

Large-Scale Military Operation to Kick off in Nangarhar

JALALABAD - A large-scale military operation is scheduled to be launched in eastern Nangarhar province. Spokesperson for the provincial governor said that the operation would kick off before armed opponents start their spring offensive. Atallah Khogyani told Azadi Radio that the operation would be carried out in Khogyani, Achin, Chaparhar, Haska Mina, Bati Kot and some other districts. This comes amid fears that Taliban would rampant their activities after the failure of the Quadrilateral Coordination



Group (QCG) efforts to bring them to the negotiation table with government. The group set withdrawal of all foreign forces from Afghanistan, prisoners release and removal of its members from the sanction or blacklist as their pre-conditions for sitting with government. QCG was formed by Afghanistan, Pakistan, the United States and China after peace talks with Taliban halted following the confirmation of the demise of the group's supreme leader Mullah Mohammad Omar. (KP)

8 Militants Killed, 10 Injured in Kunduz

KUNDUZ - Eight Taliban militants were killed and 10 others sustained injuries as the government forces targeted Taliban hideouts in parts of the northern Kunduz province Saturday, an army spokesman in the province Nasratullah Jamshidi said. The operations, according to the official, have covered Alchin and Taloki areas outside provincial capital of Kunduz city. Meantime, Zabihullah Mujahid who claims to speak for the Taliban outfit in contact with media confirmed fighting with security forces in Taloki area outside Kunduz city, saying the militants destroyed two battle tanks on Friday, inflicting casualties on the government soldiers. However, Jamshidi disputed Taliban claim, contending no security personnel has been hurt in the area over the past two days. Parts of the northern Kunduz province along the border with Tajikistan have been the scene of Taliban-led militancy over the past few years. (Xinhua)

Helmand Child Contracts Polio despite Receiving Drops

LASHKARGAH - Despite receiving polio drops seven times, a child has contracted polio in the Nawzad district of southern Helmand province, an official said on Saturday. Public Health Department official Dr. Abdul Ahad Hazim told reporters in Lashkargah that the polio case had been registered in Barang Karez area of Nawzad district. "The child had been administered polio drops seven times, but still he contracted the disease," he said, adding the child was above the age of five years. "We are trying to know how the virus remains



in his body." He said it was possible the infected child had a weak immune system. Dr. Hazim said anti-polio vaccination campaigns were underway in various districts of Helmand. However, he said the vaccination had been suspended in areas where clashes were underway and would be resumed once the ...*(More on P4)...(15)*

War Victim Resolute in Supporting His Family

KABUL - With no end in sight to the ongoing Afghan war, one thing is clear - the war has taken a heavy toll on the nation. The scale of destruction and chaos as a result of the war has been extensive, but despite the challenges thousands of Afghans are resolute in making the most of their lives - even those who are disabled. Haidar, a 35-year-old Takhar province resident, is one of thousands of such victims, who despite having lost both his hands as a result of the conflict, he has refused to let his disability get the better of him. Determined to support his five-member family, Haidar runs a vegetable stall at a Kabul market where he serves his customers as any able-bodied person would. TOLONews got to speak to Haidar about his challenges. (Tolonews)

Use of Pakistani Rupees Raises Concerns in Nangarhar

JALALABAD - A number of civil society activists and residents of Nangarhar have raised concerns over the use of Pakistani Rupees instead of Afghanis in the province's markets and have criticized local government for not putting a stop to this. They said more than 90 percent of Nangarhar residents use Pakistani Rupees in their daily business transactions and that the main reason is political pressure from Pakistan, which has resulted in the prolific use of the curren-



cy in the eastern Afghan province. "All business is done with Pakistani Rupees; even a driver takes Pakistani Rupees when we want to go somewhere," said a resident of Nangarhar. According to other Nangarhar residents, millions of Rupees are used in the province but the local government has failed to stop the practice. "Sometimes, Pakistani Rupees are used by a number ...*(More on P4)...(19)*

Road Accident Kills 11: Official

KABUL - An Afghan official says at least 11 people have been killed in a road accident just outside the western city of Herat. Rauf Ahmadi, spokesman for the provincial police chief, said Saturday that three vehicles were involved in the fatal crash, which wounded another seven people. He says the crash was the ...*(More on P4)...(16)*

Joblessness Forcing Kunduz Youth into Joining Rebels

KUNDUZ CITY - Joblessness, poverty and government's inattention has left the youth in northeastern Kunduz province with no option but to join the militancy, officials said on Saturday. Abdul Ghafor Hottak, youth affairs director at the Information and Culture Department, said hundreds of educated youth despite efforts had been unable to get jobs in government offices because they had no connections there. "A majority of these young men with bachelor's degrees from the Kunduz University have joined Taliban militants," he said, add-



ing three of the youth joining rebels were now commanders. Hottak continued the three commanders were currently operating in Dast-i-Archi district, expressing his concern that more youth could join militancy if the government paid no attention to creating job opportunities. However, provincial Labour and Social Affairs Director, ...*(More on P4)...(18)*

At Least 3 Killed As Floods Wreak Havoc in Uruzgan

TIRINKOT - Flash floods killed three people and forced hundreds of families into leaving their homes in central Uruzgan province, officials said on Saturday. Triggered by continuous rains, the

floods caused financial and human losses in various areas of the province, the provincial council head told Pajhwok Afghan News. Abdul Karim Khadimzai said Dehrawud, Shaheed Hisa, Gizab districts and Tirinkot, the provincial capital, were the worst hit areas. He said at least three men were killed and hundreds of acres of agricultural land destroyed ...*(More on P4)...(20)*

Landslides Block Roads in Kunar, Nuristan

ASADABAD - Triggered by recent heavy rains, landslides have blocked some roads in eastern Kunar and Nuristan provinces, an official said on Saturday. Roads leading to Asadabad, the provincial capital of Kunar, Narai and Ghazniabad districts have been blocked following last night's heavy rains, provincial public works director, Eng. Mohammad Rahim, told ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

4 Kidnappers Detained in Nangarhar Operation, Police Claim

JALALABAD - A group of four kidnappers has been busted in eastern Nangarhar province, security officials said on Saturday. Police spokesman Hazrat Hus-

sain Mashrafiwal told Pajhwok Afghan News the kidnappers were detained during an operation in Surkhrod district. The operation was jointly conducted on Friday night by police and special forces in the ShiekhMisri area of the district, he said. "The detainees kidnapped people from Jalalabad ...*(More on P4)...(21)*

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

You often exhibit extra amounts of enthusiasm in pursuit of making improvements to your life. Pushing the envelope now fuels an even higher level of excitement as new ideas and people entice you to explore uncharted lands. Nevertheless, don't put all of your eggs in any one basket; keep your options open by spreading your energy around, instead.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

Although you may be clear about your career goals now, confusing circumstances at work prevent you from creating an action plan. You wish there was someone to share your concerns with but disclosure might feel inappropriate at this time. However, if particular events recently triggered you emotionally, don't be afraid to tell your story. You are psychically attuned today.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You can teach people a thing or two about the art of persuasion today, but you need to be careful about using your charming personality to influence others for your personal gain. You're anxious to discuss your opinions and beliefs, even if you're not currently interested in the normal chit-chat that people expect from you. Although you have serious issues on your mind, you can appear innocent enough to rope others into your agenda.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

Your next move might be unclear because you can't predict how people will react to your emotions now, and the potential fallout seems a bit scary. Remember, your inner landscape influences your outer world, so don't sequester your heart away where it can't be found. Instead, wear your personal likes and dislikes on your sleeve like a badge of courage.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

You were waiting for a day like this, yet everything depends on how honest you are about what's transpiring in your heart. Your chances of success in the department of love and romance depend on you making your move with confidence. You are possessed by a power that comes from the belief that you're doing the right thing. Nevertheless, nothing you do now is casual.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

You can be easily misunderstood in the realm of romance because your actions might be easily misinterpreted by others. But you're not always aloof and cool, even when you're willing to patiently wait until the setting is perfect. A developing situation may ignite a fire in your heart now. Don't think twice; slip past the practical words and social constraints into the emotional world of desires and feelings in order to make the most of a current connection.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

Conflicting messages on this high-energy day can force you to seek harmony in the midst of confusion and chaos. You long for some good old-fashioned romance today, and your attraction isn't necessarily rational. The intensity of your fantasies is surprising, but don't be afraid of sharing your romantic feelings. The bad news is your illusions could be shattered.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

Although your feelings appear to be riding on a roller coaster these days, you get a welcome taste of stability today. Thankfully, even wildly shifting emotions are more pleasant to experience for a while. Nevertheless, a melodrama may still play out now in the presence of an intimate partner or close friend. But transferring your fears and desires onto an unsuspecting victim won't help anyone.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

Relationships are an open playing field for your passions now. In fact, your life is already growing more colorful with sexy Mars stirring up mischief in your sign for the next couple of months. Don't hold back when expressing your needs because you won't scare a worthy partner away. If your enthusiasm is too much for others now, they won't be able to engage your energy down the road, either.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

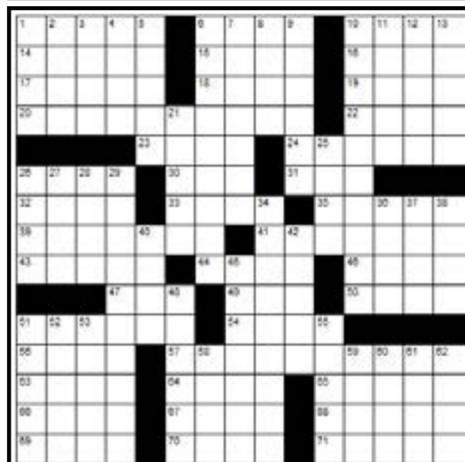
You never know what might happen if your emotions sink into dark places. However, you're more comfortable with the possibilities now because you're better equipped to control your feelings. You can choose when and where to shine the light of your awareness into the darkness. Your healthy sense of detachment makes this journey perfectly safe, possibly even enchanting. It's time to let go of your fears.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

You quickly feel uneasy when situations pull you into places of intense passion. Although the evocative Moon is wandering through your sign today, your need to share your desires is sufficient to push you outside of your old comfort zone and into unfamiliar emotional realms. Avoid an unnecessary verbal confrontation by simply moving past the restraints of language.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

You seem to be spending more time exploring your own private dreamland now, but simultaneously, the most practical issues in your life are currently visible, too. Paradoxically, the deeper you journey inward, the more power you display as your confidence radiates from within. Happily, you're able to engage the real world directly from your imagination by taking a chance and sharing your vision.



Across

- 1. Levelled, 6. Square block, 10. Financial institution, 14. Fragrant oil, 15. Website addresses, 16. Computer symbol, 17. Gander, 18. Violent disturbance, 19. Buckeye State, 20. Visible aspect, 22. "___ we forget", 23. Anagram of "Meat", 24. Wears away, 26. Forearm bone, 30. Hale, 31. Russian fighter, 32. Coral barrier, 33. Not odd, 35. Pasture, 39. High level of respect, 41. Voter, 43. Type of poplar tree, 44. Palm starch, 46. Car, 47. Thorax protector, 49. Governor (abbrev.), 50. Speech disorder, 51. Someone who owes, 54. French for "State", 56. Shade of blue, 57. Destroy completely, 63. Flows, 64. Region, 65. Bedouin, 66. Diplomacy, 67. A box or chest, 68. Accomplishing, 69. Blackthorn.

Down

- 1. Indian music, 2. At the peak of, 3. Cease, 4. Leisure, 5. Nightmare, 6. Remedies, 7. Pee-pee, 8. Coalition, 9. High regard, 10. Pertaining to biology, 11. Hurt, 12. Clamor, 13. Nautical miles, 21. Cite, 25. Abundant, 26. Constellation bear, 27. Permits, 28. Half-moon tide, 29. A delayed flavor sensation, 34. Talk terms, 36. Decorative case, 37. Plenty, 38. Let go, 40. Pearly-shelled mussel, 42. A green fabric mixture, 45. Eternal, 48. A decorative pin, 51. Pub game, 52. Identical, 53. A swindle, 55. Looks after, 58. Invigoration, 59. Part of a plant, 60. Dogfish, 61. A tart spicy quality, 62. Border.

Yesterday's Solution



- animosity, asylum, attention, bench, cameo, carrier, cavalier, cheat, dread, fish, flinch, fodder, harbor, hare, haven, illustrate, linear, matte, mountain, naive, niter, obsess, paste, print, proud, range, rare, researched, sanctuary, shrub, slit, stalk, starch.

