

# PKSOI supports Army through lessons learned forum

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In March 2011, The Combined Arms Center and Department of the Army G3/5/7 worked to produce a quick-turn request from the Commander ISAF to establish a dynamic quarterly Operation Enduring Freedom Lessons Learned Forum. Its goal was to facilitate the acceleration of the integration of observations, insights, lessons, tactics, techniques and procedures and operating environment changes to the field and into the operational and generating forces; enhance capabilities; and determine how to sustain them. So, what is the OEF LL Forum and what does it really do?

The OEF LL Forum is a working group comprised of all the major actors in the Army. This group meets in three ways each month: an action officer working group, a Counsel of Colonels, and a General Officer Steering Committee. The purpose of the forum is to quickly solve big problems for the ISAF Commander and then follow up with long term solutions in the training base.

PKSOI is a member of the OEF LL Forum and was chosen to lead 2 of the first 17 issues taken on by the forum. The first issue was a concern of the ISAF Commander that the Provincial Reconstruction Teams and the Brigade Combat Teams were not working together to accomplish their governance mission. PKSOI was given the mission to shape the problem and, in the end, the issue was determined to be a matter of unity of effort (or lack thereof). Four months later, PKSOI, with the help of many other agencies, assembled a working group, developed an action plan, wrote and submitted scenarios to the CTCs, coordinated communication sessions between PRT and BCT leaders, and published the "BCT-PRT Unity of Effort" reference guide (CALL pub no. 11-39, sep 11). The issue was completed and closed in less than 5 months.

The second issue PKSOI was charged to solve was the issue of counter corruption training, both prior to deployment and during deployment. This issue was brought up by Brig. Gen. H.R. McMaster, the CJIATF Shafafiyat commander. The end result was a very comprehensive training site on the Army's Training Network and multiple other engagements with deploying Brigades.

Most recently PKSOI was given the lead for an issue dealing with the mitigation of civilian casualties. This issue goes hand in hand with PKSOI's mission as CACs lead on Protection of Civilians and aligns with other work PKSOI does in this area such as Mass Atrocity Prevention and Response. Similarly, other work involving gender violence issues, as they relate to peace and stability operations, are being developed in collaboration with Interagency and Non governmental partners.

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