

Pakistan: South Waziristan Returns Commence

Timeline of Recent South Waziristan Displacement

May 2009 - Hundreds of families begin fleeing South Waziristan Agency (SWA) to Tank and Dera Ismail Khan Districts ahead of an anticipated confrontation between the Pakistani military and insurgents.

June 2009 - The Pakistan military estimates 45,000 people fled SWA as airstrikes against militants escalated.

September 2009 - More than 80,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) from SWA are registered in host districts. No formal displacement camps are established. Most stay with host families or in rented accommodations.

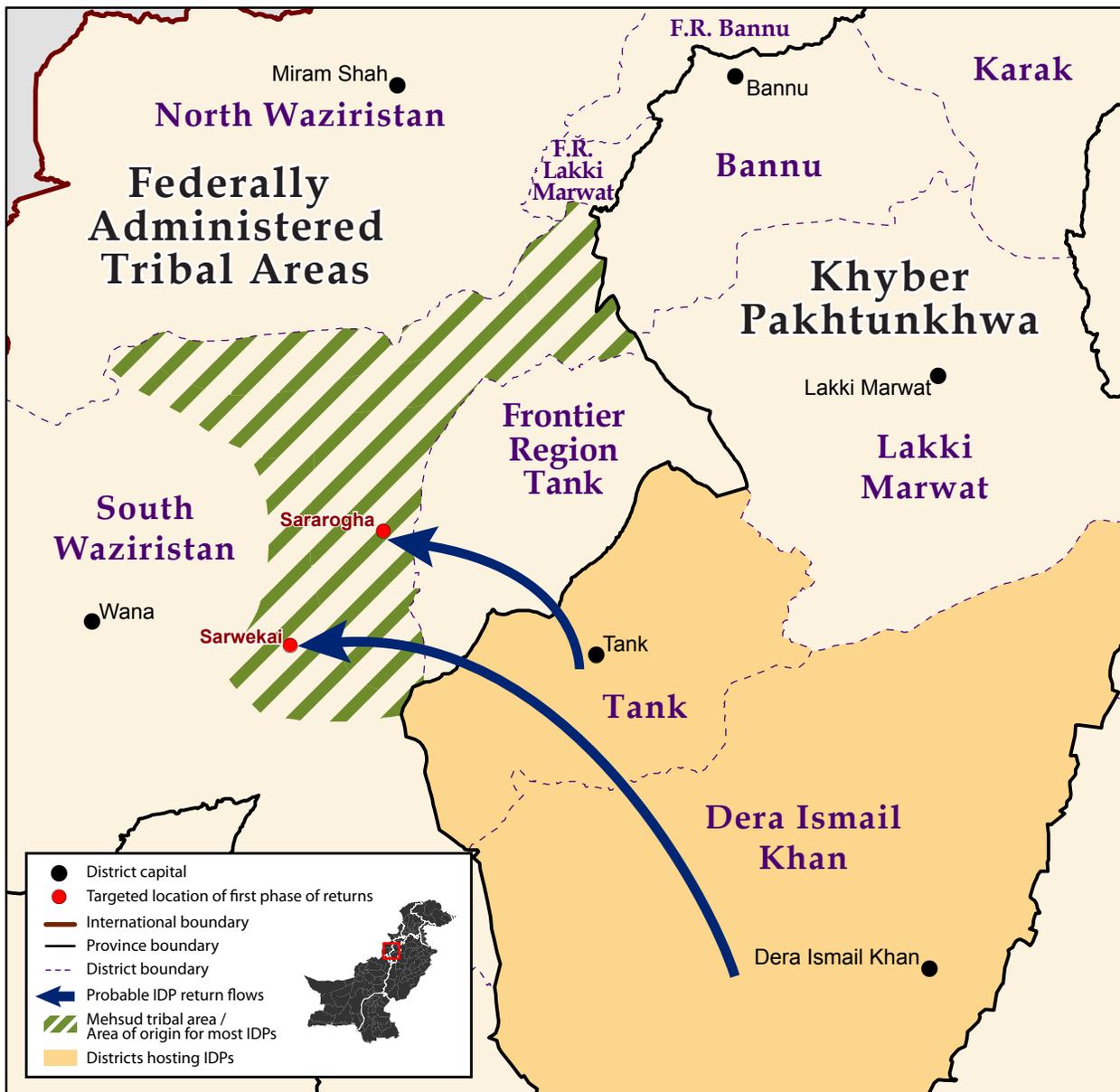
October 2009 - Following a month of increased military operations, the total number of people fleeing swells to approximately 400,000.

December 2009 - About 430,000 IDPs are registered by year's end. Authorities verify that only about 260,000 are eligible for government relief aid.

January - May 2010 - Government officials verify more than 300,000 IDPs eligible for government aid. No new significant displacements.

July - September 2010 - Destructive flooding across large swaths of the country disrupt plans for the return of IDPs to SWA.

October - November 2010 - UNHCR conducts a survey among IDPs from SWA. 85% of 2,000 respondents want to return to their homes, 70% of those want to return immediately or within the next six months.



Names and boundary representation are not necessarily authoritative.

Sources: USG, UNHCR, UN OCHA, Reuters, Dawn

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