

# British and US Troops at Odds in Afghanistan as UK Engages Rescue Missions. Reports

British para troopers are driving through the streets of Kabul to rescue nationals, but Americans have again been told they're on their own

By [Steve Watson](#)

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*Reports have surfaced that British and American forces are unhappy with each other at Kabul airport, as UK Military commanders are overseeing rescue missions into the city itself, while US commanders are sitting tight, leaving US nationals to fend for themselves.*

Thousands of Americans trapped in the city were again advised by the US embassy that it cannot protect them if they attempt to get to the airport, and even if they make it, they might not be able to get on a plane out of there:

"THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT CANNOT ENSURE SAFE PASSAGE TO THE HAMID KARZAI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT," the US Embassy in Kabul told American citizens in a security alert today, per [@kylieatwood](#), adding space on evac flights will now be available on “first come, first serve basis.”

— Kaitlan Collins (@kaitlancollins) [August 18, 2021](#)

The British government, however has [sent in 900 elite para troopers](#) to rescue some 4000 nationals in Kabul, and told the soldiers to expect face to face combat with the Taliban.

Sources have indicated that the U.S. command is unhappy with the British forces going into the heart of Kabul, claiming that it is putting the withdrawal agreement at risk (isn't a bit late for that?).

The British troops are also said to be livid at the way America is treating Afghans who are desperate to flee the Taliban.

Yet American troops are also said to be pissed off with their higher ups not letting them run rescue missions alongside the Brits.

Former Congressional staffer turned reporter Matthew Russell detailed what is unfolding

according to sources in Kabul:



Serious friction between U.S. and U.K. military commanders at the airport. American forces refuse to leave airport due to deal with T-ban while British paratroopers are still running constant patrols into the city to collect people from safe houses. British forces are rescuing British, Irish, and Afghan Nationals due for evacuation. Any other nationality also picked up if at location. T-ban are aware of patrols and taking no action so far.

U.S. command is unhappy with the Brits as they say it puts their deal at risk. A British paratrooper commander and an American 82nd Airborne commander had a screaming match. The Brits are reportedly very unhappy at how Afghans are being treated by American forces.

U.S. rank and file soldiers are infuriated with their command. They are extremely frustrated they can't join the British paratroopers or use the small army of contractors assembled at the airport to go on rescue missions.

The British Home Secretary Priti Patel has only authorized up to 5,000 Afghan refugees but UK troops on the ground have orders to "Ignore numbers and get as many people out as possible." They have been told by diplomats that the Home Office can sort out the paperwork later. The Brits have set up a temporary embassy at the Kabul airport. Staff requested to remain so they could help as many people as possible.

Others noted that some British troops have been tasked with observing US forces in case they suddenly decide to leave, because without the 6000 US troops in place, the British forces could easily be overwhelmed:

EXCLUSIVE [#kabulairport](#) [#Afghanistan](#)

Friction at airport between US & UK forces Commanders.

US forces won't leave airport due to Taliban deal.

2 Para still running patrols into Kabul to collect people from safe houses.

US unhappy with Paras saying it puts their deal at risk.

— Alex Tiffin (@RespectIsVital) [August 18, 2021](#)

Fresh video has also emerged showing the scene outside the airport, which looks like hell on earth: see [this](#).

This is what it looks like outside the north gate at the airport in Kabul. I won't mention why this location is important. I will say that the [@CENTCOM](#) commander, who agreed to allow this airport to be the primary/only evacuation point, should be dismissed/replaced immediately. [pic.twitter.com/yfvWRja7n](#)

— Bill Roggio (@billroggio) [August 18, 2021](#)

How are American nationals supposed to get to the airport through this?

Laughably, the State Department has accused the Taliban of reneging on the deal to allow Americans to get to the airport.

**Deputy Secretary of State Wendy Sherman** said

“We have seen reports that the Taliban, contrary to their public statements and their commitments to our government, are blocking Afghans who wish to leave the country from reaching the airport.”

Ya think Wendy?

[.@DeputySecState](#) Wendy Sherman: "We have seen reports that the Taliban, contrary to their public statements and their commitments to our government, are blocking Afghans who wish to leave the country from reaching the airport."

Full video here: <https://t.co/uHldWcobXg> [pic.twitter.com/xm0yzqg2Rq](#)

— CSPAN (@cspan) [August 18, 2021](#)

“Our military partners are engaging directly with the Taliban to make clear that we expect them to allow all American citizens, all 3rd country nationals and all Afghans who wish to leave to do so safely and without harassment,” she added.

Right, so while they are killing anyone they find who may have worked with the British or American governments, you're asking the Taliban nicely to not block the way are you?

[The Daily Mail reports](#) on the scenes at the airport, describing “stampeding crowds and Islamist fanatics using rifle butts and sticks to beat protesters.”

[Further horrific reports have emerged](#) of women tossing their own babies into razor wire fences toward British soldiers in an attempt to get them out of the country.

People are so desperate to escape the [#Taliban](#) that they're passing babies and kids forward to the gate at [#Kabul](#) airport. [#kabulairport](#) [#AfghanEvac](#)

[pic.twitter.com/6NSIlffrD1](https://pic.twitter.com/6NSIlffrD1)

— Matt Zeller (@mattczeller) [August 18, 2021](#)

This chaos could have been avoided, but the Biden administration scrapped existing withdrawal plans and then seemingly failed to come up with any replacement contingencies but still went ahead with the withdrawal anyway:

Interesting. Embarrassing timing to say the least. "The [#Biden](#) State Department moved in June to cancel a program overseeing the protection and evacuation of American citizens stationed overseas in the case of an emergency, just as the [#Taliban](#) was taking over [#Afghanistan](#)." <https://t.co/FvV9TrPgVT>

— Alberto Miguel Fernandez (@AlbertoMiguelF5) [August 18, 2021](#)

[The Washington Free Beacon](#) reports "The Biden State Department moved to dissolve the Trump-era crisis response program, according to an internal State Department memo and sources familiar with the matter."

The report adds "That memo, which was marked sensitive but unclassified and was signed by Deputy Secretary Brian McKeon, approved the "discontinuation of the establishment, and termination of, the Contingency and Crisis Response Bureau (CCR)," a new State Department entity created during the Trump administration to coordinate emergency response services overseas."

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