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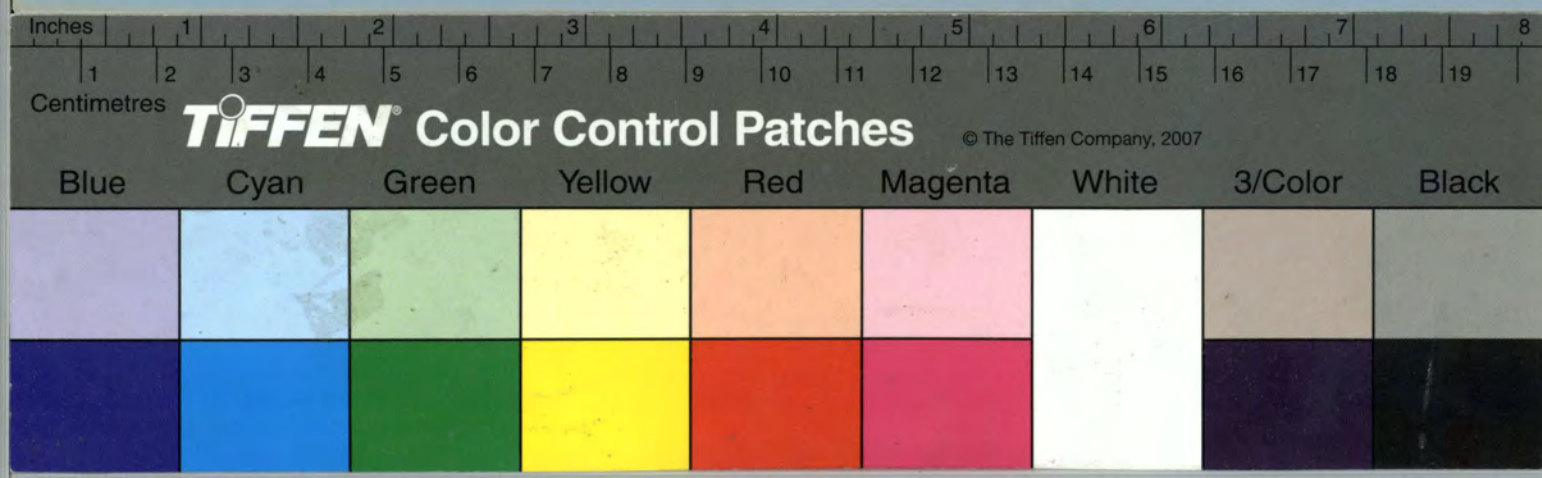
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AFGHANISTAN - CR - 374, 375

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Country Photographs - Afghanistan - Credit Signings 374, 375 - Photograph

CR-374-AF-1
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INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (IDA)

Washington, D.C. 20433

CR-374-AF-1

CR-375-AF-1 On May 2, 1973, the INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (IDA), an affiliate of the WORLD BANK, made two credits totaling \$11.5 million to Afghanistan. One credit equivalent to \$9.0 million will assist in increasing production and export of meat and in creating additional job opportunities in the country's dominant rural sector. The other credit equivalent to \$2.5 million will assist the Afghan Air Authority (AAA) to finance improvements in the air navigation services in Afghanistan.

The credit for livestock development in the Herat region is the largest single operation for IDA in Afghanistan, a landlocked country. With a population of 15 million, Afghanistan is one of the most populous of the 25 countries designated as "least developed" by the United Nations. It is also one of the poorest with a per capita income of about \$80.

The Government of Afghanistan will provide the balance of the financing for improvements in the air navigation services which is expected to cost \$3.1 million. It includes the construction and equipping of a new Flight Information Center (FIC) at Kabul, the provision of technical assistance to help establish a new entity, Air Navigation Services (ANS), to provide efficient air navigation services to international and domestic traffic in the Afghan airspace. Also provided for is a feasibility study and detailed engineering for a proposed new airport in the Logar Valley to serve the Kabul area. The project is scheduled for completion in 1978.

Among those present at the signings of the credit documents were, from left to right: Kwaku Gyasi-Twum, Alternate Executive Director of IDA for Afghanistan; His Excellency Abdullah Malikyar, Ambassador of Afghanistan; Mr. Munir P. Benjenk, Regional Vice President of IDA.

Photo: Edwin G. Huffman for IDA