



THE FLOOD



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The Afghan National Army proudly serving the people of Afghanistan

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Commander's Comments

- Utilize your vehicles on-hand properly and be cautious in their maintenance at all times. Also, be care full to maintain military bearing while driving government vehicles on and off post.
- Take care of government property at all times, performing maintenance on it as it is both your Islamic and military responsibility.
- Act in accordance with military discipline and abide by the regulations. Having good behavior with subordinate echelons on and off post, and with people, gives credit to the military. It also upholds the prestige of the military uniform.
- It is crucial to mention that, as the servants of the nation, we have the trust of the people whose sons are sharing with us in delivering services to the nation. Thus, we should treat them as our family members. Together, as we are going forward delivering services to the people, we will be blessed by God.

The 201st Corps Deputy Commanding General meets 2nd Brigade Soldiers in the Kunar Province

Recently, Brigadier General Yar Mohammed "Sayeedi," of the 201st Corps headquarter staff visited the 2nd Brigade area of operations in the Kunar province.

Some of the stops in the battlefield circulation included Camp Sarkani and the districts of Asmar, Soukai, Khas Kuner and Asad Abad.

Sayeedi inspected the living conditions and discussed personnel problems with leaders.

After inspecting each AO, Sayeedi discussed solutions to problems with the corresponding officer in charge and provided them with guidance.

During a meeting, Sayeedi stated that Afghan security forces, the Afghan National Army in particular, are gaining recognition for their efforts in vigorously taking a firm stand against international terrorism to defend the territory.

"It is obvious that the ANA is becoming admired both locally and internationally," said Sayeedi. "This admiration is expanding day by day," he said.

Sayeedi attributes this recognition to the fact that the troops are willing to give of themselves to the point of sacrifice under the ANA motto of God, Country and Mission.

"All of this originates from bravery, professional training, the love of the homeland, and fulfilling of your mission," said Sayeedi.

He admonished the troops that he visited to keep giving that same level of effort.

"You have been fulfilling your assigned duties in a praiseworthy manner," said Sayeedi. "With a firm belief, and high morals you do not hesitate to give a hundred percent of your effort in accomplishing your missions."



2nd Brigade, 201st Corps completes short term Field Artillery Course

Recently Afghan National Army Soldiers from the Combat Support Kandak, 2nd Brigade, 201st Corps improved their artillery skills and combat readiness by completing a short term Field Artillery Course.

The training course was conducted for the Battery Company personnel at the 201st Corps' Gambery Garrison, and was developed by the 2nd Brigade executive officer, Maj. Ahmad Jan, artillery officer, 2nd Brigade to increase units' combat readiness.

The course has been well received by Maj. Gen. Ghulam Haidar, executive officer, 201st Corps, Brig. Gen. Mohammad Nasim "Sangeen", executive officer, 2nd Brigade, and Col. Ehsanullah, artillery officer, 201st Corps.

3rd Brigade, 201st Corps gets newly appointed executive officer

Many Afghan National Army officers and Soldiers of the 201st Corps gathered together recently to welcome a new member into their ranks.

Col. Enayatullah "Barak," a master of military training, was recently introduced as the new executive officer for the 3rd Brigade, 201st Corps.

Col. Emam Nazar, commanding officer, 3rd Brigade, 201st Corps, stated that assigning professional personnel such as Col. Enayatullah at the 201st Corps units will result in higher combat readiness and effectiveness.

Col. Enayatullah stated that he appreciated the confidence of the high authorities at the Ministry of Defense, and the General Chief of Staff. He promised that he will implement all the guidance of 201st Corps and he looks forward to the challenges that lie ahead.



201st Corps executive officer visits 3rd Kandak, 1st Brigade

The 201st corps executive officer, Maj. Gen. Ghulam Haidar along with additional members of the 201st Corps and members of the Coalition Forces recently visited the troops and facilities of 3rd kandak, 1st brigade at the newly formed Gambery Garrison in Eastern Afghanistan.

The Afghan National Army Soldiers had just recently returned from operations in Kandahar and are now stationed at Gambery Garrison.

Haidar met with officers and Soldiers of the brigade and discussed their needs and concerns. He offered his advice and his assistance for future operations and future needs of the brigade.



Col. Enayatullah "Barak", newly appointed executive officer for the 3rd Brigade, 201st Corps speaks to fellow officers after being officially welcomed.

The History of the Landmine

The word 'Mine' is derived from the Latin word 'mina' and was originally applied to the excavation of minerals from the earth. Military engineers, whose job it was to dig land mines in the ground during sieges, then borrowed the term.

By the 14th century, gunpowder was in military use and had a profound effect on all future conflicts. By 1530, experiments had been conducted in the use of land mines in Sicily and southern Italy. These earliest land mines were known as fougasses and were essentially underground cannons that showered rocks and debris over a wide area.

Although the fougass had the potential to stop a massed attack, it was frequently unreliable and had two serious limitations.

First, the gunpowder used was hygroscopic, absorbing water from the air and was, consequently, losing its explosive ability.

Secondly, fougasses could only be detonated by lighting a powder trail which was subject to the effects of rain, wind and moisture.

The earliest description of a pressure-operated land mine is provided by the German military historian H. Frieher von Flemming in 1726. In his book he describes the appearance of a fladdermine (literally meaning a flying mine).

According to Flemming, the flying mine consisted of a ceramic container with glass and metal fragments embedded in the clay. The container held gunpowder, buried at a shallow depth and placed around a fortress.

The mine was activated by someone stepping on it or touching a low strung wire.

Although this was the first reported pressure-operated mine, it was not until the second half of the 19th century that these mines became a regular feature of warfare.

The first devices designed to explode on 'target-contact' were the floating mines employed by the US Confederate Navy in 1861. Reference to these mines was made during the Battle of Williamsburg in 1862, where the Confederates adapted shells so as to surprise the Union vanguard.

These floating mines consisted of a steel tank which contained scrap metal. The receptacle for the charge was a case of sheet iron with a heavy base and a strong cap of cast iron connected together by a stout spindle.



Col. Najibullah, engineering officer, 201st Corps



Various types of landmines found in Afghanistan

When the charge exploded, the light sides of the case were blown out, and the top, which was retained in its place by the spindle and base, gave a horizontal direction to the contents of the tank.

The development of the electrical initiation system in the second half of the 19th century greatly improved the utility of the fougasse by allowing reliable and instant firing.

The Russians pioneered the use of electrically-initiated fougasse when it was used during the siege of Silistria 1828 – 1829.

Unfortunately, land mines are not just a thing of the past. Approximately every 22 minutes, one person, somewhere in the world is killed or injured by a land mine.

Land mines are not just a cause of concern for war fighters. Poor people who live in rural areas are faced with the problems of land mines everyday.

It is estimated that one hundred million uncleared land mines lay in fields and alongside the roads and footpaths of one-third of the countries in the developing world.

Claiming over 500 victims a week, land mines are weapons of mass destruction in slow motion.

What happens at the Pol-e-Charki Garrison?

The Pol-e-Charki Garrison was created when the Afghan National Army was first established in Afghanistan according to the authorization of the Ministry of Defense and the General Chief of Armed Staff establishing the base at Pol-e-Charki in Kabul Province.

The key tasks that the Garrison performed were the distribution of logistic supplies, maintenance of base installations, medical treatment of personnel at the clinic and various combat missions with subordinate units.

Beside these missions, the Pol-e-Charki Garrison personnel maintain security in their area of responsibilities. The security guard company searches vehicles and civilians coming onto the base everyday and keeps track of everyone coming and going.

The Garrison personnel, during the performance of their missions and patrols, have had some noteworthy achievements.

One such achievement was the arrest of a person who was trying to kidnap a Pol-e-Charki high school student. The student was safely delivered to the school principle and the kidnapper was turned over to the criminal department.

Garrison Soldiers have also found explosive material on the highway between Kabul and Jalalabad saving countless lives.

When local traffic accidents happen, the injured are often transferred to the Pol-e-Charki clinic for treatment. The seriously injured are transferred to the central hospitals of Kabul by Garrison ambulances.

The garrison continues to conduct an assortment of missions in it's area of responsibility.

A few months ago the Garrison personnel participated in a massive rescue mission of people trapped in



The Pol-e-Charki Garrison commander Col. Abdul Hadi Faheem

an avalanche at Salang Pass saving thousands of lives.

The Garrison has conducted several construction projects including work on the Kabul River Bridge, a road project connecting Ghazi Abad area villages with Pol-e-Charki village and the excavation of wells at different parts of Kabul City.

With the support of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) the garrison has provided school supplies to local high schools and kindergartens as well as food and clothing to local people.

Garrison personnel also conduct professional training for their Soldiers with the assistance of the Consolidated Fielding Center including religious and culture classes, literacy courses, computer and English language courses, as well as driving and tactical courses.

The garrison's actions are based on guidance from the Ministry of Defense and the General Chief of Armed Staff and it stands ready to execute any mission it's given.

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