

Mapping September 11, 2001: Cartographic Narrative in the Print Media



Figure 7. "Osama's World", Time, 24 September 2001. ©TIME, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

WAR ON TERROR

The Options for Battle

THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION FACES TWO FORMIDABLE OBSTACLES IN ANY military operation in Afghanistan: the sheer inaccessibility of the country and the complicated Arab political terrain. War planners are hard at work figuring out ways to overcome both. NEWSWEEK's John Barry lays out a few theoretical possibilities for following up on Sunday's bombing campaign.



TAJIKISTAN An ideal staging area for special operations. Its Afghan border runs 10 times longer than Uzbekistan's. Air base outside Kulob town is less than 100 miles from the border.

UZBEKISTAN Forward base for about 1,000 infantry soldiers dispatched by the U.S. Army last week. Has agreed to use of air base as station for U.S. transport planes, helicopters and ground troops, but not as launching pad for attacks.



SAUDI ARABIA and EGYPT Essential rear bases. The U.S. command and control center is on Saudi soil. Egypt airspace and bases are critical to any operation originating from the south.

OMAN Host to a handful of U.S. aircraft at Thumrait air base in the south. Will allow use of Masirah Island to launch missions over the Gulf of Oman to the Pakistan coast and into Afghanistan.

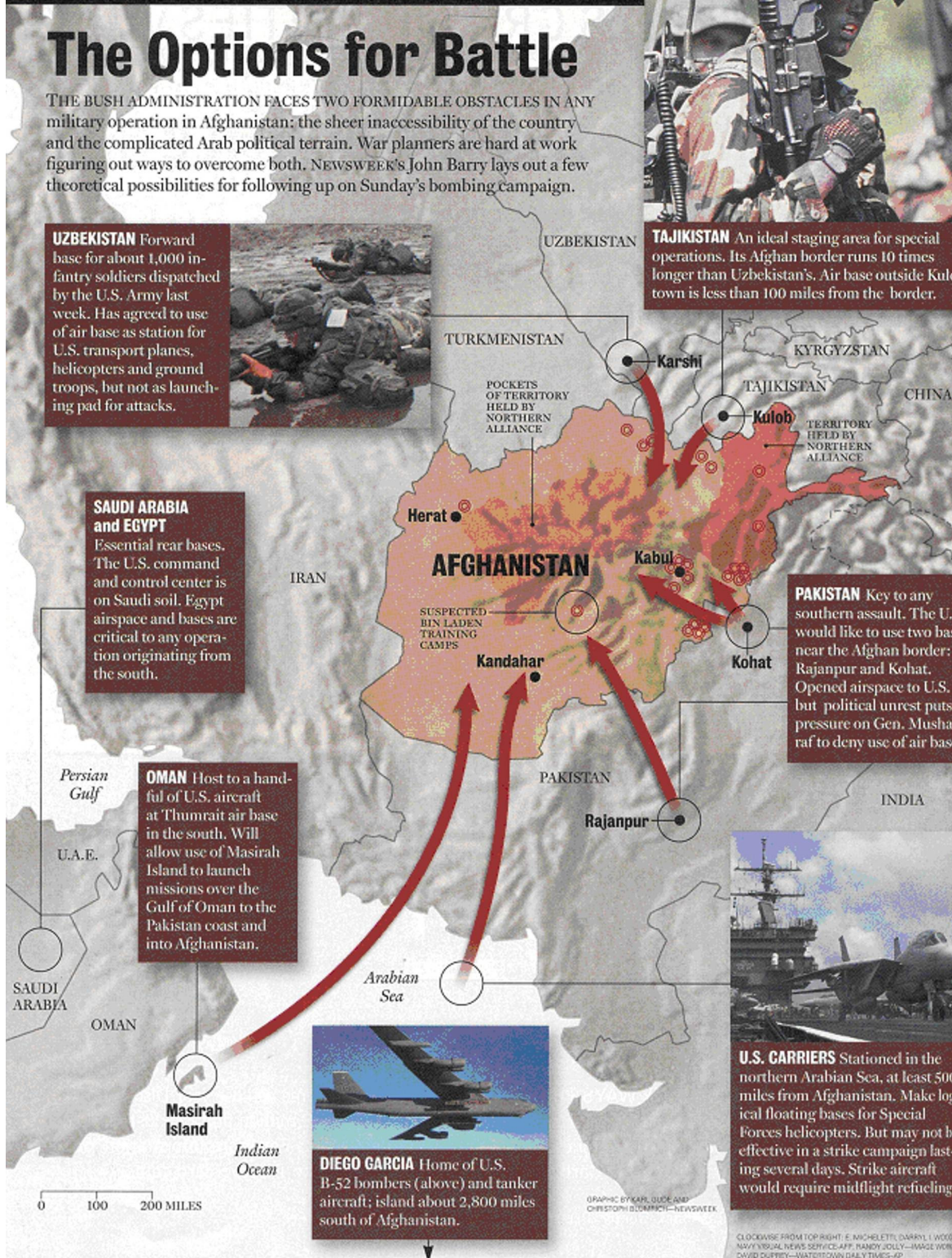
PAKISTAN Key to any southern assault. The U.S. would like to use two bases near the Afghan border: Rajanpur and Kohat. Opened airspace to U.S. but political unrest puts pressure on Gen. Musharraf to deny use of air base.



DIEGO GARCIA Home of U.S. B-52 bombers (above) and tanker aircraft; island about 2,800 miles south of Afghanistan.



U.S. CARRIERS Stationed in the northern Arabian Sea, at least 500 miles from Afghanistan. Make logical floating bases for Special Forces helicopters. But may not be effective in a strike campaign lasting several days. Strike aircraft would require midflight refueling.



GRAPHIC BY KARL GLENN AND CHRISTOPHER DUMFRICH—NEWSWEEK

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: E. MICHELETTI, DARRYL I. WOOD, NAVY VISUAL NEWS SERVICE/AF. RANDY JOLLY—IMAGE WORKS, DAVID DURETT—WATERTOWN DAILY TIMES-AP

Figure 9. "The Options for Battle", Newsweek, 15 October 2001. ©2001 Newsweek, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission.