



NEWS RELEASE

International Security Assistance Force – Afghanistan



Committed to the security, reconstruction and extension of governance in Afghanistan

2009-09-[M]-709

ISAF to cease offensive operations on UN Peace Day

KABUL, Afghanistan (Sept. 17) – General Stanley McChrystal, commander of International Security Assistance Forces in Afghanistan, announced today ISAF will not conduct offensive military operations on Sept. 21 to observe the United Nations' International Day of Peace.

"I have directed my forces to support our Afghan partners in ceasing offensive operations on September 21," said General McChrystal. "This is consistent with our intent to help the national army and police take the lead in protecting the Afghan people from the Taliban and other enemies of peace."

McChrystal's decision follows Afghan President Hamid Karzai's announcement that Afghan National Security Forces will not conduct operations on Sept. 21. Karzai noted that ANSF may continue to defend themselves and the Afghan public from insurgent attacks, and ISAF maintains the same provision for self-defence.

-ends-

ISAF Public Affairs Office

Primary: Tel 93 (0) 799 51 2919 / 2286 / 2928

Mobile: 93 (0) 797 140 031 (out of hours)

E-mail: pressoffice@hq.isaf.nato.int / USFOR-A-MediaRelations@afghan.swa.army.mil

Website: www.nato.int/isaf