THE AFGAN WAR DIARY

The Afghan War diary is the set of documents released by Wiki Leaks which cover a detailed report of the war in Afghanistan from 2004 to 2010.

It is a collection of 91,000 reports (with some being withheld by WikiLeaks).

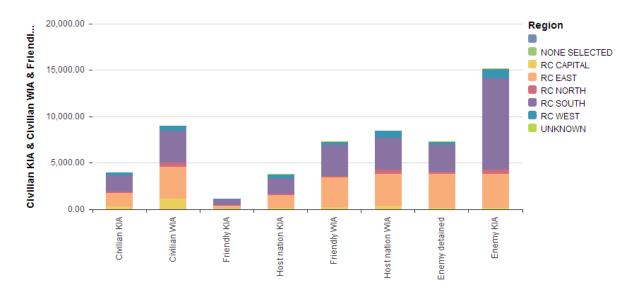
The document as it is, is not easy to understand. One cannot get the whole picture unless he/she puts some effort into it. To do away with it, and produce a visual summary of the data I used SAP Lumira.

My goal was to show the death toll (of the civilians, host, enemies and friendly units) in the Afganisthan War in a neat, concise manner.

The 3D column chart best caters to the needs. It neatly presents the count of casualties for each of the regions where the war was concentrated.

In most of my visualizations the count of wounded/killed is the measure, and the region, type of attack, category etc are the attributes.

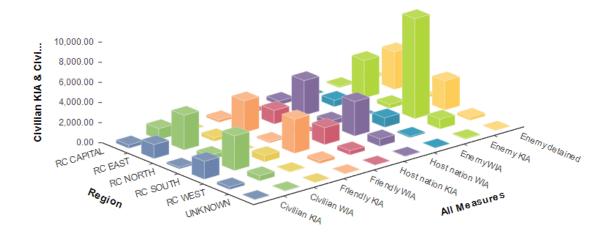
Visualizations



On the x axis of the stacked column chart are the types of casualties, the respective measures on the y axis. The colors depict the regions.

Observations:

Highest enemies and civilians were killed in RC South. This data suggests the region as a war hotspot. The majority of violet in the chart verifies the same. Next is RC East. RC East, North and Capital are relatively calmer regions.



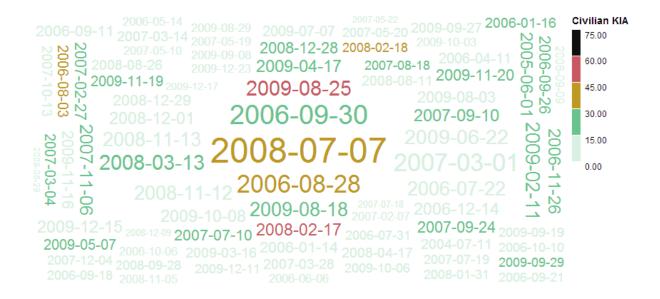
Above is a 3D column chart of casualties in each of the regions. The height of the columns (z axis) are in proportion to the number of soldiers affected.

Observations:

Regions of agitation as well as relative calm are easier to notice. This is the most effective representation of casualties in the 6 years of war. Comparison of each kind of casualty with another is straight forward.

Prominent numbers are the enemies killed in RC South (tallest light green column) and RC East, Host nation soldiers wounded in RC South and East (violet columns).

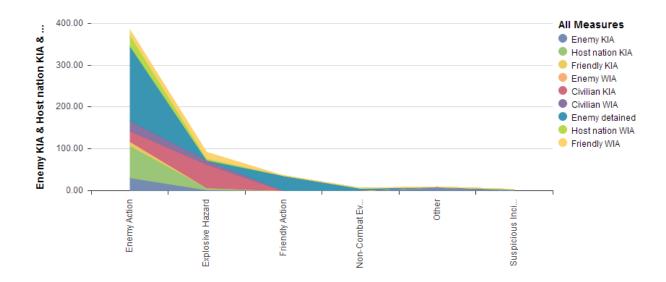
Civilian WIA and Civilian KIA by Date



In the above tag cloud each date is represented with a color intensity proportional to the civilians killed and size proportional to the civilians wounded.

Observations:

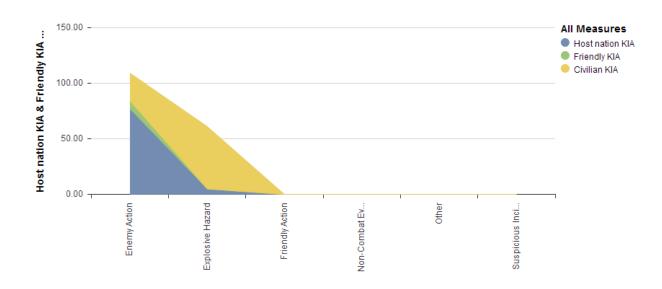
The center cluster is concentrated with high civilian killing and wounding. The 7th of July 2008 is recorded to have involved 151 civilians wounded and 42 killed. On 25th of Aug 2009 71 (highest) civilians were killed. The central portion of the tag cloud (7/7/2008, 30/9/2006, 28/8/2006, 25/8/2009) shows some of the most disastrous days in the six years of war.



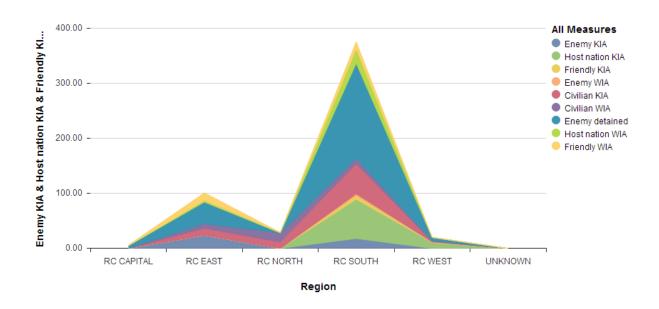
This area chart shows casualty with respect to regions and type of attack

Observations:

Enemy Action led to highest number of enemies being detained. Explosions were the cause for many of the civilian killings. Suspicious and other category events had no serious casualties.



As shown above, Enemy action and Explosions are the prominent cause for most of the Host Nation and Civilian deaths.

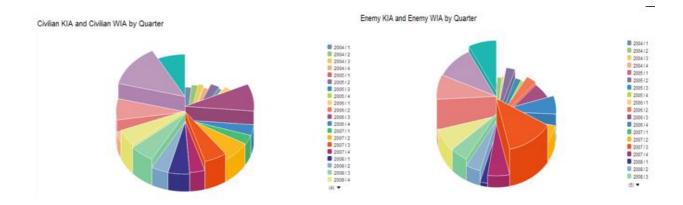


This area chart sheds light on the prominent regions involved in the war.

Observations:

Conclusions similar to the 3D column chart can be drawn. Majority of the graph is centered at RC SOUTH (the prominent peak). RC EAST follows.

RC West, North and RC Capital lie at the other end of the casualty spectrum.



These pi charts depict the losses incurred to each of the sides for every quarter.

Observations:

The 3rd quarter of 2006, 3rd and 4th quarter of 2009 resulted in around 2400 civilians being wounded and 1200 being killed.

The 2nd, 3rd and 4th quarters of 2009 incurred close to 4000 killings and around 560 enemies were wounded.

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I am pursuing my undergraduate degree at RVCE, Bangalore.

Coding and hacking are what interest me.

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