1	CONTRACTS FOR AFGHAN NATIONAL POLICE TRAINING
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3	THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 2010
4	United States Senate,
5	Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs,
6	Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight,
7	Washington, D.C.
8	The Subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 2:35 p.m.,
9	in Room SD-342, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Hon. Claire
10	McCaskill, Chairman of the Subcommittee, presiding.
11	Present: Senators McCaskill, Kaufman, Brown and
12	Coburn.
13	OPENING STATEMENT OF SENATOR MCCASKILL
14	Senator McCaskill. This Subcommittee on Contracting
15	Oversight will come to order today.
16	First, I obviously want to greet the new ranking member
17	of the Subcommittee. Senator Scott Brown from the State of
18	Massachusetts has joined this Committee as its ranking
19	member. I do not know what this says about the Committee or
20	me but I have now gone through three ranking members in less
21	than a year. I hope you hold up better than the last two.
22	Senator Brown. I will stay as long as you have me,
23	Madam Chairman. Thank you.
24	Senator McCaskill. No. I had a great working

25 relationship with both Susan Collins, who was temporarily

- 1 filling the role as things were getting sorted out and
- 2 elections that really had not quite been decided yet, and
- 3 then Bob Bennett did a great job for a period of time.
- 4 But we have had a chance to visit and I think we will
- 5 work together well and I look forward to it so welcome to
- 6 the Committee.
- 7 Senator Brown. Thank you, Madam Chairman.
- 8 Senator McCaskill. Why are we here? Well, typically
- 9 I try to start with self-effacing humor about how dry
- 10 contracts are and how typically no one cares about this
- 11 subject matter longer than the brief moment of outrage when
- 12 they read a brief quote in a paper somewhere about some
- 13 trouble that has happened in contracting. Honestly this is
- 14 a little different.
- We are now much more educated as a Nation about
- 16 fighting counterinsurgency. We have learned hard lessons
- 17 about fighting counterinsurgency. Lives have been lost.
- 18 Families across this great Nation grieve as I speak for
- 19 members of their families that have been killed fighting
- 20 counterinsurgencies.
- 21 One thing we have learned it has become crystal clear
- 22 that to successfully fight counterinsurgencies you have to
- 23 be strategic and effective at making sure there is local
- 24 rule of law. Why is that important? Well, that is
- 25 important because counterinsurgency thrives on being able to

- 1 substitute their rule of law for that of a legitimate
- 2 government.
- 3 The Taliban has done so well in Afghanistan because
- 4 they were providing police protection to impoverished
- 5 communities many times through fear, many times through
- 6 retribution. But the Taliban, it was a sheriff. And when
- 7 the Taliban was not the sheriff there was rampant corruption
- 8 and even when the Taliban was the sheriff there was rampant
- 9 corruption.
- 10 We learned all of these lessons in Iraq as we tried to
- 11 move into the country to get rid of a despot, a bad guy,
- 12 that was destabilizing the region; and we learned the hard
- 13 way that if we did not focus on establishing a rule of law,
- 14 on not just going after the bad guys but leaving a military
- 15 and a police presence that could stabilize the way of life
- 16 that most people on this planet want. They want you to be
- 17 able to take their kids, feed their families, and not worry
- 18 that they are going to be killed on the way to work.
- 19 So that is why this hearing is so important. Training
- 20 the police in Afghanistan is part of our military mission.
- 21 It is as important as anything else that we are doing in
- 22 that nation right now. It is as important as training the
- 23 military. It is as important as hunting down the terrorists
- 24 and killing them.
- So what happened in that regard? And it is an

- 1 unbelievably incompetent story of contracting. For eight
- 2 years we have been supposedly training the police in
- 3 Afghanistan. Here is what we have done. We have flushed \$6
- 4 billion. \$6 billion.
- Now, am I exaggerating? Let me quote the general in
- 6 charge of training the police in Afghanistan. This is what
- 7 General Caldwell said, and I quote, "It is inconceivable but
- 8 in fact for eight years we were not training the police."
- 9 He went on to say that essentially we were giving them
- 10 uniforms.
- 11 No one had control of these contracts. No one agency.
- 12 This has been a game of pass off. The ultimate recipe for
- 13 disaster is not having one single agency with a clear line
- 14 of authority in charge able to make sure the mission is
- 15 accomplished with efficiency, effectiveness, and that money
- 16 is not walking away. None of that happened for eight years.
- 17 I will give you one anecdote. Early this year the
- 18 Italians showed up. This has been an international, very
- 19 unorganized but nonetheless an international effort. The
- 20 Italians showed up. And the Afghan volunteers that had
- 21 volunteered to be on these police departments were posting
- 22 horrible scores on the shooting range. They were the gang
- 23 that could not shoot straight. And there was this wringing
- 24 of, what are we going to do about these Afghan police
- 25 officers that we are training that cannot hit the side of a

- 1 barn.
- 2 The first part of this year the Italian paramilitary
- 3 came in and began looking at the problem. Are you ready for
- 4 what the problem was? Nobody had checked the sites of the
- 5 AK-47s and the M-16s they were shooting. They were out of
- 6 line.
- 7 So we were paying somebody to teach these people how to
- 8 shoot these weapons and nobody that we were paying had
- 9 bothered to check the sites as to whether or not they were
- 10 in line. So these guys were using the sites that were not
- 11 even in line with where they were shooting.
- 12 That is one example but I think it is pretty
- 13 illustrative. These contractors, for whatever reason, did
- 14 not have anybody who was saying, have you checked the sites
- 15 when the scores were coming back bad after year after year
- 16 after year. Their scores have dramatically improved.
- 17 Do not get me wrong. There are major challenges here.
- 18 These people are showing up to become police officers
- 19 without being able to read or write. Most of them have only
- 20 seen a role model of police officer that is not the role
- 21 model we are looking for. We are asking them to change many
- 22 things about their culture and the way they operate. This
- 23 is a hard job. And do not get me wrong. I get it. It is a
- 24 hard job, all the more reason that we need a line of
- 25 accountability.

- 1 We have an audit that is going to be the subject of the
- 2 hearing to a large extent today. I want to make sure, as we
- 3 talk about this, that we know that there are in fact reasons
- 4 why people should be angry today. This new joint IG report
- 5 that just came out in February, and we are going to talk
- 6 about it extensively during the hearing, talks about the
- 7 problem of this division of responsibility between the
- 8 Defense Department and the State Department and how badly
- 9 this has gone in terms of accountability and authority.
- 10 Now, if this frankly was the first time that we had
- 11 heard this, then maybe we should not have a full-blown
- 12 hearing. We have identified the problem. Now you can get
- 13 to work. Here is the rest of the story.
- 14 2005 GAO reported that Department of State had not
- 15 developed a plan for when, how, or what costs the training
- or equipping of the ANP would be accomplished.
- 17 2006, DOS, the Department of State, and Defense
- 18 Inspectors General found management of the DynCorp contract
- 19 to be problematic and required more effective coordination
- 20 between the Department of State and CSTC-A, and I start
- 21 talking in acronyms. That means I have been here too long.
- 22 That is essentially the division of the military that is in
- 23 charge of overseeing these contracts.
- 24 2008 GAO found State and Defense still had not
- 25 developed a coordinated, detailed plan for completing and

- 1 sustaining the ANP force, and DOD Defense IG reported that
- 2 CSTC-A, the military department in charge, had not developed
- 3 training programs.
- 4 How about contracting officers? Department of State we
- 5 found in this 2010 report that contracting officers were not
- 6 providing adequate surveillance. Guess what? 2005 they
- 7 said that. 2006 they said that. CGAR who frankly has not
- 8 completed enough reports that are meaningful in terms of the
- 9 oversight capacity of our government, they even found in
- 10 2009 there was a problem.
- 11 Curriculum. The current report says there is a problem
- 12 with curriculum. Guess what? 2006 they said the same
- 13 thing. 2006 State and DOD IG reported obstacles to
- 14 establishing a fully professional Afghan National Police
- 15 including literate recruits, a history of low pay, pervasive
- 16 corruption, on and on and on.
- 17 In other words this is the third or fourth time that
- 18 people who check into our government has said hello, it is
- 19 not working. You are not doing a good job.
- This does not compute. Essential to our mission, men
- 21 and women dying for the cause, and we cannot get basic
- 22 contract oversight of this function under control.
- 23 So this is going to be a tough one and there are going
- 24 to be some tough questions because there is no excuse for
- 25 this to go any further. There is no excuse.

- I welcome all of your testimony. I apologize for the
- 2 delay in the hearing. We got caught up in, I will not go
- 3 into it because I do not want this to be a partisan
- 4 exercise. Unfortunately we got caught up in some stuff that
- 5 we could not have the hearing the last time. And, Ms.
- 6 Klemstine, that is why you are there today. One up the food
- 7 chain was going to be here the last time but was unable to
- 8 come today. So thank you for being here today. I welcome
- 9 all of you. At this point I would like to turn the hearing
- 10 over for an opening statement to Senator Brown.
- 11 OPENING STATEMENT OF SENATOR BROWN
- 12 Senator Brown. Thank you, Madam Chairman. I want to
- 13 thank you for your nice welcome and the conversations we
- 14 have had to lead up to this hearing. And I thought what
- 15 you said was well said and I am not going to duplicate a lot
- 16 of it but I will say as somebody who has been serving in the
- 17 military for 30 years, presently holds the rank of a
- 18 lieutenant colonel, and is familiar with contracting, being
- 19 the head attorney for defense services in Massachusetts,
- 20 these are things that I take very very seriously.
- 21 And having recently come back from Afghanistan and
- 22 seeing the nature of the challenge and the enormity of the
- 23 challenge and the fact that I am just flabbergasted as a new
- 24 member, but as an ordinary citizen prior to this as to the
- 25 amount money we are spending over there and seeing the clear

- 1 lack of progress.
- What does that mean? To me it means obviously dollars
- 3 that cannot be spent here in the United States for services
- 4 and other things that we come to know and expect, number
- 5 one.
- Number two, it also more importantly comes down to
- 7 lives. As the chairwoman said about having our men and
- 8 women going to a foreign country, fighting to protect the
- 9 rights of a citizenry that sometimes appreciates us,
- 10 sometimes does not, but with a police force that would be
- 11 fully stood up and raring to go would take the pressure off
- 12 of us to not only be a clearing force but now be a security
- 13 force.
- One of the things that I noted, as big as the problem
- 15 is, when we first got into country, Madam Chair, the
- 16 enormity of the problem is so big, it almost quite frankly
- 17 feels like when I first got here I looked at the problems,
- 18 the offices, the logistics, the hiring, it is just so big.
- 19 By the time we left I actually had a very, I feel real
- 20 understanding of the plan that General McChrystal was trying
- 21 to implement when it comes to winning the minds and hearts
- 22 of the Afghan citizens and also trying to implement a plan
- 23 with the army and the police force to take the pressure off
- 24 of our soldiers, our MPs in particular, for going in and
- 25 securing an area.

- 1 Then when I read the Newsweek article and then when I
- 2 have done my own due diligence and the research and read the
- 3 reports I am like I do not get it. We are not talking about
- 4 a couple of hundred million dollars. We are talking about
- 5 \$6 billion.
- When I saw the police force, with all due respect, I
- 7 mean I know we have young cadet corps that are more squared
- 8 away. I know we are in a new chapter here. I know I am new
- 9 here, Madam Chair, but we have to have someone stop, take
- 10 responsibility, have communication lines develop between the
- 11 entities and the agencies and just solve the problem because
- 12 I am not sure everyone here testifying and people listening
- 13 know that we are in a financial mess, and it is not getting
- 14 any better.
- And for us to ask the American taxpayers and the
- 16 taxpayers in my State to continue to contribute to an effort
- 17 where there are wasted dollars, they do not buy it. I am
- 18 somebody who believes in the value of a dollar. I want to
- 19 know when my money goes somewhere that it is going to be
- 20 spent properly. It is going to be fully accountable and
- 21 that we are going to get a good value for our dollar.
- 22 Madam Chair, based on your earlier statements, as I
- 23 said, I am not going to repeat. I am very very interested
- 24 in getting to the bottom of, number one, who is responsible,
- 25 identifying that and say, okay, great, who is going to be

- 1 responsible now? How are we going to solve this problem?
- 2 How are we going to make sure that the tax dollars that we
- 3 send overseas are going to be used effectively so we can
- 4 bring our men and women home quicker. And we can stand up
- 5 that force so they can protect themselves and allow their
- 6 produce and their natural resources to be harvested so they
- 7 can become self-sufficient and we get back to doing the
- 8 people's business here in the United States.
- 9 So Madam Chair, I will turn it back to you. I thank
- 10 you for your welcoming remarks and I look forward to
- 11 participating.
- 12 [The prepared statement of Senator Brown follows:]
- 13 / SUBCOMMITTEE INSERT

- 1 Senator McCaskill. Thank you.
- 2 Senator Coburn, it is great to see you. Would you like
- 3 to wait for questions?
- 4 Senator Coburn. Yes.
- 5 Senator McCaskill. Thank you.
- 6 Let me introduce the witnesses. First, Gordon Heddell
- 7 has served as Inspector General for the Department of
- 8 Defense since July--I am sorry. I did not see you, Senator
- 9 Kaufman. You are so far away. We need to get you closer.
- 10 Thank you, Senator Kaufman, for being here. Would you
- 11 like to make a statement before we begin?
- 12 OPENING STATEMENT OF SENATOR KAUFMAN
- 13 Senator Kaufman. Thank you, Madam Chairman.
- I just want to say how much I support what both of you
- 15 have said. This is so incredibly important. The number one
- 16 priority is our troops in harm's way in Afghanistan and one
- 17 of the really very very top problems we have regardless of
- 18 the waste which, as Senator Brown pointed out, is
- 19 unacceptable under any circumstance, this is key.
- 20 Getting the police squared away is one of the really
- 21 key things we need so, as Senator Brown said, we can come
- 22 home and leave them to do their own security. There is
- 23 nothing we are working on here--that is the reason I am here
- 24 today--there is nothing we are working on that is more
- 25 important in this right here.

- 1 How can we hold? We got to shape, we got to clear we
- 2 are told so that we can build, and the police are important
- 3 part of that. Right now, the police, we are getting it
- 4 squared away. It is not just a waste of money. They have
- 5 been a negative. You talk about the rule of law. The rule
- 6 of law there, the rule of law in most of these areas is
- 7 because the police are so corrupt. The people they are
- 8 supposed to go to to get the rule of law are the things they
- 9 are trying to stay away from.
- 10 So I cannot think of a more important hearing going on
- 11 on the Hill today than this one right here.
- 12 Senator McCaskill. Thank you, Senator Kaufman.
- 13 Gordon Heddell has served as the Inspector General for
- 14 the Department of Defense since July 2009. He served as
- 15 Acting Inspector from 2008 to 2009. Prior to joining the
- 16 Department of Defense in the Inspector General's office, Mr.
- 17 Heddell served as the Inspector General at the Department of
- 18 Labor.
- 19 Evelyn Klemstine is the Assistant Inspector General for
- 20 Audits for the State Department. Ms. Klemstine previously
- 21 served as the Assistant Inspector General for Audits at NASA
- 22 and as the program director for the International Programs
- 23 Division at the Defense Department, Office of Inspector
- 24 General.
- 25 David Johnson has served as the Assistant Secretary for

- 1 the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement
- 2 Affairs at the State Department since October 2007. In
- 3 addition to numerous other distinguished posts with the
- 4 Federal Government, Mr. Johnson served as Afghan coordinator
- 5 for the United States from May 2002 to July 2003.
- 6 David Samuel Sedney is Deputy Assistant Secretary of
- 7 Defense for Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Central Asia in the
- 8 Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Asia and
- 9 Pacific Security Affairs. Previously Mr. Sedney served as
- 10 Deputy Chief of Mission, Charge de Affairs and Deputy Chief
- 11 of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan.
- 12 It is the custom of the Subcommittee to swear in all
- 13 witnesses that appear before us. So if you do not mind, I
- 14 would ask you to stand.
- Do you swear that the testimony that you will give
- 16 before this Subcommittee will be the truth, the whole truth
- 17 and nothing but the truth so help you God?
- 18 Thank you all very much.
- 19 Let the record reflect that the witnesses answered in
- 20 the affirmative.
- 21 We will be using a timing system today. We would ask
- 22 that your oral testimony be no more than five minutes. Your
- 23 written testimony will be printed in the record in its
- 24 entirety.
- Mr. Heddell, we would ask you to begin.

- 1 TESTIMONY OF THE HONORABLE GORDON S. HEDDELL,
- 2 INSPECTOR GENERAL, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
- 3 Mr. Heddell. Chairman McCaskill, Ranking Member Brown
- 4 and distinguished members of the Subcommittee. Thank you
- 5 for the opportunity to discuss the joint audit that was
- 6 performed by the Inspectors General of the Departments of
- 7 Defense and State.
- This audit examined the administration and contract
- 9 oversight of the State Department program to provide
- 10 training to the Afghan National Police. This audit was
- 11 conducted at the request of the Senate Committee on
- 12 Appropriations, Subcommittee on Defense.
- 13 As you know, the training and development of the Afghan
- 14 National Police to provide security in countering the
- 15 insurgency in Afghanistan is a key element of the US
- 16 strategy. As such, it is critical that the Afghan police be
- 17 trained to support the counterinsurgency mission along with
- 18 community policing skills. Effective contract oversight is
- 19 crucial to achieving these goals.
- 20 Prior inspection and assessment reports by this office,
- 21 as you noted, Mr. Chairman, have noted that adequate
- 22 staffing of key contracting positions is absolutely
- 23 essential for immediate and effective oversight. It has
- 24 become very apparent that the insurgents in Afghanistan are
- 25 increasingly targeting the Afghan police and that average

- 1 annual death rates among these police officers have been
- 2 steadily increasing.
- 3 As a result, contract requirements regarding training
- 4 need to be modified to address this growing insurgency.
- 5 This requires close interaction between the contractor and
- 6 what is now known as NATO Training Mission Combined Security
- 7 Transition Command Afghanistan.
- 8 The current contract arrangement simply does not
- 9 facilitate this close interaction because the Department of
- 10 Defense is required first to coordinate all contract changes
- 11 with the Department of State's Bureau of International
- 12 Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, at times a very
- 13 cumbersome process.
- 14 Furthermore, in August 2009 the Chief of Mission in
- 15 Afghanistan reported that the lack of a single unified chain
- 16 of command sometimes created confusion and delays in
- 17 enhancing the police training program. Accordingly, the
- 18 Chief of Mission and the commander of the International
- 19 Security Assistance Forces recommended the transfer of
- 20 contractual authority to the Department of Defense for the
- 21 training of the Afghan police.
- To bring about the recommended transfer of
- 23 responsibility, the Department of State planned to allow its
- 24 current police training task order to expire and the
- 25 Department of Defense planned to add police training to an

- 1 existing contract.
- 2 However, a March 15 decision by the Government
- 3 Accountability Office sustained a DynCorp protest of the
- 4 planned action. In light of this decision, the State
- 5 Department plans to make adjustments to improve existing
- 6 police training program to include more direct involvement
- 7 by the military in training the Afghan police and moving the
- 8 contracting authority from Washington DC to Kabul.
- 9 Furthermore, inadequacies in the administration and
- 10 oversight of the contract compound the challenges that exist
- 11 in providing the required training to the Afghan police.
- 12 These challenges include weaknesses in quality assurance,
- 13 review of the voices, support for the billing and making of
- 14 payments, defense contract audit agency involvement or lack
- 15 of involvement, maintenance of contract files and
- 16 accountability of government property. My written statement
- 17 provides additional information on these deficiencies.
- 18 Our audit also questions the fact that the State
- 19 Department still holds about \$80 million in expired
- 20 Department of Defense funds and that this needs to be
- 21 resolved. The deficiencies identified in the administration
- 22 and oversight of the contract illustrate the larger
- 23 challenges that are caused by the lack of sufficient
- 24 contract personnel, geographic distance and the wartime
- 25 environment all complicating this important matter.

- 1 My office will closely follow the efforts of the
- 2 Department of Defense to oversee the future contract to
- 3 train the Afghan police and to appropriately use the funds
- 4 provided by Congress for that purpose.
- I look forward to continuing our strong working
- 6 relationship with this Subcommittee and with all oversight
- 7 organizations engaged in the important work that is being
- 8 carried out in Afghanistan and in Southwest Asia generally.
- 9 And this concludes my statement.
- 10 [The prepared statement of Mr. Heddell follows:]

1 Senator McCaskill. Ms. Klemstine.

- 1 TESTIMONY OF EVELYN R. KLEMSTINE, ASSISTANT
- 2 INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR AUDITS, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
- 3 STATE
- 4 Ms. Klemstine. Thank you, Chairman McCaskill and
- 5 Ranking Member Brown, for the opportunity to present our
- 6 joint audit on the national police training program contract
- 7 in Afghanistan with the Department of Defense Inspector
- 8 General.
- 9 Deputy Inspector General Geisel sends his regards but
- 10 he is in Baghdad this week.
- 11 We conducted this joint audit in response to a
- 12 congressional request with an objective determining the
- 13 ability of the Afghan National Police, ANP, training program
- 14 to address Afghan security needs. We also reviewed contract
- 15 management activities and the status of Afghan Security
- 16 Forces, ASF, funds provided by DOD to the State Department.
- 17 In 2006 when the security environment in Afghanistan
- 18 was more stable, DOD decided to use the State Department's
- 19 existing Civilian Police program, CIVPOL, contract to
- 20 implement the ANP training program. The contractor, DynCorp
- 21 International, was awarded two task orders valued in excess
- 22 of \$1 billion.
- 23 These two task orders directed DynCorp to provide
- 24 personnel, life support, and communications for the training
- 25 program. The State Department was responsible for procuring

- 1 services, overseeing the contract, and managing and
- 2 reporting on funds transferred from DOD.
- 3 We found under the CIVPOL contract DOD did not have the
- 4 authority to direct the contractor thereby restricting DOD's
- 5 ability to rapidly modify ANP training to respond to the
- 6 rising insurgency and the changing security situation in
- 7 Afghanistan.
- 8 While the State Department was focused on training the
- 9 ANP to be an effective police force after security in
- 10 Afghanistan had been stabilized, DOD was focused on the
- 11 survival and tactical training of the ANP to counter the
- 12 growing insurgency.
- In addition, while the foundation has been laid for an
- 14 effective women's police training program, there has been
- 15 inadequate progress in training a sufficient number of
- 16 Afghan women. The lack of trained women's police corps
- 17 members has limited the effectiveness of law enforcement in
- 18 Afghanistan.
- 19 We recommended correcting these deficiencies by clearly
- 20 defining ANP training program requirements, increasing the
- 21 training facility capacity for women police members and
- 22 enhancing efforts to recruit women training instructors.
- 23 In response to the draft report, management provided a
- 24 detailed description of the requirements for the training
- 25 program and agreed to provide additional resources for

- 1 training policewomen.
- In overseeing CIVPOL contract, we found the State
- 3 Department contracting officials did not assign sufficient
- 4 numbers of contract oversight personnel to the ANP task
- 5 orders and did not prepare a quality assurance surveillance
- 6 plan to ensure that the contractor met the performance
- 7 requirements of the statement of work.
- In addition, those contracting personnel who were
- 9 assigned to monitor the task orders did not provide adequate
- 10 oversight to ensure that all goods and services were
- 11 received.
- 12 Specifically the following internal control weaknesses
- 13 were identified. Number one, government furnished property
- 14 was not adequately account for. Number two, contract files
- 15 were incomplete and not always available. Number three,
- 16 deliverables were not always matched to receiving reports,
- 17 and number four, procedures for reviewing contractor
- 18 invoices to determine whether costs were proper were not
- 19 followed.
- 20 As a result of these internal control weaknesses, State
- 21 Department personnel could not ensure that funds allocated
- 22 by DOD for the program were expended in accordance with DOD
- 23 requirements.
- We recommended that the number of contract personnel
- 25 responsible for contract oversight be increased, that a

- 1 complete inventory of government property be performed, that
- 2 the contract officers maintain complete and accessible
- 3 contract files, and that goods and services be matched
- 4 against invoices.
- 5 In addition, we recommended that the Defense Contract
- 6 Audit Agency, DCAA, perform an audit to determine whether
- 7 all expenditures were allowable, allocable, and reasonable,
- 8 and request reimbursement from DynCorp for any payments DCAA
- 9 determines to be improper.
- In response to the draft report, management generally
- 11 agreed to increase the number of oversight personnel going
- 12 forward and strengthen internal controls and undertake an
- 13 audit.
- 14 In addition to identifying various internal control
- 15 weaknesses, we also requested contract invoices and other
- 16 supporting documents for \$217 million in ASF funds already
- 17 expended.
- 18 Unfortunately State Department financial managers did
- 19 not provide detailed transaction data until after the draft
- 20 report was issued. As a result, we could not determine
- 21 whether the department had expend the funds in accordance
- 22 with congressional intent.
- 23 However, we did ascertain that \$80 million in funds
- 24 transferred from DOD remained unexpended well after the end
- of the availability period established by appropriations

- 1 law. We recommended that the State Department determine the
- 2 status of ASF funds and that any excess funds, to include
- 3 the \$80 million in expire funds, be returned.
- In March 2009 the President announced a comprehensive
- 5 new strategy for Afghanistan which included an emphasis on
- 6 training and increasing the size of Afghan security forces.
- 7 The State Department and DOD are committed to providing
- 8 a stable and secure environment for all Afghan citizens.
- 9 This requires that we effectively train and mentor Afghan
- 10 forces, monitor our contracts effectively, and ensure that
- 11 taxpayers' money is spent appropriately.
- 12 Finally I would like to note that this audit was
- 13 conducted in six months. Given the scope of work which took
- 14 place in the United States and six locations in Afghanistan,
- 15 the short time for the successful completion is a tribute to
- 16 the professionalism of the audit co-directors Mr. Mark Ives
- 17 from DOD IG and Mr. Jim Pollard from the State Department
- 18 OIG and their teams.
- 19 Once again I thank you, Chairman McCaskill and Senator
- 20 Brown, for the opportunity to appear today and I am ready to
- 21 answer your questions.
- 22 [The prepared statement of Ms. Klemstine follows:]

- 1 Senator McCaskill. Thank you very much and thank you
- 2 to the staffs. That is quite an accomplishment, six months
- 3 for this audit. I know a little bit about that. That is
- 4 amazing. Congratulations to your teams.
- 5 Mr. Johnson.

- 1 TESTIMONY OF THE HONORABLE DAVID T. JOHNSON,
- 2 ASSISTANT SECRETARY, BUREAU OF INTERNATIONAL
- 3 NARCOTICS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT AFFAIRS, U.S.
- 4 DEPARTMENT OF STATE
- 5 Mr. Johnson. Thank you, Chairman McCaskill, Ranking
- 6 Member Brown, Senator Kaufman. We appreciate the
- 7 opportunity to appear before the Senate Subcommittee today.
- 8 The topic of today's hearing, Contracts for Afghan
- 9 National Police Training, is both urgent and it is
- 10 important. As we all know, President Obama aims our
- 11 military to begin transitioning out of Afghanistan in the
- 12 summer of 2011. That is premised on the expectation that
- 13 Afghan security forces can provide security for the Afghan
- 14 people to support their self-governance.
- Since 2003 the State Department has provided a variety
- 16 of training and assistance to the Afghan National Police.
- 17 Since 2005 our training programs have supported the United
- 18 States military in its responsibility to develop the
- 19 overarching Afghan national security forces which includes
- 20 both the army and civilian police.
- 21 As you know, Madam Chairman, from your Subcommittee's
- 22 oversight record, building civilian capacity in a conflict
- 23 zone like Afghanistan where civil institutions had been
- 24 largely destroyed over 20 years of conflict is incredibly
- 25 challenging.

- 1 The State Department's Bureau of International
- 2 Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs undertake these
- 3 assignments to advance our broader national security and
- 4 foreign policy objectives. Our expertise in law enforcement
- 5 and criminal justice programs is widely recognized.
- Building on the recommendations for improvement from
- 7 the oversight community and from this Subcommittee, we hope
- 8 soon also to be recognized for our agility and proficiency
- 9 in contract management and oversight.
- 10 Where our OIG colleagues have identified that we have
- 11 fallen short is in how we have adapted our contract
- 12 oversight to challenges of operating in theaters of war
- 13 where military operations and complex security requirements
- 14 limit our on-the-ground staffing and our staff's ability to
- 15 travel to the sites where training takes place.
- 16 As stewards of increasingly more taxpayer dollars for
- 17 critical national security and foreign policy objectives, we
- 18 must effectively adapt to this battlefield environment so
- 19 that we craft procedures and methods that allow our contract
- 20 management and oversight activities to be fully carried out.
- 21 The report discussed here today identifies a number of
- 22 recommendations with which we fully agree and are working to
- 23 address. For example, INL's current oversight team has
- 24 already been enhanced. Our team now consists of 33 staff,
- 25 12 program officers in Afghanistan and Washington, seven in-

- 1 country contracting officers' representatives or ICORs now
- 2 provide oversight in Afghanistan while the contracting
- 3 officer's representative and 13 of his staff address
- 4 contract oversight and administration in Washington.
- 5 The increased ICOR staffing enables us to strengthen
- 6 our asset management and inventory reviews processes. More
- 7 ICORs are in various stages of the hiring process and will
- 8 be in Afghanistan beginning in May. By September we will
- 9 have 22.
- 10 We will implement fully standardized contract
- 11 management operating procedures and guidelines by June 30 of
- 12 this year. Standing operating procedures and a web-based
- 13 contracting officers representative file fully accessible to
- 14 staff worldwide around the clock will be in place by the end
- 15 of May. Along with more frequent reviews, this will further
- 16 strengthen our internal controls.
- We have engaged DCAA to audit our Afghanistan task
- 18 order with two audits in process and they are preparing to
- 19 audit the task orders that are the subject of the OIG
- 20 report. To date, INL has rejected 17 percent of police
- 21 training invoices for Afghanistan resulting in 16.3 million
- 22 in the denied claims.
- 23 Many of INL's police training accomplishments are not
- 24 easily represented in a chart. Capacity building is a long-
- 25 term process even in stable post-conflict areas but

- 1 Afghanistan which continues to face an active insurgency is
- 2 a special case.
- For example, our police training programs are designed
- 4 to empower Afghan civilians, many of whom lack basic
- 5 literacy with the core skills needed to mobilize as police
- 6 officers and respond to the direction of their local
- 7 commanders.
- 8 Embedded in a Washington Post story on February 27 was
- 9 an Afghan police training success story. While the news
- 10 sadly communicated the grim tale of yet another suicide
- 11 bombing attack, the report indicated that after multiple
- 12 bomb detonations police officers assembled at the scene
- 13 rather than retreating and remained until they had covered
- 14 their fallen colleagues, a scenario which would likely have
- 15 been different only two years ago.
- 16 This is one instance but it is descriptive not only of
- 17 the challenging environment in which Afghan National Police
- 18 operate but of the kinds of actions and operations their
- 19 training has made them capable of undertaking.
- 20 Madam Chairman, the Department takes very seriously the
- 21 need to safeguard the public's trust in managing programs
- 22 and contracts that support our national security objectives
- 23 around the world. It is after all through these programs
- 24 that our partners worldwide develop the bedrock of civil
- 25 society, a safe, secure place where people can live free

- 1 from fear.
- 2 Thank you for the opportunity to discuss INL's contract
- 3 oversight. I will do my best to address your questions.
- 4 [The prepared statement of Mr. Johnson follows:]

- 1 Senator McCaskill. Thank you, Mr. Johnson.
- 2 Mr. Sedney.

- 1 TESTIMONY OF DAVID S. SEDNEY, DEPUTY ASSISTANT
- 2 SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR AFGHANISTAN, PAKISTAN,
- 3 AND CENTRAL ASIA, OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT
- 4 SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR ASIAN AND PACIFIC
- 5 SECURITY AFFAIRS, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
- 6 Mr. Sedney. Thank you very much, Chairman McCaskill,
- 7 Senator Brown, Senator Kaufman. Thank you for the
- 8 opportunity to appear today with my interagency colleagues.
- 9 As you know, the President's strategic review of
- 10 Afghanistan and Pakistan recommend that heightened efforts
- 11 to increase the quantity and quality of Afghan national
- 12 security forces as part of a strategy to enable the eventual
- 13 transfer of responsibility for security to the Afghan
- 14 government. This is not an exit strategy. It is a transfer
- 15 strategy.
- 16 Improving the capacity of the Afghan National Police is
- 17 particularly important as police are the primary link to the
- 18 Afghan government for many Afghans particularly in rural
- 19 areas.
- 20 Moreover, the Afghan police are on the front lines of
- 21 the fight against the Taliban and its affiliates. The
- 22 Afghan National Police are situated in areas where no
- 23 coalition or Afghan national army forces are and are often
- 24 the target of much greater attacks. Casualty rates are
- 25 higher in the Afghan National Police than in the army. It

- 1 is two to three times more dangerous to be a policeman today
- 2 in Afghanistan than to be a soldier in the Afghan national
- 3 army.
- 4 The effort to train the Afghan National Police as you
- 5 pointed out, Chairman McCaskill, has been under resourced,
- 6 under prioritized, and under carried out. One of the
- 7 priorities of this Administration when it came in was to
- 8 refocus our efforts with the renewed leadership, with
- 9 greater resources, but more importantly than the number of
- 10 resources, more targeted and more effective resources aiming
- 11 at building the quality of the entire Afghan national
- 12 security forces in an integrated effort with the Afghan
- 13 national army and in a combined civil/military campaign plan
- 14 that will enable us to carry out the transition that I
- 15 described.
- As part of this revision, we, along with our NATO
- 17 colleagues, have transitioned to the NATO training mission
- 18 Afghanistan which General Caldwell, who you mentioned in
- 19 your opening statement, is now the commander of, of course
- 20 dual-hatted also as the commander of CSTC-A. The NATO
- 21 International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) and our non-
- 22 NATO partners have made progress towards growing the end
- 23 strength and quality of ANP.
- In December 2009, the ANP achieved its end strength
- 25 goal of 96,800. In January 2010, the Joint Coordination

- 1 Monitoring Board, the international board charged with
- 2 ensuring the international and Afghan ministerial plans
- 3 aligned with the goals of the Afghan government agreed with
- 4 the Afghan government's plan supported by ISAF and the US
- 5 government increased the size of the ANP to 109,000 by
- 6 October 31, 2010 and to 234,000 by October 31, 2011.
- 7 The increase in 2010 will consist of approximately 5000
- 8 Afghan border police, 5000 Afghan national civil order
- 9 police which is the mobile gendarme force that is equipped
- 10 to act as a light infantry role throughout the country, and
- 11 2000 Afghan uniformed police as well as other specialized
- 12 police and enablers.
- 13 At the end of March 2009, the Afghan Ministry of
- 14 Interior reported that the total ANP will be equal to
- 15 102,138, slightly above the February goal of 99,261.
- 16 However, increases in the size of ANP forces must come
- 17 with a commitment for improvement in the quality of the
- 18 force. Initiatives to improve the quality of the force
- 19 include improvements in the training infrastructure,
- 20 increased pay equal to that of the Afghan national army,
- 21 better equipment, expanded literacy training, and embedded
- 22 partnering and mentoring.
- 23 In addition, we are working hand in glove with the
- 24 Department of State to build rule of law structures and
- 25 processes to support that ANP. As part of our effort to

- 1 improve the police training process, the ambassador and the
- 2 commander of US Forces Afghanistan, as my colleagues earlier
- 3 mentioned, recommended in an August 2009 cable that
- 4 management of the Defense-funded, State-managed police
- 5 training contract should be shifted from the Department of
- 6 State to the Department of Defense. The Department of State
- 7 and the Department of Defense subsequently approved this
- 8 recommendation.
- 9 Due to the operational need to quickly award a new
- 10 contract and the respective organizations subject matter
- 11 expertise and experience utilizing the respected subject
- 12 organizations expertise and experience in support of
- 13 Afghanistan operations, the commander of CSTC-A selected the
- 14 counter narcoterrorism and technology program office through
- 15 the US Army space and missile defense command of the Army
- 16 strategic forces command to oversee the development of an
- 17 appropriate acquisition strategy for the ANP program.
- 18 The strategy called for procuring the required services
- 19 through the issuance of a task order under existing multiple
- 20 award indefinite delivery, indefinite quality contracts with
- 21 CNTPO. The task orders for the training of ANP and ANP
- 22 programs logistics requirements were to be competed among
- 23 five holders of an existing MAIDIQ contract.
- However, before orders could be issued, on March 15 the
- 25 Government Accountability Office, as the Inspector General

- 1 earlier mentioned, sustained the protest by DynCorp
- 2 International. The GAO determined that the task orders for
- 3 the ANP program were outside the scope of the MAIDIQ
- 4 contracts.
- 5 As a result, the ANP training effort will not be
- 6 awarded under that contract. DynCorp will continue
- 7 performance under the current State Department contract
- 8 which has been extended to July of this year while the
- 9 Department of Defense in conjunction with the Department of
- 10 State weighs options to ensure the ANP program requirements
- 11 are met in an expeditious manner in consideration of this
- 12 development and in compliance with the GAO recommendations.
- 13 It is important that any contractor DOD selects be
- 14 responsible and perform within the strict rules,
- 15 regulations, performance expectations and acceptable ethical
- 16 and business practices that we demand.
- 17 Please be assured that we take seriously any allegation
- 18 that a contractor fails to meet these expectations and
- 19 requirements. The selection of DOD contractors responsible
- 20 and capable to meet our requirements to assist in training
- 21 and development of the Afghan National Police is no
- 22 exception.
- 23 I hope you find this information helpful. Thank you
- 24 and I look forward to your questions.
- [The prepared statement of Mr. Sedney follows:]

- 1 Senator McCaskill. Thank you very much.
- 2 Just to make sure I am respectful of my colleagues, if
- 3 you all would go ahead and run the clock at seven minutes,
- 4 if staff would run the clock for seven minutes for each
- 5 member.
- 6 We will take as many turns as we need to get all the
- 7 questions out. I have a tendency to go on and I want to
- 8 make sure I do not go on too long without being respectful
- 9 of Senator Kaufman and Senator Brown's time.
- 10 So let me start with you, Mr. Sedney. What really
- 11 happened here is the commanders over there decided that when
- 12 they were telling DynCorp they needed this, DynCorp was
- 13 telling their folks, well, be careful just because the
- 14 military is telling you to do it does not mean we are going
- 15 to get paid for it because State is making those calls.
- 16 So somebody finally figured out it would be good idea
- 17 to have the people in charge of military mission be in
- 18 charge of the contracting over an essential leg of a three-
- 19 legged stool as it relates to that mission in Afghanistan.
- Is that a fair characterization?
- 21 Mr. Sedney. Yes, along with the Inspector General's
- 22 report, the lack of unity of command in the police training
- 23 effort. Clearly it was inhibiting what we were trying to do
- 24 and I would repeat what was said earlier. The shift in
- 25 environment where the security situation was getting worse

- 1 and the police were being called upon to do more and
- 2 different things than envisioned originally when the
- 3 decision was made to utilize the State Department contract
- 4 made clear that we needed that flexibility and that ability
- 5 to have that unity of command.
- There were multiple examples from the small to the
- 7 large of where that lack of unity of command was inhibiting
- 8 what we were able to do, and that is why our new commander
- 9 and our new ambassador out there made this decision to
- 10 recommend what I mentioned before in that cable that they
- 11 sent on August 11.
- 12 Senator McCaskill. I certainly spent a lot of time
- 13 when I was in Afghanistan with the ambassador and with
- 14 General McChrystal and with General Caldwell. I completely
- 15 agree that was the right thing to do but it is important to
- 16 note that happened in August of 2009, and we have no
- 17 contract and we are not even close to having a contract.
- 18 So I need to know today what is the plan? How are we
- 19 going to get contractors committed and over there with
- 20 jurisdiction and the supervision of the Department of
- 21 Defense and the military to train Afghan police officers?
- Mr. Sedney. We do not have a final answer for you on
- 23 that, Chairman McCaskill.
- 24 Senator McCaskill. That is unacceptable.
- Mr. Sedney. However, I can tell you what we have done

- 1 in the months since the GAO decision and where we are
- 2 working to go to.
- 3 Senator McCaskill. Let me make sure the record is
- 4 clear here. The complaint was filed in December. This is a
- 5 really important part of the mission. There is a chance
- 6 anybody who knows anything about these contracts and
- 7 anything about complaints, and believe me if anybody knows
- 8 about this it is the Pentagon, about challenges to
- 9 contracting, they know that GAO has an important role to
- 10 play.
- 11 At the moment that the complaint was filed, all hands
- 12 on deck should have been looking at this at the Pentagon to
- 13 say what is plan "B". If this objection is upheld by the
- 14 GAO, what is plan "B"?
- The President had already announced that this strategy
- 16 was just until July 2011. The clock is ticking. So we know
- 17 in December of last year that there could be a problem with
- 18 transitioning this contract under the military control and
- 19 you are telling me today, what, December, January, February,
- 20 March, April, you are telling me five months later you do
- 21 not know what you are going to do.
- 22 Mr. Sedney. No, Chairman McCaskill, I am not telling
- 23 you that we do not know what we are going to do. I am
- 24 saying we have not decided the final form of what we are
- 25 going to do. But as I said, if I could lay out where we

- 1 are, what we are moving towards.
- 2 Senator McCaskill. Okay. What I want to hear is a
- 3 decision has been made and we are going to get on it. That
- 4 is what I want to hear but I am open to listening to what
- 5 you want to say.
- 6 Mr. Sedney. You are correct that once the contract
- 7 protest was filed, we should have been and we were aware
- 8 that we needed to start making alternate plans. Those
- 9 alternate plans had to of course cover a wide range of
- 10 possibilities of the contracting, and as I understand it, I
- 11 am not a contract lawyer, but as I understand it, I was
- 12 advised that there are some things that we had to be careful
- 13 to do that in terms of preparation could not go beyond
- 14 actions that could then lead to further protests so we have
- 15 to be careful what we did legally.
- 16 On March 9, 2010 we received a joint message from our
- 17 military and civilians in the field putting out, and this
- 18 was a result of work that we had leading up to that,
- 19 pointing out some of the areas that we need to work on, the
- 20 areas we need to work on and what were some of the alternate
- 21 ways forward.
- 22 Since the GAO decision, my department, myself,
- 23 Assistant Secretary Johnson, his department, we have met.
- 24 The current DynCorp contract is an extension of a contract
- 25 which had expired and that extension runs until July of this

- 1 year.
- 2 We determined we had several possible ways forward at
- 3 the current time. We could, in conjunction with the GAO
- 4 report which very strongly came out in recommending that we
- 5 do a full, fair, and open competition of the contract, while
- 6 we could have appealed that decision or contested that
- 7 decision and asked for reexamination of that decision, we
- 8 decided not to because even if we felt that our position was
- 9 right and the GAO decision was wrong, further contesting of
- 10 that decision would just lead to a longer period of time
- 11 with uncertainty.
- So we are going to go ahead in full conformance with
- 13 the GAO recommendation of a full and open competition.
- 14 A full and open competition of that contract requires
- 15 that we have the requirements put in place, that we follow
- 16 all the steps of the contracting process, and the Department
- 17 of Defense is moving forward in an expeditious manner, in a
- 18 speedy manner, as fast as we can go, but this is not a
- 19 process that in and of itself is ever fast as I am sure you
- 20 know, Senator.
- 21 Senator McCaskill. I do know. I will make a bold
- 22 prediction. DynCorp will be extended again and DynCorp will
- 23 be there doing this until a decision is made as to what
- 24 extent our level is going to change in terms of our
- 25 commitment in Afghanistan sometime next year.

- 1 The lesson that probably needs to be learned here is
- 2 that shortcutting the process through existing task orders
- 3 and contracts is what generally speaking the Pentagon likes
- 4 to do.
- 5 The military has very little patience with the process
- 6 of full and open competition. It is a process that has a
- 7 number of required steps. But they are there for good
- 8 reason. If there is anyplace that I think the American
- 9 people have figured out that we have got to have some help
- 10 on full and fair and open competition, it is the hiring of
- 11 security forces and the training of security forces because
- 12 I mean I do not know how many other companies in America are
- 13 as well known as Blackwater, and it is not for good reasons.
- 14 So circumventing that full and fair, you know in
- 15 hindsight I just want to say that the moment the decision
- 16 was made to try to move it out of State it seems to me that
- 17 full and fair open competition would have been the most
- 18 efficient way to move forward rather than trying to shoehorn
- 19 this into something else in order to take a shortcut. It
- 20 turns out that the shortcut was not so short.
- 21 My time is up for this round, and I will turn it over
- 22 to Senator Brown.
- 23 Senator Brown. Thank you, Madam Chair. I am going to
- 24 actually, as a courtesy, extend my time to Senator Kaufman.
- 25 He has a few questions, and then if I could reserve and come

- 1 back that would be great.
- 2 Senator Kaufman. Thank you very much. I want to
- 3 associate myself with the chair's remarks.
- 4 Look, I have been to Afghanistan three times in the
- 5 year and a half I have been a senator. I have sat through
- 6 70 briefings in the preparation before leaving on those
- 7 trips.
- 8 I had no idea we spent \$6 billion. I have not had a
- 9 single person in any one of those briefings refer to the
- 10 Afghan National Police as anything except a big problem.
- 11 Not the problem to get them well, a problem just the way
- 12 they sit. They are purveyors of corruption from one end of
- 13 Afghanistan to the other to, as the chair so well put it,
- 14 the rule of law.
- If we are going to build, clear, hold, we have to have
- 16 the rule of law. No rule of law. The police are the ones
- 17 who man the barricades and on the highway stop people. In
- 18 Marjah, just read the stories about what went on in Marjah
- 19 and why the people were so upset with us because of the
- 20 former government.
- 21 The other thing I want to say, look, before you were
- 22 doing a great job. I mean I really applaud you for what you
- 23 are doing. This is incredibly, incredibly difficult. So
- 24 what I am saying is not referring to you. You happen to be,
- 25 unfortunately be the messengers sent to sit here at the

- 1 table.
- 2 But I think what the chair says is compelling. If we
- 3 do not do something, we are in dire shape over there. I
- 4 mean that is not a deep, dark secret. The key to it is we
- 5 cannot go into places and clear and hold, we cannot hold if
- 6 we do not have the police to do it and we surely cannot
- 7 build and we surely cannot transfer.
- 8 So we have got to come up with something in the next
- 9 six or eight months. As the chair said, this is not a
- 10 decision, we talking about June, starting to draw down
- 11 troops. We are talking about making a decision this
- 12 December on whether we are going to win or not.
- And I will tell you what. At the top of my list, not
- 14 the number one thing, but the number two thing is where do
- 15 we stand with the Afghan National Police. The attrition
- 16 rates were out a bit. They are getting out of control.
- 17 So really what I would like you to do if you could, and
- 18 I know I have sat here and listened to you, you know
- 19 deteriorating condition, lack of unity of command, and some
- 20 of the things that have been said but this is catastrophic.
- This was not something that you can go around the
- 22 edges. Deteriorating condition so we have no police. And
- 23 the literacy, we knew what the literacy of the police are.
- 24 But they are saying the same things now after \$6 billion.
- 25 We have this incredible problem with the literacy of the

- 1 police.
- 2 So what I would like, if each of you would kind of, and
- 3 I know you are under constraint. What are the one or two
- 4 things that you really believe you could spend \$6 billion
- 5 and end up with practically no where, what are the two or
- 6 three things.
- 7 I got the unity of command and I got deteriorated
- 8 conditions. What are the one or two things that we can do
- 9 it, and what is the one thing you think could best help us
- 10 reach the point the chair said so that we can move ahead and
- 11 actually have progress on the ground so we can reach this
- 12 134,000 trained troops.
- 13 I will start with Mr. Heddell.
- Mr. Heddell. I will say just about for starters just
- 15 about everything that could go wrong here has gone wrong.
- 16 And looking back to November 2006, it was relatively clear
- 17 to my office, Senator Kaufman, that the training that was
- 18 being provided was already inadequate. The needs of the
- 19 Afghan police training were already out of date, so to
- 20 speak, and it was pretty apparent that there was not enough
- 21 management on the ground in-country overseeing the contract.
- You are asking for a couple of things here. But I
- 23 spent 28 years in federal law enforcement so I cannot come
- 24 up with two things because there is at least 10 things and
- 25 they all need to be addressed.

- 1 The fact is aside from the need to increase the size of
- 2 the total Afghan National Police force just to address the
- 3 counterinsurgency and to protect civilian population, they
- 4 need to start at the very beginning.
- 5 Recruiting is a tremendous challenge over there,
- 6 finding the right people for this kind of work, and then
- 7 retaining them, paying them what they need to be paid to
- 8 live and then training them on the force. Of course we
- 9 talked about the dangers and the fact that the death rate
- 10 for Afghan National Police officers, by our records, has
- 11 gone up four or five times what it was.
- 12 Senator Kaufman. The total is 129, in my briefing.
- 13 Mr. Heddell. The death rate, the average death rate
- 14 per month for Afghan National Police officer in the last
- 15 four years we think has gone up from 23, 24 a month to about
- 16 125.
- 17 Senator Kaufman. Okay.
- 18 Mr. Heddell. Those figures are approximate but they
- 19 are dramatic. The fact of the matter is we need to change
- 20 the training curriculum to be able to address the
- 21 counterinsurgency. We need to be able to teach
- 22 survivability over there. They need to know that they can
- 23 go out on the street, do their work and survive.
- 24 They need tactical skills aside from the basic
- 25 community policing skills that any police official would

- 1 need to have. We need better trainers. The example that
- 2 Madam Chairman gave with the Carabinieri Italians, I mean
- 3 what a simple but yet an unbelievable situation that they
- 4 had not sighted the weapons.
- 5 Most of all, Senator Kaufman, they need leadership.
- 6 They need police officers who can lead. If there is one
- 7 single thing they probably need more than anything else, it
- 8 is that.
- 9 And the second thing, if I had to give you two items,
- 10 would be find a way to dismiss so many corrupt police
- 11 officials in-country. I met last November with Minister
- 12 Wardak, the minister of defense, and he talked for almost an
- 13 hour and most of it was about the corruption.
- 14 Corruption undermines everything that we are trying to
- 15 achieve in that country and particularly with respect to
- 16 police officials.
- 17 Senator Kaufman. Here is my point is you know there is
- 18 an old definition of insanity is doing the same thing over
- 19 again and expecting different results. And what the chair
- 20 said is what are we going to do in that six months, and the
- 21 folks in there that have been doing this, I mean you say
- 22 there are not enough contract oversight.
- 23 Part of this has to be what were the contractors doing?
- 24 What you laid out was a problem we knew in 2001. Everything
- 25 you said you did not have to have a PhD to figure out that

- 1 those were the 10 or 12 things that we need to do.
- We are now here nine years later, and we are exactly
- 3 the same spot. You basically laid out the question as I
- 4 have. And Wardak and minister of the interior Atmar, they
- 5 say all the right things but what they say is there is no
- 6 training going on.
- 7 I am saying briefing after briefing was
- 8 this is just where the police are. What I am trying to do
- 9 is get at the answer to the chair's question. I guess let
- 10 me get off, what is the problem. You pretty well laid it
- 11 out.
- Does anybody have any ideas what are we doing in the
- 13 next six months so that when we come up for review, seven
- 14 months we come up for review we have a realistic opinion of
- 15 where the police are and how we can move forward.
- 16 Mr. Heddell. If we have to wait for a contract, a new
- 17 contract, we are not going to do very much. The Department
- 18 of Defense is working with Department of State, I know that,
- 19 to make an interim fix. The fact of the matter is it needs
- 20 to be fixed right now. And I can tell you you do not train
- 21 a police officer in a year. It takes two and three and four
- 22 years to get there.
- 23 Senator Kaufman. But here is the thing, and I agree
- 24 with you about that and people talk about us going out in
- 25 June and we cannot go out in June. We do not have enough

- 1 time.
- 2 We do not have to have all the answers but we have to
- 3 make progress. We have to be able to say we are moving in
- 4 the right direction. We got to be at some point like in
- 5 December where we do not have a list of the 12 things you
- 6 said that are wrong which I totally agree with everyone of
- 7 the them, that there is maybe six on the list. We are
- 8 making progress on two of them.
- 9 Mr. Sedney. I would hate to think we have to wait to
- 10 get a contract on-board to start training police officials
- 11 to survive.
- 12 Senator Kaufman. Can someone else give a suggestion?
- 13 What is it that we should do? I get back to the question
- 14 the chair raised. What can we do so that we do not have to
- 15 wait, so we come in December, we will have a good idea of
- 16 whether we really can actually train police and get them out
- 17 there on the job. This is not that the question.
- 18 Ms. Klemstine. If I could.
- 19 Senator McCaskill. I think Mr. Sedney wants to also
- 20 but go ahead both of you briefly or all three of you go
- 21 ahead and then we will go to Senator Brown.
- Ms. Klemstine. Briefly I would say that I would put
- 23 them into three areas. The first thing that we really need
- 24 to do is we need to adequately define our requirements.
- 25 Every contract starts on the requirements side.

- 1 My past experience on the contract side has shown that
- 2 the requirements are never well defined. We have to do
- 3 that. Then we have to have adequate performance measures by
- 4 which to reevaluate the contractors. Without any
- 5 accountability, it does not make any difference. That was
- 6 one of the things that the joint report pointed out that
- 7 there was not performance measurements in this contract to
- 8 hold the contractor accountable for what needs to be done.
- 9 And then the third area we need to do is an adequate
- 10 job of overseeing the contract. But in terms of overseeing
- 11 the contract, things will have to be a little bit different
- 12 than what we institutionally know as contract oversight just
- 13 because we are in a war-type zone.
- 14 So we have to develop standard operating procedures and
- 15 adequate ways to do these type of contract oversight in
- 16 areas of contingency operations.
- 17 Mr. Johnson. I think I would agree on a couple points
- 18 and make one further. The basic measures that would improve
- 19 the recruitment and retention direct, more direct pay,
- 20 direct pay for all, better and longer training programs
- 21 focused on literacy.
- 22 But with due respect to General Caldwell, we have
- 23 trained many people in Afghanistan. Under his leadership,
- 24 we trained 3000. Under General Formica, we have trained
- 25 almost 16,000. Under General Cohen, we have trained almost

- 1 30,000. Under General Durbin, we trained almost 66,000.
- 2 So there has been a great number of people trained, and
- 3 the end strength now is about 100,000. But we have not been
- 4 able to retain them the way we need to. As the DOD
- 5 inspector general mentioned, it takes a longer time than a
- 6 six- or eight-week training program to get the kind of
- 7 police officer that you need. So retention is a key part of
- 8 this.
- 9 I would also join the Ms. Klemstine. A clear statement
- 10 of work so that we can move out on new training whether it
- 11 is under the contract that we manage or if we are able to
- 12 move it over to DOD more rapidly, to do it that way.
- 13 But those sorts of things would allow us to proceed as
- 14 rapidly as possible.
- 15 Thank you.
- 16 Mr. Sedney. I would offer that there are a lot of
- 17 things that are happening now and have been happening over
- 18 the past year that are moving us very much in the right
- 19 direction.
- We do not have to start from today to do things right
- 21 and do things better. We already have started and already
- 22 have done things better. There are continuing changes and
- 23 improvements underway.
- 24 Senator, you mentioned recruitment. Recruitment for
- 25 the Afghan National Police has been sharply improving over

- 1 the last several months due to a series of improvements
- 2 including a recruiting training command, a more focused
- 3 effort on recruitment and improved pay for the Afghan
- 4 National Police.
- 5 The recruitment is also up because we recognize the
- 6 issue of leadership that everyone has mentioned. General
- 7 McChrystal in his campaign strategy has focused on a key
- 8 measure to improve performance and leadership in both the
- 9 Afghan nation army and Afghan National Police and that is
- 10 through intensive partnering with the Afghan National Police
- 11 by US forces and coalition forces, throughout all of
- 12 Afghanistan.
- 13 Implementing that partnering is ongoing now. There are
- 14 already police units that are being partner. Units such as
- 15 the Afghan national civil order police which had never been
- 16 partnered before is going to be partnered now by elements of
- 17 a special forces under ISAF.
- 18 That partnering will help provide a bridge for the
- 19 leadership.
- Senator McCaskill. Is that the same thing as ANCOP?
- Mr. Sedney. Yes.
- 22 Senator McCaskill. That is the new name for ANCOP?
- 23 Mr. Sedney. Afghan National Civil Order Police. The
- 24 acronym is ANCOP. I try to avoid acronyms.
- 25 Senator McCaskill. Okay. I have never heard it called

- 1 anything other than ANCOP which, for the record, ANCOP is
- 2 the special police force that roams the country. They are
- 3 not assigned to a province. They are not assigned to a
- 4 jurisdiction. They are the elite police force. They were
- 5 designed to be the elite police force.
- 6 Mr. Sedney. Their performance has been very high.
- 7 They have also suffered from the highest attrition,
- 8 attrition meaning people who either leave before their
- 9 contracts, attrition meaning people who leave before their
- 10 contracts are up and the lowest retention meaning the fewest
- 11 number of people who sign on for a repeat contracts.
- 12 That is due for a number of reasons. One of them is
- 13 high operational tempo. Another is lack of leadership which
- 14 is mentoring and partnership. Another is because many of
- 15 them are recruited by higher paying private security firms
- 16 to provide private security services in Afghanistan which is
- 17 a separate program.
- 18 But let me go back to what is going right, Senator
- 19 Kaufman. On Sunday and Monday of this week, I was in
- 20 Afghanistan with General Petraeus and Ambassador Holbrook
- 21 for their review of the concept drill, in other words an
- 22 intensive look with the Afghans and our civilian and
- 23 military leadership on our combined civil and military
- 24 efforts in Afghanistan.
- The Minister of the Interior, Mr. Atmar; Minister

- 1 Mongol, the deputy minister of the interior, both
- 2 participated in that. The Afghan police and the performance
- 3 of the Afghan police was a major subject of discussion
- 4 during that.
- 5 Minister Atmar pointed out that not only had we trained
- 6 many police, as Assistant Secretary Johnson pointed out,
- 7 there are many police who are performing well. He also
- 8 admitted there are many police that are not performing well.
- 9 Whether it is a Newsweek article or another forum where
- 10 you focus on the problems, Minister Atmar asked us, and I am
- 11 going to comply with is request, to highlight that there are
- 12 also thousands, and in his words, tens of thousands of
- 13 Afghan National Police who are doing a good job, who are not
- 14 corrupt, who are being killed at the rate of 125 or 129 a
- 15 month, and they are staying on the job. They are not
- 16 fleeing the job. Some do but many many more do not.
- 17 They are committed to their country, and they often do
- 18 not have the right resources, they do not have the right
- 19 training, whether it is ineffective sights, ineffective
- 20 equipment, whether they are using unarmored vehicles instead
- 21 of armored vehicles in areas where IEDs are the biggest
- 22 killers of people.
- 23 So these are people on the Afghan side who are working
- 24 hard to defeat an enemy that has been growing in strength.
- The message I took away, and I have spent several years

- 1 living and working in Afghanistan as well as visited there
- 2 about ten times over the last year, is that General
- 3 McChrystal's strategy of blunting the rise and the
- 4 improvement that the Taliban had is succeeding.
- 5 The next step of course is to reverse that. Every step
- 6 of the way the Afghan National Police is central to that.
- 7 So we are building a better police force. We are training a
- 8 better police force.
- 9 The partnership is helping us to put in place a police
- 10 force that is going to perform better. We have a better
- 11 story today than when you Senator and you Senator were there
- 12 in the last several months and it will be better next month.
- Will it be dramatically improved everyday, no. But it
- 14 will be significantly improved on a month to month basis. I
- 15 feel very highly confident of that.
- 16 In terms of the contract, the work that Assistant
- 17 Secretary Johnson and I have done over the last several
- 18 weeks, we want to make sure that we do not make any of those
- 19 mistakes that you referred to, Senator McCaskill, in terms
- 20 of the contracting process because more mistakes will lead
- 21 to an even longer gap before we have a permanent contract.
- We do also need to find a way to bridge to a permanent
- 23 contract. I agree with your prediction that the most
- 24 likely, we both agree that the most likely outcome will be
- 25 an extension. I hope I did not say anything a lawyer will

- 1 find problematic with that.
- 2 Senator McCaskill. Just say I made you answer the
- 3 question.
- 4 Mr. Sedney. Thank you, Senator.
- 5 But we have also communicated to the State Department
- 6 new requirements. I agree with Inspector General Klemstine
- 7 that we need to be clear about requirements. These new
- 8 requirements that will address the problems that were laid
- 9 out by Mr. Heddell on the areas that we need different kinds
- 10 of performance in the police contract and we are working now
- 11 to see how we can have that contract, how we can accomplish
- 12 those goals through a possible extension of existing
- 13 contract.
- 14 There might be some other options but we will continue
- 15 to work through that. We expect to have a resolution within
- 16 the next two weeks. I hope even sooner in terms of that
- 17 extension or our other possibility.
- But as we are doing that, we are continuing to train.
- 19 We are adding trainers for the police in other ways. The
- 20 police contract is not the only way we are training. We
- 21 have brought an additional coalition of military trainers.
- 22 Other countries have put in more trainers. There are more
- 23 both third country military trainers and third country
- 24 police trainers that are already in Afghanistan than there
- 25 were before as part of an effort through NATO and through

- 1 our partner nations to increase training.
- 2 For example, the Germans in the north who had been
- 3 focusing their efforts on deployed military are now
- 4 transitioning to trainers and a greater focus on training in
- 5 the north and that is happening in many other areas as well.
- 6 So while we focus, and I agree with you, Senator
- 7 McCaskill, in your criticisms of the process. We have made
- 8 mistakes. We are going to fix them. But there are many
- 9 things that are going right, Senator Kaufman. I would be
- 10 happy to go on at greater length.
- I apologize for taking up your time.
- 12 Senator McCaskill. I am just self-conscious about
- 13 getting to Senator Brown.
- 14 Senator Brown.
- 15 Senator Brown. Thank you. Madam Chairman, and through
- 16 you to the witnesses.
- I had a whole host of questions but in just listening I
- 18 wanted to shift gears and then I will come back to my
- 19 original line. One of the things that I am just getting
- 20 through the conversation is that the contract transition and
- 21 the five-month delay in awarding the contract quite frankly
- 22 is putting our troops at risk.
- 23 I am flabbergasted sometimes at the slow pace of
- 24 government at a time when we need quick reaction and quick
- 25 action on moving forward. So whatever tools and resources

- 1 you need to get the job done, I would encourage somebody in
- 2 your respective departments to start to get moving because
- 3 my sense being in the military and also recently visiting is
- 4 that we have a serious problem. We have to stop pointing
- 5 the finger and going back and forth and just get the job
- 6 done.
- 7 With regard to who do we hold ultimately accountable, I
- 8 am a little confused still. I know we have a contract. I
- 9 have been reading. I understand it. I get it but my
- 10 concern is now we are extending a contract that has not
- 11 worked. People who have received \$6 billion.
- 12 There has been very little training and now we are
- 13 looking to extend it because we do not have the ability to
- 14 enter into another contract because we used something that
- 15 we felt would get it done quicker when in fact it delayed us
- 16 so we are more time behind the eight ball.
- 17 But I am hopeful that when you do the new contract
- 18 there is going to be a way to hold the trainers responsible
- 19 for delivering what they said they were going to deliver
- 20 because as somebody who is just so fed up with overspending
- 21 and over budgeting, at what point do we hold contractors,
- 22 people that we hire to do a job, responsible for doing that
- job and getting our money's worth?
- 24 That is something I would like to ultimately leave for
- 25 just someone to ultimately speak about.

- I will start with you, Mr. Sedney. You did say in the
- 2 beginning you will need greater resources and you have not
- 3 received the trainers. You need more trainers.
- I know in speaking to the appropriate authorities in
- 5 Afghanistan, the United States is the only country that has
- 6 provided the requested amount of trainers. The other
- 7 countries have not supplied the appropriate trainers.
- 8 Who in the food chain is responsible for trying to get
- 9 the other countries to provide the appropriate amount of
- 10 trainers?
- 11 Mr. Sedney. Senator, first of all, let me say in
- 12 response to the first part of what you said. I agree with
- 13 you entirely and I can tell you I share your impatience and
- 14 I can pledge you my greatest efforts to make both the
- 15 quickest and the most effective response because sometimes
- 16 speed works against effectiveness.
- 17 On the issue of trainers that you raised, the US
- 18 forces, the US military has provided the requested trainers
- 19 under the NATO request because this is a NATO mission. We
- 20 have a number of countries that have responded well to the
- 21 combined joint statement of requirements--
- 22 Senator Brown. But they have not fulfilled their
- 23 obligation.
- Mr. Sedney. There are a number of countries we
- 25 continue to work with and the overall number of unfilled

- 1 spaces under the NATO combined joint statement of
- 2 requirements is in the several hundreds, well over 400 when
- 3 I checked this morning.
- 4 That certainly will be a major area of discussion with
- 5 our colleagues both at NATO and also in the upcoming NATO
- 6 ministerial in Estonia.
- 7 At the same time as we are looking for other countries
- 8 to step forward within the NATO context, we have also had a
- 9 number of discussions and am not going to name the countries
- 10 for reasons of the diplomatic confidentiality but a number
- 11 of countries which have not yet been involved in Afghanistan
- 12 have shown interest in contributing trainers.
- 13 We are working aggressively with them because they see
- 14 the challenge that instability and extremism in Afghanistan
- 15 poses to their own national security. So we are not being
- 16 limited by the past. We are actually looking into new and
- 17 different areas, and again I would be able to do that in a
- 18 more confidential setting because I do not want to put
- 19 countries on the spot while we are in the middle of
- 20 diplomatic negotiations.
- 21 But I believe there are a number of areas of hope
- 22 there. At the same time I want to stress what I said in
- 23 response to Senator Kaufman, we are training police. The
- 24 coalition and we, the United States, are training police and
- 25 moving forward. This is an area where we are going to

- 1 succeed.
- 2 Senator Brown. Thank you very much and I appreciate
- 3 that. And I know who is helping and who is not and I would
- 4 encourage the Administration to strongly encourage them to
- 5 do what they said they would do.
- 6 We all know about the 6 billion that has been spent and
- 7 fewer than 12 percent of the country's police are capable of
- 8 operating on their own.
- 9 We know about the lack of respect that the police get
- 10 in Afghanistan based on their corruption and lack of
- 11 training, et cetera. So considering all those problems, I
- 12 guess I would defer this question to the IGs. Considering
- 13 all these problems which have been apparent for a while who
- 14 ultimately is responsible in saying how do we not fall into
- 15 this rut again.
- Mr. Heddell. I will be glad to try, Senator Brown.
- Two areas, one is simply the training of police
- 18 officers and doing it in the right way with the right
- 19 trainers, with the right curriculum. The second part of
- 20 that is managing and oversighting a contract worth billions
- 21 of dollars.
- In both categories, if we are going to do it and we are
- 23 going to do it obviously, we have to do it right. Under
- 24 each of those categories, there are things that we need to
- 25 do.

- I mean, under the management oversight of the contract,
- 2 for instance, we need to have oversight and management in-
- 3 country looking at the contracting officer representatives
- 4 on the ground in-country.
- 5 With regard to the contract itself, we have that
- 6 performance measures. We have to specifically say what we
- 7 expect that contractor to do. Then we have to measure that
- 8 contractor's performance.
- 9 With regard to property, DynCorp spent millions and
- 10 millions of dollars on property and we did not do
- 11 inventories. We did not know what we had or what we did not
- 12 have many times.
- Senator Brown. Right. Well, there is no property
- 14 management. There is no accountability. There are no hand
- 15 receipts. There is nothing.
- 16 Mr. Heddell. That is correct.
- 17 Senator Brown. How does that happen?
- 18 Mr. Heddell. Because there were no managers on the
- 19 ground.
- 20 Senator Brown. What are they getting paid for? Why is
- 21 that? When they are getting paid to do a job, there has got
- 22 to be a chain of command. There has got to be a natural
- 23 flow chart. Here is the boss. Here is the subordinate.
- 24 Where is the break down? I am missing it.
- Mr. Heddell. I can tell you what happened.

- 1 Senator Brown. Where is the breakdown?
- 2 Mr. Johnson. As I mentioned in the statement that I
- 3 made, the oral statement, in adapting the procedures that we
- 4 had to working in a wartime environment, we developed what
- 5 we thought were effective compromises, sometimes in
- 6 consultation with our OIG colleagues, so that for example
- 7 the contracting officers' representatives' files were
- 8 retained in Washington.
- 9 It was, therefore, a 24-hour delay, due to the shape of
- 10 the globe, before someone on the ground in Kabul would have
- 11 access to that material.
- 12 They always had access to the material 24 hours later
- 13 but it is not the same as being able to have the materials
- 14 in the front of you.
- We did this because we were working in an environment
- 16 where we were seeking to manage our risks, having no more
- 17 people on the ground than we thought we had to. I think in
- 18 retrospect, having more, taking some risks in the hiring
- 19 process and having places doubled-billeted or triple-
- 20 billeted going through the clearance process would have made
- 21 more sense.
- I am anxious to come before you at some point and the
- 23 chairman call me down for having so many people on the
- 24 ground that I have lost the concept of materiality in
- 25 auditing.

- 1 Senator McCaskill. I will not do that.
- 2 Mr. Johnson. I am aiming for it. But that is where we
- 3 are trying to head.
- We did do some things in order to compensate for that
- 5 by making all of the payments for the contract provisional
- 6 in nature so that we can claw them back if they need to be
- 7 and we have when we found issues that need to be addressed.
- 8 As the Inspectors General pointed out, any delay in
- 9 doing that, though, represents potential for lost documents,
- 10 for lost memory, and reconciling that process over time is
- 11 not nearly as efficient and effective as doing it at the
- 12 time payment is made even though it does protect the
- 13 government.
- 14 So we are moving as rapidly as we possibly can in the
- 15 direction of having more and more people on the ground.
- 16 Senator Brown. Thank you. I have run out of time,
- 17 Madam Chair.
- 18 Senator McCaskill. Let me first ask about the 2006
- 19 audit. Let me ask who did this before we started
- 20 contracting this? Special forces?
- 21 Mr. Johnson. When the effort was first made to train
- 22 police to do security sector reform, as it is called in
- 23 diplo-speak, in Afghanistan in the early part of 2002 there
- 24 was a division of labor among members of the G-18.
- 25 The United State took responsibility for the Afghan

- 1 national army for reasons which I think were intuitive to
- 2 everybody in the room.
- 3 The Germans who had a latent program that existed
- 4 before the Russian invasion and before the Marxist coup that
- 5 took place before that wanted to take the police
- 6 responsibility on. They did but their approach was a very
- 7 long-term approach.
- 8 Senator McCaskill. Right.
- 9 Mr. Johnson. And so we step in, the State Department
- 10 did, and began a very modest training program in order to
- 11 try to get people on the ground as quickly as possible.
- But as you may or may not recall, the diplomatic theory
- 13 at the time was to have a relatively light foot print. We
- 14 do not have ISAF outside of Kabul. We were still operating
- 15 only Operation Enduring Freedom efforts outside of that.
- 16 This has grown over time as we have seen and this is
- 17 one of the issues that I think we need to take into account
- 18 here. It is not so much that people did not do what we
- 19 wanted them to do. It is that both our objectives and the
- 20 situation on the ground has evolved and sometimes in
- 21 unexpected and marked ways during this period of time.
- 22 Senator McCaskill. Let us just assume. We had this
- 23 requirement to train local police during a counterinsurgency
- 24 in Iraq. We now have the mission to train police during a
- 25 counterinsurgency in Afghanistan.

- I do not think it is beyond anyone's imagination that
- 2 if we are fighting a counterinsurgency that that is going to
- 3 be something that is going to have to be a core competency
- 4 of our military as far as the eye can see.
- 5 Would anybody disagree with that? That training local
- 6 police in a counterinsurgency is something that should be a
- 7 core competency of our military for as far as the eye can
- 8 see.
- 9 Mr. Sedney, would you disagree with that?
- 10 Mr. Sedney. I personally would not disagree with that.
- 11 In terms of just how we are going to allocate the division
- 12 of responsibility in the government for future
- 13 counterinsurgencies in terms of training police I believe
- 14 that is still a matter that we have not fully come to
- 15 closure on but I take your point and I would say I
- 16 personally agree.
- 17 Senator McCaskill. I will tell you this. That is what
- 18 I would like to see come out of this hearing. In the
- 19 volumes of information that I have consumed on this, there
- 20 is no question that the trading back and forth, the fact
- 21 that after in 2006 you had an audit report that said you
- 22 needed in-country CORs, and there were years that you maybe
- 23 had one on a task force and they were not really doing any
- 24 on-site checking because of the security risks.
- I mean it is unacceptable that you know I think I have

- 1 a couple of documents that by the beginning of 2008 nearly
- 2 675 million was obligated without any evidence of an ICOR
- 3 functioning in Afghanistan. That comes directly out of the
- 4 report.
- 5 Prior to June of 2009, there was only one in-country
- 6 contracting officer's representatives on the main ANP task
- 7 order. That is not going to work.
- 8 Anybody who is doing contract oversight will tell you
- 9 that that kind of presence in-country in this kind of
- 10 environment is woefully, woefully, woefully inadequate.
- 11 So if we are going to be operating in the
- 12 counterinsurgency as we do this local police training, it
- 13 seems to me that it is imperative that somebody step up and
- 14 say this has got to be a military COR competency and stop
- 15 this, well, State was not doing it. Well, we got to get it
- 16 back under the military because the State contractors are
- 17 not paying attention to us. State cannot really get out in
- 18 the contingency because of the security risks.
- 19 I mean if you look at this back and forth over the last
- 20 four or five years, you can say all you want to how many
- 21 have been trained.
- But I think if we are honest about how many are
- 23 currently operating at an effectiveness level in the country
- 24 of Afghanistan, Americans have not gotten a good deal on
- 25 their investment.

- 1 So I am trying to get someone to come to the table and
- 2 say it is time that people at the very top of the State
- 3 Department and the very top of the State Department and
- 4 General Petraeus acknowledged that this needs to come to
- 5 defense and it needs to stay there.
- 6 Let me ask you. Is it not true that there is a plan
- 7 already in place to not only, we are trying to transition it
- 8 to defense but we cannot get it done because it was not done
- 9 right and there is already planning going on on how to
- 10 transition it back.
- 11 Is not that true?
- 12 Mr. Sedney. There certainly is discussion about what
- 13 will follow after a transition to Afghan security lead so I
- 14 am aware that there are discussions. I am not aware of a
- 15 plan along the lines that you discussed but I have to
- 16 confess I will not be able to speak for every plan in the
- 17 Department of Defense. But I personally am not aware of
- 18 such a plan, Madam Chairman McCaskill.
- 19 Senator McCaskill. I think there is a chance that we
- 20 will be doing police training in counterinsurgency
- 21 operations in other places besides Afghanistan. That is
- 22 something clearly if you understand the security threats
- 23 around the world whether it is Somalia, whether it is Yemen,
- 24 this is something that is going to be ongoing. It is my
- 25 understanding that prior to the State Department taking this

- 1 on that this had been a special forces function, the
- 2 training, before it went to private contractors.
- 3 Mr. Johnson. That is not my understanding. The
- 4 special forces were operating as part of Operation Enduring
- 5 Freedom. They had many liaison relationships throughout the
- 6 country as part of that.
- 7 But the police training which began after hostilities
- 8 were concluded formally, if you will, was the responsibility
- 9 first of our partners and then we began taking on more and
- 10 more of that.
- If I might say while I have the floor, I think we are
- 12 going to find that we need more than one solution to this
- 13 problem because there are going to be places in the world
- 14 where a defense-led effort will be both more appropriate and
- 15 more effective and acceptable, and there are going to be
- 16 places in the world where if for only for reasons of
- 17 acceptability from our partners, having a civilian-led
- 18 effort is going to be also needed to be in this mix.
- 19 Senator McCaskill. My reference to special forces was
- 20 worldwide. It had been special forces prior to the State
- 21 Department. You are referring to Afghanistan. There was a
- 22 time that the State Department was not involved in this and
- 23 it was purely military that did training of local police
- 24 under these circumstances.
- 25 Mr. Johnson. My earliest recollection of this comes in

- 1 our initial effort to assist the training of the police
- 2 force in Haiti in the early 1990s and that was a State-led
- 3 effort. I understand that before that when there were needs
- 4 there may have been special forces training programs which
- 5 bled over to civilian police but it has not been the
- 6 civilian lead at least over the course of the last couple of
- 7 dozen years.
- 8 Senator McCaskill. Okay. Did you want to add
- 9 something, Mr. Sedney?
- Mr. Sedney. No.
- 11 Senator McCaskill. No. Okay.
- 12 Senator Kaufman.
- 13 Senator Kaufman. You are doing great. Keep going.
- 14 Senator McCaskill. Why do you not take another round,
- 15 Senator Brown, and then I will probably come back for one
- 16 more.
- 17 Senator Brown. Thank you, Madam Chair. I appreciate
- 18 it.
- 19 This has been very very interesting. I wanted to just
- 20 touch on the civilian training verses military style
- 21 paramilitary training. Although the primary reason for
- 22 change certainly is sensible, the Afghan police are
- 23 suffering inordinate casualties in the field compared to
- 24 their counterparts in the army based on this new emphasis on
- 25 military style training, I think precipitated by the several

- 1 debates between State and DOD.
- 2 The State and DOD inspectors' report that we have been
- 3 obviously citing cited the delay in changing the curriculum
- 4 to emphasize the paramilitary skills as the problem in the
- 5 current DOD-State management.
- 6 Did this delay stem from the resistance by state to buy
- 7 into this change or resistence from DynCorp or basic
- 8 bureaucratic problems or for some other reason?
- 9 Mr. Johnson. There is no resistance to this on our
- 10 part. We will respond to the defined requirements. If it
- 11 requires additional or different trainers, that is what we
- 12 will seek. If it requires skills that are outside the scope
- 13 of civilian trainers, we will inform our military colleagues
- 14 that we are not in a position to provide that service.
- Senator Brown. Do you wish to comment on that, sir?
- 16 Mr. Heddell. Yes. There is actually something I think
- 17 to be learned from your question, Senator Brown, in the
- 18 sense that the original contract required that there would
- 19 be this joint relationship between the Department of State
- 20 and the Department of Defense.
- 21 And that in order for the Department of Defense to make
- 22 a change, for instance, in the training curriculum, it was
- 23 required that DOD provide at least 120 days notice before
- 24 that change could be effective.
- 25 What we found when we interviewed staff from the State

- 1 Department, they indicated on average it took six months to
- 2 actually execute a change.
- 3 It brings us to the heart of the issue which is that
- 4 the Department of Defense needs in this particular case to
- 5 be able to talk directly to the contractor. That was really
- 6 the heart of the problem.
- 7 The bureaucracy was holding us back and the lack of
- 8 contracting management on the ground to effect these changes
- 9 and bring about a new curriculum and to do the things that
- 10 DOD needed to have done, the structure was not in place to
- 11 do it.
- 12 So what we learned from that is that we should not have
- 13 this intermediary where DOD has to go through another entity
- 14 to make changes.
- And number two, we do not want to build a contract
- 16 where it takes 120 days to make a rapid change when the
- 17 insurgency is making rapid changes very day that we have to
- 18 adjust to.
- 19 Senator Brown. I think that is accurate. I just want
- 20 to shift gears just a touch. When we talk about the
- 21 training, and I asked these questions in Afghanistan, it has
- 22 gone from eight weeks to six weeks.
- 23 Do we really think that is adequate enough to instill
- 24 professionalism and ethics in that police force, into the
- 25 trainees, and is that enough time to actually filter out

- 1 those trainees determine if they in fact have the ability to
- 2 be professional and ethical?
- 3 I think that is probably an IG question.
- 4 Mr. Heddell. I would be glad to give you my opinion on
- 5 that, Senator Brown. From the standpoint of basic training,
- 6 no, six weeks, in my own opinion, is not enough.
- 7 Senator Brown. Especially since you do not have all
- 8 the trainers you need as we referenced.
- 9 Mr. Heddell. The fact of the matter is that six weeks
- 10 or even eight weeks or even 16 weeks is not enough for
- 11 anyone if you do not have some follow-up because, as I said
- 12 earlier, it takes years, not weeks, not months but years to
- 13 develop a police officer just to be at the acceptable level.
- So I presume that the reason that it went from eight
- 15 weeks to six weeks is to get more police officers through
- 16 the training.
- 17 But once they get through the training, they need
- 18 mentoring. They need advanced training. They need follow
- 19 up. There is so much more to it than simply putting through
- 20 a six- or eight-week course.
- 21 So I do not necessarily think that whether it is six or
- 22 eight weeks is right or wrong. I think what is important is
- 23 that there has to be a long term plan here for development.
- 24 Senator Brown. So are we asking for contractors to put
- 25 too much of an influence on the quantity of trainees versus

- 1 actual quality or ethical responsibilities and
- 2 professionalism? Do you think we should maybe go to a
- 3 different standard of some kind?
- 4 Mr. Heddell. Well, I cannot answer the question. It
- 5 is probably more for Department of Defense or Department of
- 6 State. But it would appear to me that the way we were doing
- 7 it it was just not going to work.
- 8 Senator Brown. So saying that and referring it over,
- 9 what is the solution? How do we change from quantity to
- 10 quality to get the value for our dollars?
- 11 Mr. Sedney. We are currently working on addressing
- 12 both and we are very aware of the challenges that you laid
- 13 out, Senator Brown.
- 14 To address the specific question of the six weeks
- 15 versus eight weeks training, yes, we have transitioned to
- 16 six weeks training in order to be able to make maximum use
- 17 of the police training facilities and produce more police.
- 18 But those six weeks of training are better than the
- 19 eight weeks before. There is not less contact hours. There
- 20 are more contact hours in those six weeks. It has gone
- 21 from, we have shortened a rather long lunch period to a
- 22 shorter lunch period. The training is longer days. One day
- 23 off has now become a day of training.
- 24 So the actual contact hours over six weeks is greater
- 25 than the eight weeks.

- 1 Senator Brown. Right. I am aware of that.
- 2 Mr. Sedney. So it is not a lesser training.
- 3 However, I agree with Mr. Heddell. This is not a weeks
- 4 or months long process. It is a year's long process. The
- 5 key here is not just continued training but also modeling,
- 6 and that is where the intensive partnering that General
- 7 McChrystal has put in in both the army and the police is so
- 8 important because in order to instill those ethics that you
- 9 talked about, the Afghan trainees, the Afghan policemen have
- 10 to see them in operation. They have to see that they work.
- In the past we would train people and put them out into
- 12 a corrupt society. No matter how well you train them,
- 13 whether it was eight weeks, six weeks, 16 weeks or 60 weeks,
- 14 if you just stuck them out with no mentoring and training
- 15 they were going to become more corrupt.
- 16 We have realized that. Now we are working to change
- 17 that. We also have developed and are going to be putting
- 18 more emphasis on continued and repeat training, as Mr.
- 19 Heddell mentioned, because again you have to keep bringing
- 20 people back on.
- 21 Senator Brown. I am sorry. I do not mean to
- 22 interrupt. I understand that. We got fully briefed as to
- 23 what it is.
- I guess at least in my second question, so how much is
- 25 it going to cost? I mean what is the number that the

- 1 American people are ultimately going to be responsible for
- 2 next year and the year after and the year after? What type
- 3 of dollars are we talking about to once again to come up
- 4 with?
- 5 Mr. Sedney. I do not know the exact figure for what we
- 6 have requested in the supplemental. I will be happy to get
- 7 that up.
- 8 Senator Brown. Do you have a general idea if you do
- 9 not have an exact number? Do you have a general number, an
- 10 approximate number?
- 11 Mr. Sedney. I understand and my staff is always
- 12 willing to come up, is going to give me an exact number. I
- 13 was going to say about 6 billion.
- 14 Senator Brown. For a year?
- Mr. Sedney. \$6 billion for this year.
- 16 Senator Brown. Just to stand up a police force, it is
- 17 going to be \$6 billion a year?
- 18 Mr. Sedney. The Afghan police and national army is
- 19 together about \$11.6 billion in fiscal year 2011 request.
- 20 That is the Afghan National Police and army together.
- 21 Senator Brown. So \$11.6 billion to basically uplift
- 22 the police and army in Afghanistan.
- 23 Mr. Sedney. And continue to train them, pay them.
- 24 Senator Brown. Equip them. The whole nine yards.
- 25 Mr. Sedney. Right.

- 1 Senator Brown. I will save my remaining questions for
- 2 follow up. Thank you.
- 3 Senator McCaskill. I have several I want to get to so
- 4 I will try to limit my editorial comments because I know I
- 5 am the biggest offender. If you all will try to help me by
- 6 keeping your answers brief.
- 7 I want to make sure I get a couple of documents in the
- 8 record. The first has to do with the State Department's
- 9 ability to oversee contractors. Without objection, if there
- 10 is an objection just let me know, I want to enter into the
- 11 record the contractor past performance evaluation document
- 12 that deals with the evaluation of Blackwater in Iraq.
- This is a dollar value on a contract of \$1.2 billion.
- 14 This occurred after the killing of 17 Iraqi citizens in
- 15 Nisor Square. That is why it is important to remember the
- 16 time frame here, that this was around the problems of that.
- 17 When you read this document, the question is asked,
- 18 would you recommend the contractor be used again, the answer
- 19 is yes. It states that, quote, this is the quote that is
- 20 used in reports, incidents cause the program officer to lose
- 21 confidence in Blackwater's credibility and management but
- 22 concludes that new personnel have improved confidence in the
- 23 contractor that, quote, it is expected that next past
- 24 performance evaluation will be substantially improved.
- I would like to place that in the record.

- 1 Senator Brown. No objection, Madam Chairman.
- 2 / SUBCOMMITTEE INSERT

- 1 Senator McCaskill. The second thing I would like to
- 2 place in the record is the DCAA DynCorp audit. This audit
- 3 is an audit that came out in November of last year. As of
- 4 last November, these are some of the findings of the audit
- 5 of DynCorp. Keep in mind this is the contractor we are
- 6 stuck with now. We are going to have this contractor for
- 7 the indefinite future since we are going to a full and fair
- 8 open competition which means it will likely be at least a
- 9 year from now before there would be a new contract.
- 10 These are some of the findings. Inadequate controls to
- 11 ensure contract briefs contain adequate information for the
- 12 billing department to prepare current, accurate, and
- 13 complete those vouchers. Inadequate control to verify pay
- 14 rates were authorized and accurate. Failure to prepare
- 15 adequate budgets which may result in significant over or
- 16 understatement of proposed costs. Failure to notify the
- 17 government upon awards of subcontracts.
- 18 This is problematic from an auditing standpoint because
- 19 this is all the documentation that is necessary, all the
- 20 oversight that is necessary to make sure that they are not
- 21 walking away with our money and not performing the work.
- 22 So I want to make sure that we enter that audit into
- 23 the record.
- 24 / SUBCOMMITTEE INSERT

- 1 Senator McCaskill. Tell me where the \$80 billion is
- 2 now, Mr. Johnson, that was found in the audit. Has it been
- 3 returned?
- 4 Mr. Johnson. It has not been returned. The moneys
- 5 have been obligated against a task order and the
- 6 reconciliation is ongoing on that task order. As soon as
- 7 that is completed and we determine how much should be
- 8 returned, we will do so immediately.
- 9 Senator McCaskill. Could you respond to that, Mr.
- 10 Heddell or Ms. Klemstine? Is it true they were obligated?
- 11 I thought you found in your audit they were unobligated.
- 12 Mr. Heddell. What we found, Madam Chairman, is that
- 13 the Department of State improperly kept \$80 million that had
- 14 been transferred from the Department of Defense even though
- 15 the funds had expired.
- The money we are talking about was used specifically,
- 17 was supposed to be used for Afghan National Police training.
- 18 It came in three separate appropriations and each
- 19 appropriation had an estimated availability period. And as
- 20 of December 2009, the Department of State was still holding
- 21 \$80 million, and the availability period for that \$80
- 22 million on the first one expired, 56.8 million expired in
- 23 September of 2007 and 23.2 million expired in September of
- 24 2008.
- 25 As of January of this year, that was our understanding.

- 1 Senator McCaskill. Do you disagree with that finding,
- 2 Mr. Johnson?
- 3 Mr. Johnson. I do not disagree that it would have
- 4 expired had it not been obligated but it has been obligated
- 5 and has to be reconciled against these billings so that we
- 6 return the proper amount.
- 7 Senator McCaskill. The question is, I assume you are
- 8 saying it was obligated during the audit period or it was
- 9 obligated after the audit period?
- 10 Mr. Johnson. It was obligated prior to the audit
- 11 period. What the Inspector General is referring to is that
- 12 had it not been against a task order which was during the
- 13 period of time the money was available to be spent, had it
- 14 been fully reconciled, any monies left over should and would
- 15 have been returned to the Treasury or to DOD depending on
- 16 the date at which it became available.
- We are doing our best efforts to complete that process
- 18 so that we return exactly the right amount.
- 19 Senator McCaskill. Mr. Heddell.
- Mr. Heddell. Madam Chairman, it was obligated but the
- 21 money had expired and it was not expended. The money, as
- 22 far as we know, has never been returned to the Treasury.
- 23 Senator McCaskill. So what you are saying is the
- 24 obligation makes no difference if the time period expires
- 25 and it is not expended.

- 1 Mr. Heddell. That is my understanding.
- 2 Senator McCaskill. I think that is something that I
- 3 would like to writing an answer with somebody's signature
- 4 that you all disagree with that because \$80 million is a lot
- 5 of money.
- 6 Mr. Johnson. I would be pleased to provide you with
- 7 that.
- 8 Senator McCaskill. DCAA told the Subcommittee that the
- 9 State Department did not engage them to perform real-time
- 10 reviews. Why have you not used DCAA for this type of
- 11 review? And secondly, in the audit it was reported that the
- 12 State Department had canceled an audit. The contracting
- 13 officer had canceled an audit. I would like an explanation
- 14 on both of these, why DCAA is not being used for real-time
- 15 reviews and secondly why you would ever cancel an audit.
- Mr. Johnson. We are using DCAA and we are very pleased
- 17 with their assistance to us.
- 18 Senator McCaskill. Great.
- Mr. Johnson. We had a point of confusion between us
- 20 and them about the request that we hade made of them. We
- 21 were ongoing and worked on a request for a transfer of funds
- 22 to pay for this audit on two other task orders and those
- 23 were ongoing.
- 24 And for reasons having to do with the way that payment
- 25 was processed, one of those requests under one of those task

- 1 orders was accidentally canceled. We were unaware of that.
- 2 When we became aware of it, we began re-engaging with DCAA
- 3 on that specific task order. Those discussions are ongoing.
- 4 We intend for them to come and work for us and we intend to
- 5 pay them for it.
- 6 Senator McCaskill. Okay. Since we are going to have a
- 7 State Department-run contract on police training in
- 8 Afghanistan for the foreseeable future, are your in-country
- 9 CORs getting out in the field as we speak? Mr. Johnson, are
- 10 they conducting regular site visits to the training sites at
- 11 this point in time?
- 12 Mr. Johnson. They are getting out and they are
- 13 conducting regular site visits. I do not think they are
- 14 there yet because the numbers are not up to what we want
- 15 them to be conducting as regular and frequent site visits as
- 16 I think we want and I think as our oversight colleagues
- 17 would like but we fully intend to remedy that.
- 18 Senator McCaskill. I would certainly like, I mean we
- 19 will follow up with some of these questions. We want to be
- 20 notified how many you have on the ground every quarter and
- 21 we want to know how many site visits are going on, how many
- 22 of them are regularly scheduled and how many of them are
- 23 unannounced.
- The unannounced site visits are crucial in a contract
- 25 like this. That is when you find people doing things I mean

- 1 I hate to bring back bad memories of another hearing. But
- 2 when you have craziness going on with the security force at
- 3 an embassy which also happened in Afghanistan, those
- 4 unscheduled site visits are incredibly important.
- 5 Mr. Johnson. In my checkered past I was a bank
- 6 examiner.
- 7 Senator McCaskill. You know about showing up
- 8 unannounced.
- 9 Mr. Johnson. Right.
- 10 Senator McCaskill. Let me turn it over to Senator
- 11 Brown for a few follow up questions.
- 12 Senator Brown. I just want to go on that line of
- 13 questioning, Madam Chair, and then I will go back.
- 14 On the \$80 million issue we were talking about, is
- 15 there an enforcement arm of any kind that says, hey, listen
- 16 your time has expired. You have the money. You have not
- 17 used it. It is time to come back to the Treasury.
- 18 Is there any mechanism that you have because I have to
- 19 be honest with you, it seems like it is political
- 20 doublespeak in terms of you know the money has not been
- 21 used. It was back in 2007 and 2008. We are in 2010. And
- 22 then you say, well, it was not allocated before the audit.
- 23 Well, if not, then when was it allocated because it is 2010
- 24 and the time expired. Was there an amendment of some sort
- 25 that went into effect? Is there an agreement with the

- 1 appropriate authorities to extend it out to another period
- 2 of time to give you the authority to continue to retain
- 3 that?
- 4 Mr. Johnson. If I poorly communicated, I am sorry. My
- 5 understanding is the monies were obligated against an
- 6 ongoing activity. As soon as all the reconciliation of the
- 7 billings which took place during that time period, not
- 8 billings which will take place later --
- 9 Senator Brown. It has been what? Three years now.
- 10 When does the reconciliation take place?
- 11 Mr. Johnson. It is ongoing. We are running at about a
- 12 two-year delay from conclusion of the task order.
- Senator Brown. That is 2009 if we are in 2007. So it
- 14 is longer than that obviously. We are in three years now,
- 15 right?
- 16 Mr. Johnson. I am not certain but I will work that
- 17 time line for you, yes, sir.
- 18 Senator Brown. I quess what I am trying to say is you
- 19 know I am a firm believer in contracts and dates. As it is
- 20 the rule of law, we have a date. We perform. We fulfill.
- 21 If we do not, it goes back.
- There seems to be a slippery slope here that we are
- 23 going down in that you know we allocate money, taxpayer
- 24 money, hard-earned taxpayer money for certain purposes. It
- 25 does not get used. It should go back to be re-allocated, to

- 1 be reused.
- 2 We could use it right now for unemployment insurance to
- 3 find another way to pay for that. I am hopeful, Madam
- 4 Chair, that we can get a reasonable answer like, number one,
- 5 why was not the reconciliation done right away, when are we
- 6 going to have it done, and when if at all and how much money
- 7 is actually going to be actually returned.
- 8 I would also like to have that in writing for us to
- 9 review, number one.
- Number two, do you have the ability, sir, to delegate
- 11 the site visit responsibilities to the military or any other
- 12 entity to assist you until you get up to speed because I
- 13 hear you? I understand. I was there. I get it now. I see
- 14 how big it is.
- But if you are not up to speed and you cannot account,
- 16 we are giving billions of dollars to people, is there
- 17 anything that I can do, make a recommendation to the
- 18 President or to the Majority Leader, anybody who is dealing
- 19 with this issue to give you the tools and resources you need
- 20 to either delegate or get this job done quicker and more
- 21 efficiently?
- Mr. Johnson. In terms of some issues, for example,
- 23 inventories, we have worked with the military to assist us
- 24 in those. I think though that there is no substitute to
- 25 have contracting office representatives who know the

- 1 contract, who are trained to do this type of work there on
- 2 the ground and getting out to do those things. That is the
- 3 aim that we have.
- 4 One of my kind colleagues pointed out to me that the
- 5 monies that were appropriated for fiscal year 2007 could
- 6 have been expended on things through September of 2009. So
- 7 we have a little while where we need to make sure we paid
- 8 all our bills before we give the money back.
- 9 Senator Brown. Okay. I would appreciate that in
- 10 writing.
- 11 Madam Chair, I forgot and I am wondering if you will
- 12 accept my modified opening statements for the record, if
- 13 possible.
- 14 Senator McCaskill. Your opening statement will be made
- 15 part of the record.
- 16 Do you have anything else?
- 17 Senator Brown. I do but I will allow you to get back
- 18 to your line.
- 19 Senator McCaskill. That is okay. Why do you not
- 20 finish up because I only have like one or two more. See if
- 21 there is anything else you want to cover.
- 22 Senator Brown. Just some general questions. As you
- 23 know, the Afghan culture is largely tribal and locally
- 24 based. I wrestled with this when I was there when I was
- 25 getting back.

- 1 Does it make sense to have a national police force that
- 2 basically the tribal leaders do not recognize, they do not
- 3 know. Some of the individual citizens do not even recognize
- 4 the uniforms. Does it make sense to have a one-size-fits-
- 5 all strategy in Afghanistan?
- 6 Mr. Sedney. The kind of security force that we should
- 7 have in Afghanistan is one that has been discussed and the
- 8 question that you raise is an excellent one, Senator Brown,
- 9 and there are people who have felt very strongly for all
- 10 sides of a question that has many answers.
- 11 There are certainly areas of Afghanistan where a
- 12 national police force, a uniformed police force, large
- 13 cities. Kabul has well in excess of 4 million people there
- 14 now. For example other major cities.
- In some of the rural areas, Afghan justice is very much
- 16 in the hands of traditional justice systems.
- 17 One of the problems however is that over the years,
- 18 especially as result of the occupation by the Soviets during
- 19 the civil war a lot of those traditional structures have
- 20 either been destroyed or been seized by small, powerful,
- 21 maligned actors who pervert the local systems so that they
- 22 do not work effectively.
- 23 So there are a number of activities that are going on
- 24 looking at restoring those local activities in a way that is
- 25 acceptable to the board expanse of people while at the same

- 1 time building national police in areas where they are most
- 2 able to be effective.
- 3 The latest polling I saw on that was of rural people in
- 4 eastern Afghanistan where 38 percent of the people said they
- 5 preferred local gurkhas to national police. Fifty percent
- 6 of the people said they preferred national police to local
- 7 gurkhas.
- 8 So you have a fairly significant split but the people
- 9 thought very strongly on both ways.
- 10 It is a country in transition, and we are working on
- 11 all those areas. But I would say that in terms of the kind
- 12 of order that is required in the midst of an insurgency, the
- 13 police have played, continue to play a very important role.
- 14 In many ways, the acceptability of the police depends
- 15 upon their performance. You and Senator Kaufman just
- 16 mentioned the areas where there have been problems of the
- 17 performance of the police.
- 18 Minister Atmar has developed a program called the
- 19 personal asset inventory that is designed to combat
- 20 corruption. He believes that that increased prosecution of
- 21 corrupt police through efforts by the major crimes task
- 22 force we put in place are already having significant
- 23 improvements in that area.
- We support Minister Atmar in those efforts and look
- 25 forward to continued qualitative improvements in the police

- 1 force.
- 2 Senator Brown. I have a whole host of questions but in
- 3 the interest of time I will narrow it down to the top three
- 4 at this point. They are not too difficult. Is that okay?
- 5 Senator McCaskill. Absolutely. We will take as many
- 6 questions as you have for the record and we will keep that
- 7 open for a week so that any additional questions we did not
- 8 get to today because I have the same problem.
- 9 Senator Brown. Thank you.
- 10 Senator McCaskill. If we stayed here with all my
- 11 questions, it would not be good.
- 12 Senator Brown. Would you like to go?
- 13 Senator McCaskill. No. Go ahead. You finish up.
- 14 Senator Brown. Thank you.
- I found it fascinating and so did our team. 500 meters
- 16 from our forward operating base there are poppy fields all
- 17 over the place. I know the reasons why. I get it.
- 18 But is there, and I quess it would be directed to
- 19 either one of you. Is there a plan? Are we going to
- 20 eradicate? Are we going to allow it? Are we going to
- 21 transition? Are going to give them time lines, listen, we
- 22 know you are doing it, we know why you are doing it. But
- 23 listen you only have another year to do it and then we are
- 24 going to transition you into a different crop. And if you
- 25 do not, then we are going to just eradicate it, because I

- 1 have to be honest with you, seeing all those poppies flying
- 2 in those choppers for three days everywhere we went in full
- 3 bloom, I just thought about how that transitions into lives
- 4 in our country and young people and others using drugs.
- 5 Any thoughts?
- 6 Mr. Johnson. You are correct in that we have had a
- 7 rather expensive and not very effective eradication program
- 8 in the past where we attempted to provide the ability of the
- 9 central government to have the eradication capability.
- 10 Seeing the expense involved and the relative
- 11 inefficiency, practically in the areas where you were where
- 12 poppy growing is indeed an agribusiness, Ambassador Holbrook
- 13 has determined that we should focus instead on seeking an
- 14 alternative livelihood-based approach where we find more and
- 15 more opportunities for these individuals to grow a
- 16 legitimate crop.
- I think that program is just barely getting underway.
- 18 It could have significant impact over the course of the next
- 19 year or two.
- Outside of the area where you were the area of
- 21 Afghanistan is largely poppy free. In Helmand and in
- 22 Kandahar, it is a basic business though.
- 23 The other issue is we are focusing much more clearly on
- 24 an interdiction effort. The Drug Enforcement
- 25 Administration's deployment in Afghanistan is the largest on

- 1 the planet. It is working very hard in concert with the
- 2 capabilities that we are helping to develop, my colleagues
- 3 and I, of the Afghans to have their own counter narcotics
- 4 police.
- 5 Those have been quite effective over the course of the
- 6 last several months. The seizures are up. But this very
- 7 much remains a work in progress.
- 8 Senator Brown. Well, you know it is interesting. The
- 9 seizures are up but then the growing is up too in certain
- 10 regions.
- 11 Getting back to policy a little bit I have two more
- 12 short questions. How many companies are currently capable
- 13 of providing police services such as the ones in the
- 14 contract? Who are they and do they have a fair opportunity
- 15 to compete for the business, number one?
- 16 And then how would re-bidding for the contract of
- 17 Afghan police forces impact America's ability to win and
- 18 perform our mission the next couple of months and years I
- 19 should say?
- 20 Mr. Johnson. The current indefinite quantity,
- 21 indefinite delivery contract that we work under for the
- 22 civilian police program in the State Department has three
- 23 participants.
- 24 DynCorp is one. Pacific Architects and Engineers is
- 25 the second one, now a division of Lockheed Martin. The

- 1 third is Civilian Police International that I think is a
- 2 division of L-3.
- 3 We have just this week put on the street a request for
- 4 proposals that will we hope provide us a much broader number
- 5 of companies who are willing and able to provide this
- 6 service. We anticipate the program will close in terms of
- 7 the bids being due I believe in June and we will have a
- 8 period of time in the summer to evaluate.
- 9 It is my goal, and I have been working on this for some
- 10 time, to broaden that contractor base because I think there
- 11 are more companies and more opportunities out there than we
- 12 have had in the past.
- 13 Senator Brown. Thank you, Madam Chair. I will defer
- 14 to you.
- 15 Senator McCaskill. Thank you, Senator Brown.
- 16 Mr. Heddell and Ms. Klemstine, do you think that the
- 17 State Department has added enough in-country contracting
- 18 representatives with the acronym of ICOR, do you think they
- 19 have added enough to provide adequate oversight to this
- 20 contract?
- 21 Mr. Heddell. Madam Chairman, what I know from January
- 22 of this year I would say no. Unless something has occurred
- 23 in the last 30 days, I am not aware of it. But I would say
- 24 no.
- 25 Senator McCaskill. Ms. Klemstine.

- 1 Ms. Klemstine. I would reiterate that answer being no.
- 2 However, I do think that there are plans in place to
- 3 increase the number. I think if they get up to that number
- 4 they will probably be in pretty good shape at that point.
- 5 Senator McCaskill. What is that number?
- 6 Ms. Klemstine. I believe it is 33.
- 7 Senator McCaskill. In-country?
- 8 Ms. Klemstine. Yes.
- 9 Senator McCaskill. Is that correct, Mr. Johnson?
- 10 Mr. Johnson. There are not 33 presently in-country.
- 11 There are seven currently in-country. Our aim by September
- 12 is to get to 22.
- 13 Senator McCaskill. Is 22 enough, Ms. Klemstine?
- 14 Ms. Klemstine. I would have to go back and re-evaluate
- 15 that. I do not know that off the top of my head.
- 16 Senator McCaskill. I think if are working toward 22,
- 17 as soon as we could possibly get the input of your agency
- 18 that did the audit whether or not you think that is an
- 19 adequate number. I would hate for us to have a goal of 22
- 20 and get there and still know we do not have enough to
- 21 adequately keep track of what is happening with this
- 22 contract.
- It is my understanding the people you are hiring to do
- 24 this are in fact contractors?
- 25 Mr. Johnson. Madam Chairman, the individuals who have

- 1 traditionally done this are what are known as personal
- 2 services contractors.
- I know I could read you from the FAR what that means
- 4 and how it is virtually the same as an employee but I also
- 5 know that it would not answer the mail for you.
- 6 We are in the process of using an opportunity we have
- 7 under the law of so called 3161 employees. We plan to
- 8 convert as many of these individuals as possible to that
- 9 employment status so that they will be direct employees of
- 10 United States government.
- I have the opportunity in Afghanistan but I do not have
- 12 it globally. I will be looking for other ways to provide
- 13 direct employees who are performing this service because I
- 14 recognize the demand that you made that we have them not
- 15 just be the functional equivalent of direct employees but
- 16 actually be so.
- 17 Senator McCaskill. Mr. Sedney, if you all take it
- 18 back, does that mean you have the CORs ready and available
- 19 to oversee this contract?
- I have spent an awful lot of time talking to people in
- 21 uniform about contracting representatives over the last
- 22 three years. Would it be your plan to try to utilize the
- 23 individual personal service contracts that the State
- 24 Department is going to execute over the next six month to
- 25 oversee this contract?

- 1 How do you envision the contract oversight working if
- 2 you all in fact enter into a contract as opposed to State?
- 3 Mr. Sedney. In terms of the complete and open
- 4 competition that we are looking for, the numbers of
- 5 contracting representatives will be part of that process.
- 6 We are in the process of determining what that will be now.
- 7 In terms of what the contracting officer
- 8 representatives that Mr. Johnson was talking about having in
- 9 place, our people out in the field have helped to contribute
- 10 to the request for additional contracting office
- 11 representatives.
- 12 In terms of one of the requests that we are making of
- 13 the Department of State if we were to extend the current
- 14 contractor with DynCorp beyond that time, additional
- 15 contracting office representatives are one of the areas that
- 16 we have agreed is important and would like to see move
- 17 forward.
- 18 I do not have the figures on the exact numbers that we
- 19 think would be necessary and we can get back to you on that.
- 20 Senator McCaskill. I think it is really essential. I
- 21 will be shocked. It will be like winning the lottery if we
- 22 end up with anybody other than DynCorp through the time
- 23 period in which the President has indicated that we are
- 24 going to have this increased presence.
- In that case, if there is by a chance to transition, it

- 1 will be terribly counterproductive if you have CORs in-
- 2 country that are there and have made the commitment to be
- 3 there for all of a sudden then get pulled back because now
- 4 we have switched again.
- 5 It would be unconscionable to switch contractors and
- 6 not have a CORs force ready to go to oversee that contract
- 7 because we could go a year without anybody in-country
- 8 essentially like we have had on this contract.
- 9 For parts of the time there has been really almost
- 10 nobody home. So we have to make sure that happens and I am
- 11 going to depend on the two of you to communicate and figure
- 12 out how to work that out. And if you need help above you,
- 13 you need to speak up if there is going to be an issue
- 14 because I do not want the contracting representative COR to
- 15 go down anytime while we are making this kind of financial
- 16 commitment for police training in Afghanistan.
- 17 The last thing I wanted to cover on this subject matter
- 18 is that the GDP of Afghanistan is about 13 billion a year.
- 19 Sustaining what we are building, it is 11 billion in the
- 20 supplemental for the army and the police, sustaining it, not
- 21 building it but sustaining is 6 billion a year.
- I think it is pretty obvious that Afghanistan is not
- 23 going to be able to afford to sustain what we are building
- 24 for them. They cannot take over half of their GDP just to
- 25 do local police and military.

- 1 So that means the American people have probably made
- 2 some kind of multi-billion-dollar commitment for many years
- 3 forward. Certainly not at the level that we are this year
- 4 and next year but certainly billions of dollars which means
- 5 we are going to need contractors over there for many many
- 6 years.
- 7 I just want to make sure that we get a sense of urgency
- 8 about getting it right as quickly as possible because this
- 9 has gone on way too long, way too long.
- 10 I want to ask a favor before we close the hearing. We
- 11 will have questions for the record for all of you. I want
- 12 to as always thank the auditors, the Inspector General's
- 13 offices, for your great work. It is brave. Your people
- 14 went in-country and the services of the auditing community
- 15 are not valued enough in our government and I hope you all
- 16 know the deep respect for that work.
- I also want to thank both of you. This was not an easy
- 18 hearing. But this is hard stuff. It is a hard thing we are
- 19 trying to do and the contracting in this area has certainly
- 20 not been anything that any of us should be proud of.
- 21 We are going to have a hearing, Mr. Johnson, in a few
- 22 months on the contracting for counter narcotics in South
- 23 America.
- We gave plenty of notice for documents. We have had
- 25 difficulty getting documents out of the State Department.

- 1 We were able to do this hearing without a lot of the
- 2 documents we requested from State.
- 3 But it will be impossible for us to have the oversight
- 4 hearing that we need to have on these contracts in South
- 5 America without the cooperation of the State Department
- 6 giving us the documents.
- 7 So I would like to implore on the record today that you
- 8 spend sometime. I think this is under your silo at State,
- 9 if you would work to help us get the documents we need for
- 10 that important hearing.
- I do not think we have ever had an oversight hearing on
- 12 the expensive contracts that we issue on counter narcotics
- 13 in South America and I would like it to be a full and
- 14 complete hearing and it will not be without your
- 15 cooperation.
- 16 Mr. Johnson. Thank you, Madam Chairman. We have
- 17 gathered the documents. They are going through the
- 18 clearance process now. I will endeavor to push that as
- 19 quickly we can.
- 20 Senator McCaskill. That would be terrific.
- I want to thank everyone for being here. I especially
- 22 want to thank Senator Brown for his participation.
- This hearing is adjourned.
- 24 [Whereupon, at 4:39 p.m., the Subcommittee was
- 25 adjourned.]