UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2014-20439 Doc No. C05781181 Date: 09/30/2015

RELEASE IN FULL

From: Sent: To: Subject: Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov> Sunday, July 24, 2011 10:40 AM H Fw: First Afghan security handover phase finishes (Reuters)

From: OpsNewsTicker
Sent: Sunday, July 24, 2011 07:02 AM
To: NEWS-Afghanistan; NEWS-Mahogany
Cc: SES-O
Subject: First Afghan security handover phase finishes (Reuters)

PARAKH (Reuters) - NATO troops handed over security responsibility to Afghan forces in the northeastern province of Panjshir on Sunday, capping an initial transition phase early after it was deemed a ceremony was not needed to mark Afghan control of districts around Kabul.

President Hamid Karzai announced in March that most of the districts in Kabul province, which shares a name with the country's capital city, would be among seven regions where the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) would transition security control to Afghan forces in July.

But Ashraf Ghani, chairman of the security transition and a former Afghan finance minister, said on Sunday there would be no official handover ceremony for the Kabul districts because Afghan forces had effectively been responsible for the area since 2008 when ISAF handed over security control of Kabul city.

NewsTickers alert senior Department officials to breaking news. This item appears as it did in its original publication and does not contain analysis or commentary by Department sources.