

# review the



**Postcard** A gig at NYUAD brings together regional artists who rock **r2**



**Music** Tune in to the best British artist you've probably never heard of **r3**



**Books** Simon Sebag Montefiore's tabloid romp through Russian history **r4**



The civil-military unit Provincial Reconstruction Team Zabul provide security as engineers inspect a road project in Qalat, Zabul province, Afghanistan, in 2011. Sgt Brian Ferguson / US Air Force via Getty Images

# America's longest war

Since 2001, the United States has spent \$110 billion on the reconstruction of Afghanistan. But instead of ordinary Afghans benefitting from this avalanche of funds, it's private companies who have profited most. [Antony Loewenstein](#) investigates the workings of disaster capitalism **r6**