



# CANADA IN AFGHANISTAN

(2001-2010)

DEVELOPED BY  
THE HISTORICA-DOMINION INSTITUTE  
& SCOTT MOODY

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR TEACHERS

### Dear Grade 10 - 12 History and Social Studies Teachers,

To help you explain Canada's involvement in Afghanistan, The Historica-Dominion Institute has developed the following readings, presentations and worksheets. Feel free to use all or some of them, as best suits your needs.

**Scott Moody** is a certified teacher and a Canadian Forces reservist. A graduate of the University of Western Ontario with a B. H (1997) and a B. Ed (1999) he began his teaching career in Toronto and is now a teacher with the Peel District School Board. He began his career in the military in 1992 as an Infantry Soldier with the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, through the years he has had the honour of serving in Bosnia in 1997-98 and Afghanistan in 2008 -09.

### Information Package on Canada's involvement in Afghanistan

Your students can gain a basic knowledge of Canada's involvement in the conflict in Afghanistan in different ways:

## METHODS

- 1) Students can review a reading on the topic and answer questions on the provided worksheet.
- 2) Students can complete a Web Quest, by reviewing suggested websites and answering related questions.

The questions are sequential, with varying difficulty. Please do not hesitate to omit questions you feel are not at the correct level for your students. An answer key is provided to help in assessment. However, precise assessment methods are not given, as these may differ between classes and school boards.

## EXTENDING LEARNING

To extend learning on Canada's role in Afghanistan, research materials and critical-thinking topics have been included.

### The Historica-Dominion Institute's Memory Project Speakers Bureau

([www.thememoryproject.com](http://www.thememoryproject.com)) is also a wonderful way to enrich your classes' study of the conflict in Afghanistan, as well as other aspects of Canada's military involvement and history. The Memory Project Speakers Bureau arranges for veterans and serving Canadian Forces members to visit schools in their communities, to share stories of their service experience. The program is provided **FREE** of charge and is available year-round.

**BOOK A SPEAKER TODAY! [WWW.THEMEMORYPROJECT.COM](http://WWW.THEMEMORYPROJECT.COM)**

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## PART 1: AFGHANISTAN BACKGROUND

**Population:** approx. 30 million

**Capital:** Kabul

**Area:** 652,090 km<sup>2</sup>

**History at a Glance:** Afghanistan was ruled by a monarchy from 1747 to 1973. The monarchy was overthrown in 1973 by the military, and the country was declared a republic. To support the communist government in Afghanistan and to expand its interests in the region, a military force from the Soviet Union moved into and occupied Afghanistan in 1979. This was a long occupation, which many people of the country resisted. The Afghan resistance groups were referred to as the Mujahedeen, or “freedom-fighters”. The Soviet Union left Afghanistan in 1989 and a brutal civil war erupted. Following years of fighting a religious extremist group called the Taliban took control of much of the country.

Afghanistan lies across ancient trade and invasion routes extending from Central Asia into India. This made control of its territory of great interest to many European nations, and also meant that many foreign armies often settled there.

Most of the modern-day borders of the country were drawn up in the 19th century by Britain and Russia, when Afghanistan became a buffer state between British India and Russia. These borders divided many of Afghanistan’s ethnic groups, leaving strong ethnic associations across borders and giving Afghanistan a diverse and often fractious ethnic make-up. The largest ethnic group in Afghanistan is made up of the Pashtun people, followed by the Tajik, Hazara, Uzbek and Balochi people.

**Geography:** Afghanistan is located in South-West Asia, and shares its borders with several countries. To its north it shares borders with Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan; to the east it borders China and Pakistan; to the south it borders Pakistan; and to the west it borders Iran. It has diverse physical geography, with vast mountainous areas to the west and north and desert in the south.

**Language:** The two official languages of the country are Dari and Pashto. Dari is the official name of the Persian spoken in Afghanistan. It is sometimes locally referred to as Farsi. It is the language of government. Pashto is spoken predominately in the south and by the Pashto people throughout the country.

## PART 2: THE BEGINNING OF THE CONFLICT

On the morning of September 11, 2001, several terrorist attacks took place in the United States, killing more than 2,700 people. Four airplanes were hijacked; two were flown into the World Trade Centre in New York City, destroying its two towers. One flew into a section of the Pentagon in Washington DC. Another crashed in a field in Pennsylvania, en route to a possible third target.

In the search for those responsible for the attacks, it became apparent that a religious extremist terrorist organization led by Osama bin Laden, called Al-Qaeda, had masterminded these terrible events. It was also determined that Al-Qaeda’s main base was Afghanistan.

Afghanistan was then under the rule of the Taliban regime. This group of religious extremists had taken control of Afghanistan

in 1996. The Taliban shared similar values with Al-Qaeda. As a result of this relationship, the Taliban had been allowing Al-Qaeda to use Afghanistan as a staging and training ground for its terrorist activities.

Following the September 11 terrorist attacks, the American government requested that Osama bin Laden be turned over to it. When this demand was not met, in October 2001 the United States began conducting a military operation in Afghanistan. This started with aerial bombardment by aircraft and direct operations by special operations teams on the ground. The military action eventually grew into an invasion of the country by ground troops from the United States, with the assistance primarily of soldiers from Afghanistan that opposed the Taliban. This military operation was called Operation Enduring Freedom.

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## PART 3: CANADA'S INITIAL INVOLVEMENT

After the terrorist attacks of September 11, the Canadian government pledged its support to the United States. Canada's immediate response was to allow members of its armed forces who had been on exchange with the United States military, as well as members of the Elite JTF-2 Commandos, to assist in the Afghanistan effort. This was followed by the allocation of naval vessels and personnel to support the mission in the waters of South-West Asia. Eventually, the Canadian government dispatched troops to the region.

In February 2002, The 3rd Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (PPCLI), with various support elements, deployed to Kandahar, in Southern Afghanistan. This mission was referred to as Operation Apollo. During its six months in Afghanistan, the

PPCLI served under Operation Enduring Freedom and worked as part of the United States 101st Airborne Division.

During this initial deployment in Afghanistan, several notable events took place. On April 18, 2002, four members of the PPCLI were killed, and eight others were wounded, during a "friendly fire" incident. An American pilot had dropped a bomb on the soldiers while they were on the ground conducting a training exercise in Kandahar, mistaking them for enemy troops. These were the first Canadian soldiers killed in Afghanistan. The PPCLI also participated in several special combat operations against Taliban fighters, such as Operation Anaconda and Operation Harpoon. In these military operations, Canadian soldiers were actively involved in planned combat missions.

## PART 4: ISAF AND KABUL

By December 2001, the Taliban regime had been ousted from power in Afghanistan. During that same month, a meeting took place with prominent Afghans in Bonn, Germany, to decide on how Afghanistan would be governed and how to prevent the return of the Taliban. The resulting agreement would be known as the Bonn Agreement.

The Bonn Agreement called for the establishment of a transitional and then an interim government in Afghanistan. Initially, a prominent citizen of Afghanistan, named Hamid Karzai, was made chairman of the transitional government. He was also appointed in 2002 as the interim president of the country. The interim government had a goal of creating a constitution and holding a formal election by 2004. (Hamid Karzai was eventually elected President of Afghanistan, in December 2004, and re-elected in 2009.)

During the Bonn meeting, UN Security Council Resolution 1386 was drafted. It called for the creation of the International Security Assistance Force, or ISAF. ISAF's initial goal was to

support stability in the area in and around Afghanistan's capital, Kabul.

In July 2003, Canada took command of ISAF and the Kabul Multi-National Brigade. To assist with Canada's lead role, the 3rd Battalion Royal Canadian Regiment (RCR) deployed to Kabul to serve as part of ISAF. That mission, called Operation Athena, was different than the mission that had taken place in Kandahar in 2002. Its focus was establishing peace and stability, while setting the conditions for a successful election in 2004. Unfortunately, this different task did not mean greater safety for the Canadian Forces. Three members of the RCR were killed and several were wounded during the initial tour in Kabul.

Canada's participation in the ISAF mission in Kabul lasted two years. Several other Canadian units rotated through and served in Kabul during this time. At the end of 2005, the Canadian Government decided to expand its participation in the conflict in Afghanistan.



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## PART 5: KANDAHAR

In late 2005, Canada ended its participation in Operation Athena in Kabul and decided to return to Kandahar, where it would take on a larger role. Canada committed to forming a Battle Group and Brigade Headquarters. Canada also assumed responsibility for the Kandahar Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) and took over Regional Command South. This new role was not initially under ISAF but under Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF). However, by the summer of 2006, the mission in Afghanistan was under the control of ISAF. Canada's mission in Kandahar was initially called Operation Archer; this then changed to OP Athena, when it became an ISAF mission. Canada's contribution was called Task Force Kandahar.

Kandahar is often referred to as the birthplace of the Taliban, because Mullah Omar, the founder of the Taliban movement, lived near Kandahar City and ran a school in nearby Zhari District. The situation in Kandahar was much different – and much deadlier – than the conditions the Canadians had encountered in Kabul. This is because the Taliban had returned to the Kandahar area to oppose the forces that had ousted it from power.

Once the members of the Canadian Task Force were in Kandahar, the Taliban started to actively engage them. The Taliban's main tactic was not to fight a direct action against the Canadians; instead it adopted a campaign of harassment through using Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs), made from homemade materials and old military explosives.

IEDs come in many different styles and variations. Some are placed under roadways and detonated remotely by a wire or radio signal by the enemy, usually when a military patrol or individual is observed moving over top. Other IEDs are buried in the ground and are set off when someone steps, or a vehicle rolls, over the spot where they have been put. Another type of IED is detonated by the enemy user, who often also dies in the process. This is because the IED is either attached to the person's body or is planted in a vehicle they are driving. These types of IEDs are referred to as Suicide Bourne IEDs (SBIEDs) or Suicide Bourne Vehicle IEDs (SBVIEDs). In some areas, direct attacks through ambush and rocket attacks take place. However the

enemy in Afghanistan appears to prefer to use IEDs. This type of warfare is often referred to as “insurgency”.

During the Canadian presence in Kandahar, combat between Canadian soldiers and the Taliban increased dramatically. Several large battles took place in the summer of 2006. Casualty rates increased and were reported in the media, something that Canadians had not experienced since the Korean War. This gained the operation a great deal of public attention at home.

In July 2006, the Canadian Battle Group found itself back under the command of ISAF, which took over the command of Regional Command South from the United States and OEF. The commander in the region was a Canadian named Brigadier General David Fraser. With the increase in engagements with the enemy at this point, Canada determined that the Taliban had increased in number around Kandahar City. This was considered a threat to Kandahar's largest population centre.

To protect the city, the Canadian Task Force launched Operation Medusa in September 2006. This was a major offensive that actively sought and engaged the Taliban in its strongholds outside of Kandahar City, in the districts of Panjwayi and Zhari. During this campaign, five Canadian soldiers were killed and dozens more were wounded. Several Canadian soldiers won medals for military valour.

After Medusa, the Canadian Task Force started to occupy key districts outside of Kandahar City, by setting up Forward Operating Bases (FOBs) and Combat Outposts, supported by the large air base in Kandahar, called Kandahar Airfield, or KAF. The Canadians also maintained the Kandahar Provincial Reconstruction Team, a largely civilian effort aimed at rebuilding the nation and providing social services to citizens, working out of a base in Kandahar City called Camp Nathan Smith. A small contingent of the Canadian military worked in ISAF Headquarters in Kabul.

From these bases, Canada could have a presence and actively patrol the districts occupied by the Taliban. This tactic was employed for several years, and allowed Canadian soldiers to foster



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## PART 5: KANDAHAR (CONTINUED)

a strong relationship with the people of these districts. It also came with a price: more than 150 Canadian soldiers were killed, and hundreds more were wounded. A majority of these casualties came as a result of IEDs.

In Kandahar, Canada adopted a “Whole of Government” approach to focus on the three key pillars of its Afghanistan National Development Strategy (ANDS): security, governance (rule of law and humanitarianism) and development. Most of this was facilitated by the PRT in Kandahar City and small groups in various austere Forward Operating Bases and outposts. Canada’s military worked directly with several other government departments to focus on these three areas.

In this effort, government organizations such as the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) focused on development. The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade focused on governance and security. Correctional Service Canada worked to improve the conditions in and the security of prisons. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police and a contingent of Civilian Police (CIVPOL) worked with their Afghanistan counterparts, mentoring and monitoring their conduct while helping to develop and finance the infrastructure required to secure the region.

To guide Canada’s effort in the country, the Canadian government identified six priorities for helping Afghanistan and its government to improve the lives of the country’s citizens. These six priorities fall in line with the three pillars of the Afghanistan National Development Strategy. The first four priorities focus on Kandahar; the final two are national priorities. They are:

- Maintain a more secure environment and establish law and order, by building the capacity of the Afghan National Army and Police, and support complementary efforts in the areas of justice and corrections.
- Provide jobs, education and essential services, such as water.
- Provide humanitarian assistance to people in need, including refugees.
- Enhance the management and security of the Afghanistan-Pakistan border.
- Build Afghan institutions that are central to our Kandahar priorities, and support democratic processes such as elections.
- Contribute to Afghan-led political reconciliation efforts, aimed at weakening the insurgency and fostering a sustainable peace.

Along with these six priorities, the Canadian government has focused on three signature projects to improve the lives of the people of Afghanistan. These projects are the Dhala Dam or Arghandab Irrigation and Rehabilitation Project, the eradication of polio and improvements in education.

As well as working with other government departments to implement these six priorities, the Canadian military has focused on the three of its own pillars in Afghanistan. To support the security pillar, the Canadian Forces established Operational Mentor and Liaison Teams (OMLT or POMLT), to train and mentor the Afghan National Army (ANA) and Afghan National Police (ANP). Security was also supported by the Battle Group, working with the ANA and ANP to support the clearing and holding of areas that had been occupied or influenced by the Taliban. Further, Civil Military Cooperation (CIMIC) teams mentored and worked directly with district and local leaders to identify and implement reconstruction projects.

## SOURCES

- <http://www.comfec-cefcom.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/ops/athena/index-eng.asp>
- <http://www.afghanistan.gc.ca/canada-afghanistan/priorities-priorites/index.aspx>
- <http://www.afghanistan.gc.ca/canada-afghanistan/approach-approche/index.aspx>
- <http://www.isaf.nato.int/mission.html>
- <http://www.legionmagazine.com/en/index.php/2007/09/operation-medusa-the-battle-for-panjwai/>
- <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/af.html>

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## QUESTIONS

### PART 1: AFGHANISTAN BACKGROUND

- 1) Which city is Afghanistan's capital? \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Name four countries that border Afghanistan.
  - a) \_\_\_\_\_
  - b) \_\_\_\_\_
  - c) \_\_\_\_\_
  - d) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) What two countries drew up the borders of Afghanistan in the 1800s?
  - a) \_\_\_\_\_
  - b) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) Name 3 ethnic groups in Afghanistan.
  - a) \_\_\_\_\_
  - b) \_\_\_\_\_
  - c) \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) Why did the Soviet Union occupy Afghanistan?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### PART 2: THE BEGINNING OF THE CONFLICT

- 6) Describe what happened on September 11, 2001.  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 7) What is Al-Qaeda and what was it doing in Afghanistan?  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 8) What was the name of the military operation that the United States initiated in Afghanistan in 2001?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 9) Who was the leader of Al-Qaeda in 2001? \_\_\_\_\_



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## QUESTIONS

### PART 3: CANADA'S INITIAL INVOLVEMENT

10) Explain Canada's military response in Afghanistan up to August 2002.

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11) What significant events occurred during the first Canadian troop deployment to Afghanistan?

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### PART 4: ISAF AND KABUL

12) What was one of the outcomes of the Bonn Agreement?

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13) Under what mandate was the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) created?

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14) What was Canada's role as a member of ISAF in 2003?

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## QUESTIONS

### PART 5: KANDAHAR

15) Why is Kandahar known as the “Birthplace of the Taliban”?

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16) Explain the Taliban’s preferred tactic against the Canadian Forces.

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17) How is an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) used?

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18) Why did Operation Medusa take place?

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19) What is the term used to describe the type of warfare the Taliban is using in Kandahar?

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## QUESTIONS

### PART 5: KANDAHAR (CONTINUED)

20) What do the following acronyms stand for?

- a) FOB: \_\_\_\_\_
- b) PRT: \_\_\_\_\_
- c) OMLT: \_\_\_\_\_
- d) CIDA: \_\_\_\_\_
- e) IED: \_\_\_\_\_
- f) ANA: \_\_\_\_\_

21) Describe the “Whole of Government Approach” that Canada has used in Kandahar.

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22) Name the three pillars of the Afghanistan National Development Strategy (ANDS).

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_

23) Name Canada's four priorities in Kandahar.

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_
- d) \_\_\_\_\_

24) Name Canada's three signature projects in Afghanistan.

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_



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## ANSWERS

### PART 1: AFGHANISTAN BACKGROUND

**1) Which city is Afghanistan's capital?**

Kabul

**2) Name four countries that border Afghanistan.**

Any four: Pakistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, China, Iran or Turkmenistan

**3) What two countries drew up the borders of Afghanistan in the 1800s?**

Britain, Russia

**4) Name 3 ethnic groups in Afghanistan.**

Any three: Pashtun, Tajik, Hazara, Uzbek, Baluchi

**5) Why did the Soviet Union occupy Afghanistan?**

To support Afghanistan's communist government

To exploit regional interests

### PART 2: THE BEGINNING OF THE CONFLICT

**6) Describe what happened on September 11, 2001.**

Terrorist hijacked four airplanes; two were flown into the World Trade Centre in New York City, destroying it. One flew into the Pentagon in Washington DC and another crashed in a field in Pennsylvania, en route to a possible third target.

**7) What is Al-Qaeda and what was it doing in Afghanistan?**

Al-Qaeda is a terrorist organization. Al-Qaeda was using Afghanistan as a staging and training ground for terrorist attacks

**8) What was the name of the military operation that the United States initiated in Afghanistan in 2001?**

Operation Enduring Freedom

**9) Who was the leader of Al-Qaeda in 2001?**

Osama Bin-Laden



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## ANSWERS

### PART 3: CANADA'S INITIAL INVOLVEMENT

#### 10) Explain Canada's military response in Afghanistan up to August 2002.

Canada's immediate response was to allow members of its armed forces who were on exchange with the United States, as well as members of the Elite JTF-2 Commandos, to participate in the conflict. This was followed by the allocation of naval vessels and personnel to support the mission in the waters in South-West Asia. In February 2002, The 3rd Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (PPCLI), with various support elements, deployed to Kandahar in Southern Afghanistan.

#### 11) What significant events occurred during the first Canadian troop deployment to Afghanistan?

Canada's first soldiers were killed in Afghanistan when on April 18, 2002, a US pilot dropped a bomb on Canadian soldiers who were on a training exercise, mistaking them for enemy troops.

The PPCLI also participated in several combat operations against Taliban fighters during Operation Anaconda and Operation Harpoon

### PART 4: ISAF AND KABUL

#### 12) What was one of the outcomes of the Bonn Agreement?

The agreement called for the establishment of a transitional and then an interim government in Afghanistan. Initially a prominent citizen of Afghanistan, named Hamid Karzai, was made chairman of this transitional government. He was eventually appointed interim president of the country in 2002. The interim government was charged with creating a constitution and setting up formal elections by 2004.

or

During the Bonn meeting, UN Security Council Resolution 1836 was drafted, calling for the creation of the International Security Assistance Force, or ISAF.

#### 13) Under what mandate was the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) created?

UN Security Council Resolution 1836 was drafted, calling for the creation of the International Security Assistance Force, or ISAF.

#### 14) What was Canada's role as a member of ISAF in 2003?

In July 2003, Canada took command of ISAF and its Kabul Multi-National Brigade. To assist with Canada's lead role, the 3rd Battalion Royal Canadian Regiment (RCR) deployed to Kabul to serve under ISAF.



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## ANSWERS

### PART 5: KANDAHAR

**15) Why is Kandahar known as the “Birthplace of the Taliban”?**

Kandahar is often referred to as the birthplace of the Taliban because Mullah Omar, the founder of the Taliban movement, lived near Kandahar City and ran a school in nearby Zhari District.

**16) Explain the Taliban’s preferred tactic against the Canadian Forces.**

The Taliban employed a campaign of harassment through using Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) constructed from homemade materials and old military explosives.

**17) How is an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) used?**

Some IEDs are placed under roadways and detonated remotely by a wire or radio signal by the enemy, usually when a military patrol or an individual passes over them. Some IEDs are activated automatically when an individual steps or a vehicle rolls on top of the spot where they are buried. Some IEDs are detonated by the user, killing them in the process. These IEDs are either attached to the person’s body or planted in a vehicle they are travelling in. These types of IEDs are referred to as Suicide Bourne (SBIED) or a Suicide Bourne Vehicle (SBVIED).

**18) Why did Operation Medusa take place?**

To protect Kandahar City, Kandahar’s largest population centre, from the growing presence of the Taliban.

**19) What is the term used to describe the type of warfare the Taliban is using in Kandahar?**

Insurgency

**20) What do the following acronyms stand for?**

- a) FOB: Forward Operating Base
- b) PRT: Provincial Reconstruction Team
- c) OMLT: Operational Mentor and Liaison Team
- d) CIDA: Canadian International Development Agency
- e) IED: Improvised Explosive Device
- f) ANA: Afghan National Army



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## ANSWERS

### PART 5: KANDAHAR (CONTINUED)

**21) Describe the “Whole of Government Approach” that Canada has used in Kandahar.**

Other governmental departments have worked with the military to accomplish the three pillars of the Afghan National Development Strategy (ANDS). Governmental organizations such as the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) has focused on development. The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade has focused on governance and security. Correctional Service Canada (CSC) has focused on the conditions in and the security of prisons. A combination of Royal Canadian Mounted Police and a contingent of Civilian Police (CIVPOL) has worked with their colleagues from Afghanistan to mentor and monitor their conduct, as well as to help develop and fund security infrastructure in the country.

**22) Name the three pillars of the Afghanistan National Development Strategy (ANDS).**

- a) Security and Rule of Law
- b) Governance
- c) Development / Reconstruction

**23) Name Canada's four priorities in Kandahar.**

- a) Maintain a secure environment and establish law and order
- b) Provide jobs, education and essential services.
- c) Provide humanitarian assistance.
- d) Enhance border security.

**24) Name Canada's three signature projects in Afghanistan.**

- a) Dhala Dam
- b) Polio Eradication
- c) Education



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## WEB QUEST

Visit the websites included on this worksheet and answer the following questions. Some websites have the same information, others have links to additional helpful sites.

### PART 1: AFGHANISTAN BACKGROUND

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/af.html>

<http://countrystudies.us/afghanistan/index.htm>

1) Which city is Afghanistan's capital? \_\_\_\_\_

2) Name four countries that border Afghanistan.

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_
- d) \_\_\_\_\_

3) Name 3 ethnic groups in Afghanistan.

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_

<http://www.historyofnations.net/asia/afghanistan.html>

4) What two countries drew up the borders of Afghanistan in the 1800s?

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_

5) Why did the Soviet Union occupy Afghanistan?

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6) Who were the Mujahedeen?

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## WEB QUEST

### PART 2: THE BEGINNING OF THE CONFLICT

[http://www.national911memorial.org/site/PageServer?pagename=New\\_History\\_Timeline](http://www.national911memorial.org/site/PageServer?pagename=New_History_Timeline)

7) Describe what happened on September 11, 2001.

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[http://www.cfr.org/publication/9126/alqaeda\\_aka\\_alqaida\\_alqaida.html](http://www.cfr.org/publication/9126/alqaeda_aka_alqaida_alqaida.html)

8) What is Al-Qaeda and what was it doing in Afghanistan?

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9) Who was the leader of Al-Qaeda in 2001?

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### PART 3: CANADA'S INITIAL INVOLVEMENT

<http://www.history.army.mil/brochures/Afghanistan/Operation%20Enduring%20Freedom.htm>

<http://www.forces.gc.ca/site/news-nouvelles/news-nouvelles-eng.asp?cat=00&id=388>

10) What was the name of the military operation that the United States initiated in Afghanistan in 2001?

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11) Explain Canada's military response in Afghanistan up to August 2002.

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## WEB QUEST

### PART 4: ISAF AND KABUL

[http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics\\_8189.htm](http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics_8189.htm)

<http://www.comfec-cefcom.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/ops/athena/index-eng.asp>

12) What was one of the outcomes of the Bonn Agreement?

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13) Under what mandate was the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) created?

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14) What was Canada's role as a member of ISAF in 2003?

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15) Why did the Canadian Forces move from Kabul to Kandahar?

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### PART 5: KANDAHAR

<http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/intro/ied.htm>

16) What are the different types of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs)?

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_



# CANADA IN AFGHANISTAN

(2001-2010)

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## WEB QUEST

### PART 5: KANDAHAR (CONTINUED)

<http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/intro/ied.htm>

17) Why did Operation Medusa take place?

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18) What is the significance of Panjwayi?

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19) Why is Kandahar known as the "Birthplace of the Taliban"?

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<http://www.afghanistan.gc.ca/canada-afghanistan/approach-approche/index.aspx>

20) Name the three pillars of the Afghanistan National Development Strategy (ANDS).

- a) \_\_\_\_\_  
b) \_\_\_\_\_  
c) \_\_\_\_\_

21) Name Canada's four priorities in Kandahar.

- a) \_\_\_\_\_  
b) \_\_\_\_\_  
c) \_\_\_\_\_  
d) \_\_\_\_\_

22) Name Canada's three signature projects in Afghanistan.

- a) \_\_\_\_\_  
b) \_\_\_\_\_  
c) \_\_\_\_\_

<http://www.comfec-cefcom.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/ops/fs-fr/jtfa-foia-eng.asp#c>

20) What do the following acronyms stand for?

- a) PRT: \_\_\_\_\_  
b) OMLT: \_\_\_\_\_  
c) ISAF: \_\_\_\_\_  
d) ANA: \_\_\_\_\_



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## WEB QUEST ANSWERS

### PART 1: AFGHANISTAN BACKGROUND

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/af.html>

<http://countrystudies.us/afghanistan/index.htm>

**1) Which city is Afghanistan's capital?** Kabul

**2) Name four countries that border Afghanistan.**

Any four: Pakistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, China, Iran or Turkmenistan

**3) Name 3 ethnic groups in Afghanistan.**

Any three: Pashtun, Tajik, Hazara, Uzbek, Baluchi

<http://www.historyofnations.net/asia/afghanistan.html>

**4) What two countries drew up the borders of Afghanistan in the 1800s?**

Britain, Russia

**5) Why did the Soviet Union occupy Afghanistan?**

To support the communist government

To exploit regional interests

**6) Who were the Mujahedeen?**

A guerrilla group that operated in Afghanistan that opposed invading Soviet forces and eventually toppled the Afghan communist government during the Afghan War.



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## WEB QUEST ANSWERS

### PART 2: THE BEGINNING OF THE CONFLICT

[http://www.national911memorial.org/site/PageServer?pagename=New\\_History\\_Timeline](http://www.national911memorial.org/site/PageServer?pagename=New_History_Timeline)

**7) Describe what happened on September 11, 2001.**

Terrorists hijacked four airplanes; two were flown into the World Trade Centre in New York City, destroying it. One flew into the Pentagon in Washington DC and another crashed in Pennsylvania, en route to a possible third target

[http://www.cfr.org/publication/9126/alqaeda\\_aka\\_alqaida\\_alqaida.html](http://www.cfr.org/publication/9126/alqaeda_aka_alqaida_alqaida.html)

**8) What is Al-Qaeda and what was it doing in Afghanistan?**

Al-Qaeda is a terrorist organization. Al-Qaeda was using Afghanistan as a staging and training ground for terrorist attacks

**9) Who was the leader of Al-Qaeda in 2001?**

Osama bin Laden

### PART 3: CANADA'S INITIAL INVOLVEMENT

<http://www.history.army.mil/brochures/Afghanistan/Operation%20Enduring%20Freedom.htm>

<http://www.forces.gc.ca/site/news-nouvelles/news-nouvelles-eng.asp?cat=00&id=388>

**10) What was the name of the military operation that the United States initiated in Afghanistan in 2001?**

Operation Enduring Freedom

**11) Explain Canada's military response in Afghanistan up to August 2002.**

Canada's immediate response was to allow members of its armed forces, who had been on exchange with the United States, as well as members of the Elite JTF-2 Commandos, to participate in the conflict. This was followed by the allocation of naval vessels and personnel to support the mission in the waters in South-West Asia. In February 2002, The 3rd Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (PPCLI), with various support elements, deployed to Kandahar in Southern Afghanistan



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## WEB QUEST ANSWERS

### PART 4: ISAF AND KABUL

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<http://www.comfec-cefcom.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/ops/athena/index-eng.asp>

#### 12) What was one of the outcomes of the Bonn Agreement?

The agreement called for the establishment of a transitional and then an interim government in Afghanistan. Initially a prominent citizen of Afghanistan, named Hamid Karzai, was made chairman of the transitional government. He was eventually appointed as the interim president of the country in 2002. The interim government committed to creating a constitution and moving to formal elections for the country's government by 2004.

or

During the Bonn meeting, UN Security Council Resolution 1386 was drafted, calling for the creation of the International Security Assistance Force, or ISAF.

#### 13) Under what mandate was the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) created?

UN Security Council Resolution 1836 was drafted, calling for the creation of the International Security Assistance Force, or ISAF.

#### 14) What was Canada's role as a member of ISAF in 2003?

In July 2003, Canada took command of ISAF as well as the Kabul Multi-National Brigade. To assist with Canada's lead role the 3rd Battalion Royal Canadian Regiment (RCR) deployed to Kabul to serve under ISAF.

#### 15) Why did the Canadian Forces move from Kabul to Kandahar?

To assisting in the development of Afghanistan's national security forces, and in order to maintain a safe and secure environment that would allow development and capacity-building work to continue.

### PART 5: KANDAHAR

<http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/intro/ied.htm>

#### 16) What are the different types of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs)?

Package (can be more detailed as command, victim-operated etc..), Vehicle, Suicide



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## WEB QUEST ANSWERS

### PART 5: KANDAHAR (CONTINUED)

<http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/intro/ied.htm>

#### 17) Why did Operation Medusa take place?

The mission's intent was to disperse or destroy the hundreds, if not thousands, of insurgents who had gathered about 20 kilometres southwest of Kandahar city, in a district called Panjwayi

#### 18) What is the significance of Panjwayi?

Panjwai was the insurgency's simmering heartland. For a whole generation of Canadian service members, the mention of Panjwai will almost certainly conjure hard memories of small villages and complex defensive terrain, intractable hostility and endless road-side bombs.

Panjwayi is the spiritual and literal home of the Taliban movement. It's where majority of Canadian soldiers have been killed.

#### 19) Why is Kandahar known as the "Birthplace of the Taliban"?

It's the birthplace of the Taliban leader, Mullah Mohammed Omar, and the place where the movement began in the mid-1990s.

<http://www.afghanistan.gc.ca/canada-afghanistan/approach-approche/index.aspx>

#### 20) Name the three pillars of the Afghanistan National Development Strategy (ANDS).

Security and Rule of Law, Governance, Development / Reconstruction

#### 21) Name Canada's four priorities in Kandahar.

- Maintain a secure environment and establish law and order
- Provide jobs, education and essential services.
- Provide humanitarian assistance.
- Enhance border security.

#### 22) Name Canada's three signature projects in Afghanistan.

Dhala Dam, Education, Polio Eradication

<http://www.comfec-cefcom.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/ops/fs-fr/jtfa-foia-eng.asp#c>

#### 20) What do the following acronyms stand for?

- PRT: Provincial Reconstruction Team
- OMLT: Operational Mentor and Liaison Team
- ISAF: International Security Assistance Force
- ANA: Afghan National Army



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## LEARNING EXTENSIONS

### LEARNING EXTENSION: FOLLOW UP ACTIVITY

Contact The Memory Project Speakers Bureau to request that a Canadian Forces member visit your class to speak about his or her experiences in Afghanistan and/or another country where Canada's military is involved. Consider having a Second World War or Korean War veteran visit as well, to highlight the differences and similarities between their experiences. [www.thememoryproject.com](http://www.thememoryproject.com)

### RESEARCH & CRITICAL THINKING

- Write a letter from the perspective of a soldier at a Forward Operating Base to his or her family or friends back home.
- Look at the development of The Highway of Heroes in Ontario. Create a presentation on this phenomenon. Compare this to how fallen Canadian soldiers have been honoured in the past, both with monuments overseas and at home in Canada.
- Research and prepare a one- to two-paragraph profile of a Canadian soldier who was killed in action in Afghanistan. Consider writing a letter to his or her family.
- Research and prepare a presentation on the Pashtun tribes in Southern Afghanistan and consider their thoughts on the conflict in their country.
- Research and prepare a presentation on the relationship between Pakistan and Afghanistan.
- Learn about the vehicles and equipment used by the Canadian Forces in Afghanistan and create a brief presentation on the topic. Use The Memory Project: Stories of the Second World War archive ([www.thememoryproject.com](http://www.thememoryproject.com)) to research equipment used in that conflict. Next, compare and contrast the equipment used by Canada's soldiers in the Second World War with those used today in Afghanistan.
- Visit [www.thememoryproject.com](http://www.thememoryproject.com) and click on the link for the Digital Archive. Read and listen to stories from Canada's First and Second World War, the Korean War and modern-day veterans. Compare and contrast the experiences of Canadian veterans of past wars with those of Canada's soldiers in Afghanistan today.
- Prepare a presentation on one of Canada's signature projects in Afghanistan (Dhala Dam, Polio Eradication and Education). Have similar efforts been undertaken during, or as the result of, other conflicts that Canada has been involved in?
- Write a paper arguing for or against Canada's initial involvement in Afghanistan.
- Write a position paper on whether or not you feel that the Canadian Forces should pull out of Afghanistan in 2011.
- Research the media's focus on Canada's involvement in Afghanistan. Write a paper on what you feel the media's role has been in influencing Canadians' opinions and concerns about the conflict.
- Write a paper for or against the "surge" of US soldiers sent to Afghanistan in 2010.
- Write a position paper on Canada's use of the "Whole of Government" approach in Afghanistan.
- Write a position paper on the success of Canada's signature projects in Afghanistan.