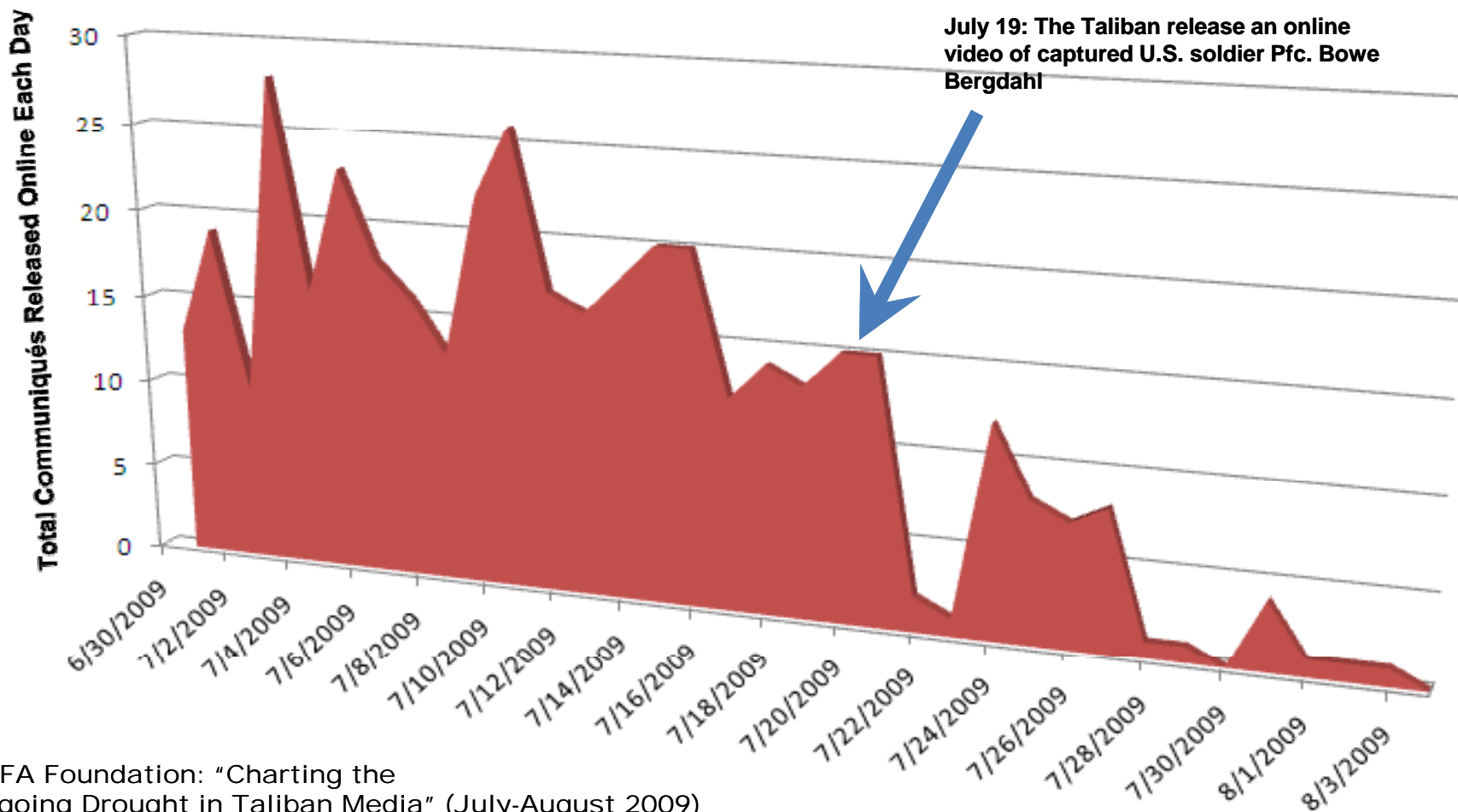


Charting the Ongoing Drought in Taliban Media

By NEFA Senior Investigator Evan F. Kohlmann



NEFA Foundation: "Charting the Ongoing Drought in Taliban Media" (July-August 2009)

Over the past few weeks, the number of daily communiqués and statements issued online by the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan (the Taliban) has been dramatically curtailed without any explanation from the Taliban. Though neither the U.S. government nor U.S. military have commented on the issue, the major dip in Taliban communications activity seems to have occurred directly following the Taliban capture of U.S. soldier Pfc. Bowe Bergdahl and the release of an Internet video of Bergdahl. As of August 5, 2009, almost all of the major propaganda websites and jihad newsfeeds operated by the Afghan Taliban are unresponsive or have been knocked offline by unidentified culprits.