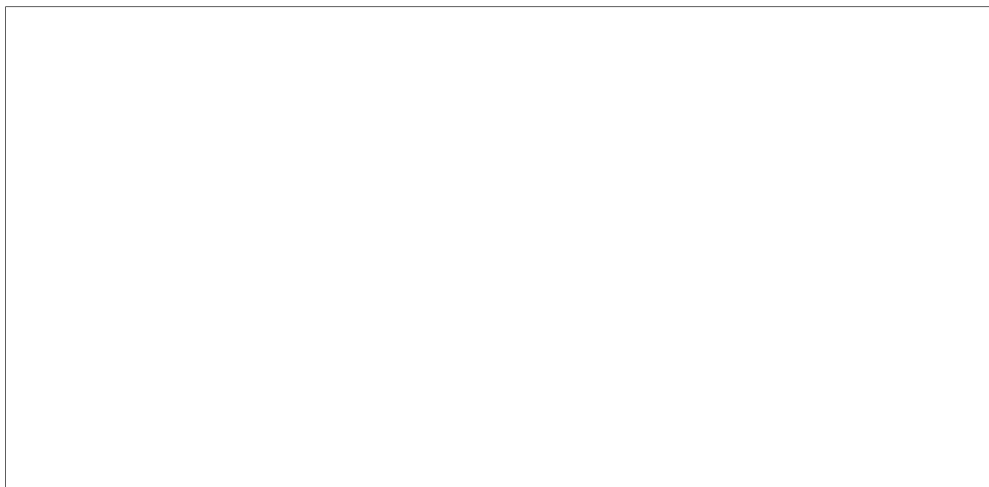
-- The combined Soviet-Afghan operation in the Bagram area has ended, [redacted] Soviet and Afghan command posts and an Afghan fire support base deployed to the area since late December have been removed. The 11 Fitter and 11 Hind helicopters, which were probably used for air support during the operation, also returned to their bases in Afghanistan. [redacted]

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-- On 11 January, Radio Kabul announced that the Afghan intelligence service (KHAD) was upgraded to ministerial status and renamed the Ministry of State Security. The timing of the change, so soon after former KHAD chief Najuibullah's promotion, may reflect Najibullah's growing importance. [redacted]

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-- According to regime media, Afghanistan will expand its Revolutionary Council--the highest executive and legislative organ in the regime--by adding non-party members, including





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representative religious leaders, members of private industry and tribesmen. Among other things, the Council will be charged with forming a commission to draft a new constitution--the latest in a series of moves designed to improve the regime's domestic and international standing. 

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--  25 towed 240-mm mortars, 36 82-mm Vasilek mortars, and at least 15 possible self-propelled 152-mm guns 2S5 at Towraghondi transshipment point. The Soviets will be markedly increasing their available firepower in western Afghanistan when this artillery is deployed. Additionally, the Soviets may send in additional troops to man the artillery. 

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