**Quote of the Day**

Laws alone cannot secure freedom of expression; in order that every man present his views without penalty there must be spirit of tolerance towards the entire population.

-Albert Einstein (1879 - 1955)

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**Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction**

**5,000 ANA Soldiers Quit Service in Single Year**

KABUL - A new report issued by the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (SIGAR) shows that 5,000 Afghan National Army (ANA) soldiers quit their jobs. According to SIGAR, the loss of 8.5 percent of the ANA’s force to attrition has left it with a million number of troops, the people it had at the start of last year.

General Abdul Hadi, head of the Afghan Ministry of Defense (MoD) published a press statement on March 19, maintaining that the 15,000 figure in fact makes up just 3.3 percent of the 480,000 ANA personnel.

HERAT - Western Herat City will likely remain shallow for two days after the people’s council called for an immediate resumption of electricity rate cuts.

Rashid Shabani, a resident in about two weeks after dozens of residents including religious scholars staged a protest demanding that they claimed skyrocketing electricity bills.

The Herat People’s Council warned if the government didn’t fulfill their demands, the people would not pay their bills, and would begin to protest further.

"This is the first stage of our protest," protestor Abdul Hadi, who said the Herat people’s council is not fully satisfied, the people’s council.

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**Fate of Snap-Trapped Villagers Unknown**

TAJIKAN - Avalanches triggered by heavy snowfall has isolated residents at least seven villages in Aqcha district of northern Tachkent province for the past nine days, an official said on Wednesday. About a hundred residents are stranded in the avalanche, according to the statement.

A team of eleven villagers went to the avalanche-affected areas to help the stranded villagers, but they were forced to return home. According to the statement, at least 25 foreign soldiers were among those killed. The statement further states that including seven insurgents were killed in the operations carried out separately in Nangarhar, Takhar, Kunduz, Sar-e

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**121 Insurgents Killed in Fresh Clearance Operations**

KABUL - 121 insurgents have been killed in clearance operations across the country. A statement issued by the Ministry of Interior Wednesday states that the operations were conducted in past 24 hours. According to the statement, 25 foreign soldiers were among those killed. The statement further states that including seven insurgents were killed in the operations carried out separately in Nangarhar, Takhar, Kunduz, Sar-e

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**Afghan Pilot among Women of Courage**

WASHINGTON - Captain Tamara Landrume of the male-female mixed fighter aircraft crew of the US Navy’s women’s flight team has been selected for the prestigious International Women of Courage Award for the year 2015.

The announcement was made on March 6, with eight others from various parts of the world. The other recipients include an American woman, a Kenyan woman, an Indian woman, an Israeli woman and an Egyptian woman. The women were chosen for their work in varying fields.

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**31 Water Reservoirs Built**

AIBAK - Construction work on 31 water reservoirs that supply water to 6,000 hectares of farmland in northern Samangan province, as said on Wednesday. Eng. Abdul Majid Kiazibeh, in charge of the National Horticulture Livestock Projects (NHP), told Pajhwok Afghan News the project, which is the first of its kind provided by the World Bank, with the benefit parties paying a 25 percent of the total project. The project areas were constructed... (More on Pajhwok)