



Chairman Michael McCaul
House Foreign Affairs Committee
2170 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Ranking Member Gregory Meeks
House Foreign Affairs Committee
2471 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

July 16, 2024

Dear Chairman McCaul, Ranking Member Meeks, and Esteemed Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the U.S. Special Operators and their families who served honorably in the Global War on Terror, many with multiple tours in Afghanistan, we write to express our profound concern about the deteriorating security situation in Afghanistan and its implications for U.S. national security.

Our community fought alongside our Afghan partners, sacrificed on foreign soil, and lost comrades in a two-decade-long war to prevent another 9/11. Based on the insights from subject matter experts, many with recent and direct experience in Afghanistan, and our recent closed-door meeting with Ahmad Massoud, leader of the National Resistance Front (NRF), we are compelled to sound the alarm.

Key Concerns:

1. **Imminent Threat to U.S. Security:** Afghanistan is once again becoming a breeding ground for terrorist activities aimed at the U.S. The violations of the Doha Agreement have led to the resurgence of multiple terror safe havens.
2. **Strengthening Terrorist Alliances:** The relationship between the Taliban, Al-Qaeda, and ISIS-K has deepened. Inter-marriages among members of these groups have created a unified and formidable terrorist network, reminiscent of the alliances formed by key terrorist leaders in the past.
3. **Misuse of Humanitarian Aid:** It has been confirmed that over \$40 million in U.S. humanitarian aid is being funneled weekly to the Taliban-controlled Afghan government and corrupt NGOs with known ties to terrorist leaders.
4. **Re-emergence of Terrorist Training Camps:** The Taliban's control has facilitated the establishment of over 20 new terrorist training camps, further entrenching their power and capabilities.

Historical Parallels and Current Warnings:

Over two decades ago, Ahmad Shah Massoud, the revered leader of the Northern Alliance, warned the West about the impending terrorist threats emanating from Afghanistan. His assassination by Usama bin Laden's operatives, just days before 9/11, underscored the gravity of his warnings.

Today, his son, Ahmad Massoud, continues this legacy, standing against Al-Qaeda, ISIS-K, and the Taliban. His warnings are clear and dire: Afghanistan is at the epicenter of a new wave of terrorism that threatens global security.



Call to Action:

We reject any normalization of relations with the Taliban, as these actions are paving the way for another catastrophic terror attack on American soil. We urge you to consider the following:

- **Grant Ahmad Massoud an Audience:** We respectfully request that Ahmad Massoud be afforded the opportunity to brief the House Foreign Affairs Committee and their staff. His firsthand insights and the NRF's intelligence are crucial for understanding the real-time threats we face.
- **Reassess U.S. Policies:** A thorough reassessment of U.S. policies towards Afghanistan and its governing entities is imperative to mitigate these growing threats.

Our Special Operations community, veterans, and American citizens deserve transparency and decisive action to prevent another tragedy. The warnings are clear, the evidence is compelling, and the stakes could not be higher.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter. We remain at your disposal for any further information or clarification.

Sincerely,

President and Founder
Special Operations Association of America