

THE FLOOD

Issue #26, Volume 1

The Afghan National Army proudly serving the people of Afghanistan

May 24, 2010

We appreciate the participation and guidance of the Ministry of Defense personnel in the Commander's Conference at the 201st Corps headquarters. The conference will help with better coordination for security across the 201st Corps area.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Ramin Sahmadi, 201st Corps photographer

(right) Maj. Gen. Mohammed Raheem Wardak, commanding general of the 201st Corps listens to a briefing at Camp Pol-e-Charki recently with a member of the NATO training mission, and Brig. Gen. Clarence Chinn, deputy commanding general of the 82nd Airborne Division.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Ramin Sahmadi, 201st Corps photographer

Distinguished visitor

(right) Lt. Gen. Quesada Pastor, chief of the joint Portuguese command, presents a plaque of appreciation to Maj. Gen. Ghulam Heider (center), executive officer, 201st Corps. (left) Lt. Col. Enrique A. Araniz, chief of staff, Gavin Tactical Command - 1 was on hand at the ceremony and helped congratulate Heider. Pastor visited the 201st Corps headquarters on Camp Pol-e-Charki recently to meet with Portuguese troops stationed here and to talk to the leadership of the 201st Corps.

Commander's Comments

Struggling against corruption is the task of every ANA soldier. We joined the ANA with honesty and it is required we finish our tasks with honesty.

The equipment and authority that the Afghan government and international community has given to the ANA is for us to serve the people, the country and to eradicate corruption from Afghanistan.

I expect all of the 201st Corps headquarters personnel to execute your tasks correctly. Do your supply on time, take care of your personnel, increase your personnel's combat abilities and ensure 100 percent security in your area of responsibility.

The ANA must continue to defend our territory and struggle for our nations benefit. The ANA has a high combat readiness. If we keep training the enemies of Afghanistan will never achieve victory.

Maj. Gen. Mohammed Raheem Wardak
Commanding General, 201st Corps

201st Corps focuses on increasing security on highway between Kabul and Kandahar



Photo by Sgt. Rahmuddin Dilsoz, 201st Corps photographer

Maj. Mohammed Gul, executive officer, 2nd Kandak, 1st Brigade, 201st Corps gives a security brief to officers from the 201st Corps at Midon Wardak Province recently to discuss security concerns on the main highway from Kabul to Kandahar.

Story by Col. Neman Hatefi
Public Affairs Officer, 201st Corps

Midon Wardak Province - Recently officers from the 201st Corps headquarters met with officers from the 1st Brigade, 201st Corps to discuss security concerns along the main highway connecting the central city of Kabul to the southern city of Kandahar.

According to Maj. Mohammad Gul, executive officer, 2nd Kandak, 1st Brigade, 201st Corps the highway is of great importance because it connects the capital city of Afghanistan with Kandahar, a large city in the south.

The highway also connects Kabul to many other cities along the way including Bamyán, Ghazi, Logar and Parwan Provinces.

More than 700,000 people live close to the highway. It passes through more than 1,900 villages and eight districts includ-

ing Jalrez, Hesai Awal of Besod, Besod, Nakh, Chakh, Daimeardak, Seid Abad and Jaghto districts.

Most of the people in the region speak Pashto and Dari. About 70% are Pashtun, 10% Tajik and 20% are Hazara.

The majority of the population are land owners in Midon Wardak Province.

The 2nd Kandak, 1st Brigade personnel are responsible for manning more than 15 combat outposts along the highway at Jalrez, Narkh, Hesai Awal Besod and Daimardad District of Midon Wardak Province.

The 2nd Kandak personnel conduct different types of training at both the kandak and company level to help them maintain their combat readiness.

Therefore with the support of U.S. mentors the 2nd Kandak personnel

conduct commander's courses, platoon leader's courses, logistics training, management training, weapons training and noncommissioned officer leadership courses.

Recently the 2nd personnel found three RPG-7 rounds, three mortar rounds, more than two boxes of Dashiki rounds and several pressure cookers with explosive devices attached in the Kohnai Khomar Village in Mer dam District.

The 2nd Kandak headquarters also recently built a mosque, two shower containers, two barracks, a dining facility, a maintenance area and issued 200 copies of the Holy Quran and 200 praying mats.

The personnel of the 2nd Kandak will continue to protect the highway and the people of Afghanistan so they can move freely and safely.

4th Kandak noncommissioned officers graduate from recent leadership course



Brig. Gen. Yar Mohammad Sayeedi, commanding general of the 201st Corps, speaks at the graduation ceremony for the noncommissioned officer leadership course of the 4th Kandak, 1st Brigade, 201st corps.

Story by Sgt. 1st Class Atiqullah
201st Corps Public Affairs

Camp Malalee, Logar Province - Recently 26 noncommissioned officers from the 4th Kandak, 1st Brigade, 201st Corps graduated from a two-week NCO leadership course here.

Upon completion of the course the graduates were recognized for their achievement in a graduation ceremony.

The ceremony was held at the 4th Kandak headquarters and was attended by many high-ranking officials including Brig. Gen. Yar Mohammad, the deputy commanding general of the 201st Corps, Col. Ghulam Murtaza, the executive officer of 1st brigade, 201st Corps, Col.

Sanam Gul, commanding officer, 4th Kandak, 1st Brigade and several U.S. mentors.

As is traditional, the ceremony began with the reading of versus from the Holy Quran and the playing of the Afghanistan and American National anthem.

When everyone had returned to their seats, Yar Mohammad addressed the crowd. "I am very proud of these ANA Soldiers," he said. "With the support of their U.S. mentors, they have graduated as leaders, and right now these NCOs can save the life of their comrades."

Mohammad stated that he appreciated

the assistance and hardwork of the U.S. mentors and requested the mentors conduct more classes on leadership, weapon live-firing training, and management courses for ANA personnel at the 4th Kandak headquarters.

Army Capt. Meichle Torbean, a battalion chaplain assigned to the 173rd Brigade also spoke at the ceremony.

"These Soldiers have worked very hard during this course," he said. "They've learned a lot during these two weeks including land navigation, medical training, and marksmanship."

The ceremony concluded with the presentation of certificates to the graduates.



Afghan National Army Soldiers from the 4th Kandak, 1st Brigade, 201st Corps are presented graduation certificates for completing the noncommissioned officer leadership course.



201st Corps Soldiers speak up



Afghan National Army Soldier Qalamuddin is currently serving with 3rd company, 2nd Kandak, 1st Brigade, 201st Corps.

Qalamuddin is one of several Soldiers serving at the Badam Brigade observation post.

"The ANA have a responsibility to defend their country," said Qalamuddin. "Afghan National Army Soldiers should fight against the enemies of Afghanistan. They will increase the national pride and honor the heritage of their grandfathers that fought for the independence of Afghanistan. "We should follow their way and guidance to make a better Afghanistan."

As an Afghan National Army Soldier, you are doing Jihad by serving your people and your country.



Afghan National Army Specialist Ali Shah, son of Khoshhal, is currently serving with the 3rd company, 2nd Kandak, 1st Brigade of 201st Corps.

He is serving as a security guard at the highway observation post of Kabul and Kandahar located in the Pual Sorkh area.

"I have been serving in the ANA for a couple years," he said. "Based on the guidance of our commander we execute our job with loyalty and honesty. "It is a great privilege for ANA Soldiers to defend their country and people in the struggle against the enemies of Afghanistan."

"It is a great privilege for ANA Soldiers to defend their country and people in the struggle against the enemies of Afghanistan."



Sgt. Abdul Qudos, 2nd Kandak, 1st Brigade, 201st Corps, a permanent resident of Khoja Barhan Village, Tash Quarghan District, Mazir Shareef Province has been serving in the Afghan National Army for seven years

"We ensure security in Kabul and Khandahar," said Qudos. "We escort large supply convoys and make sure they arrive safely."

"The enemies use light and heavy weapons and commonly attack us at the Andar bridge area near Badam Village and in the area of Hazchar," said Qudos.

However, they know that the Soldiers of the 2nd Kandak have high combat readiness and will not be able to defeat us.

Yesterday I was a brave Soldier, I am still a brave Soldier today. Yesterday I had a love for my country, I still love my country today.

Col. Mohammad Neman Hatefi
201st Corps public affairs officer, Dari editor

Maj. M. Osman Khamoosh
201st Corps deputy public affairs officer, assistant editor

Capt. Tice Ridley
Gavin Tactical Command public affairs officer

Sgt. 1st Class Atiqullah Wali-zadha
201st Corps public affairs noncommissioned officer in charge

Sgt. 1st Class Mirvies Sabory
201st Corps staff journalist

Sgt. Raftullah Mohibat
201st Corps staff photographer

Sgt. Brent C. Powell
Gavin Tactical Command Public Affairs NCOIC

Sgt. Dan Caudill
Gavin Tactical Command, video production

Staff Sgt. Ramin Sahmadi
201st Corps staff journalist

Sgt. Rahmuddin Dilsoz
201st Corps Photographer

Rezashah Zahery
201st Corps public affairs interpreter

Farhad Shierzad
201st Corps public affairs interpreter



To contact The Flood staff please send an email to: brent.c.powell@afghan.swa.army.mil

This newsletter is authorized by the Department of Defense for members of the military service in Afghanistan, both Afghan National Army with the 201st Corps and U.S. Army and Marine Corps serving in or attached to the 82nd Airborne Division. However, the content of The Flood is unofficial and should not be considered as the official views of, or endorsed by the U.S. or Afghan government. As a DoD newsletter, The Flood may be distributed through official channels and use military funds for distribution to remote locations where the 201st Corps and the Combined Action team are located. Some Soldiers may only be identified by their first name in order to protect their families, or they may not even be named at all. Because Soldier is a rank in the ANA, it is capitalized when it comes before a name or is used to cover all personnel in a unit regardless of rank. Soldier is lowercased when used as the plural of the lowest rank in the ANA.