



President Karzai looks over light weapons after the vehicle and weapons transfer ceremony in Pol-e-charkhi.



Photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Scott Cohen

## Afghanistan receives vehicles, weapons from U.S.

**KABUL, Afghanistan** — The United States transferred 213 up-armored HMMWVs and more than 12,000 light weapons to the Afghan National Army during a ceremony Feb. 2 at Depot 2 in Pol-e-charkhi.

This transfer is the largest of more than 800 various up-armored vehicles for the ANA, according to President Hamid Karzai, president of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.

“This is only the tip of the mountain of deliveries ... you will see many things the U.S. is committed to give Afghanistan in order to support the defense force,” Karzai said. “We appreciate both current and future donations.”

According to Maj. Gen. Abdul Rahim Wardak, minister of defense, the vehicles and weapons will help the ANA gain the capability to conduct independent operations.

“This dramatically increases ANA mobility, assault and survivability,” Wardak said. “By Allah’s aid, and the backing of the Afghan people, these vehicles and weapons will help us defend the country and challenge all threats in the most hazardous area of the Asian continent.”



“Today we are very happy and proud of our national army,” Karzai said. “We appreciate its minister, chief of general staff, officers and, mostly, its noncommissioned officers and soldiers. This country will be forever in their debt.

“Let’s take care of these vehicles and weapons bought with millions of U.S. taxpayer dollars,” the president added. “We should be grateful for the delivery of this equipment and use them in the correct way.” 

Photos available upon request to [stacia.c.zachary@afghan.swa.army.mil](mailto:stacia.c.zachary@afghan.swa.army.mil)