

Paktika Police Chief Dismissed

KABUL - The newly-appointed police chief of southeastern Paktika province Gen. Dawlat Khan Zadran was dismissed two hours after assuming charge of the post. According to reports, Gen. Zadran was appointed as the provincial police chief based on a formal letter issued by the Ministry of Interior of Afghanistan. Gen. Zadran was reportedly dismissed and was replaced by provincial security chief Nisar Ahmad Abdul Rahimzai following a delegation's visit to Paktika from Kabul on Tuesday. The appointment and hasty dismissal of Gen. Zadran as the new provincial police chief has surprised the local residents of Paktika province. The local residents are



saying that the issue stemmed from the internal issues of the provincial government, questioning the appointment of Gen. Zadran as the new police chief by MoI and his hasty dismissal. They also criticized the government and said the Ministry of Interior was not supposed to appoint Gen. Zadran if he was supposed to be dismissed immediately after assuming charge of the post. The residents of Paktika also criticized the move and said such actions demonstrate the weakness of the government of national unity. The Ministry of Interior has not commented regarding the immediate dismissal of Gen. Zadran so far. (KP)

Kidnap Gang Busted, 2 Cops Arrested in Ghazni

GHAZNI CITY - Six kidnapers, including five women, and two policemen accused of selling weapons have been arrested in southern Ghazni province, an official said on Tuesday. Provincial police Chief Gen. Aminullah Amarkhil told a press conference here the six-member kidnap group involved in staging kidnappings for ransom was busted in Nawabad area of Ghazni city. He said the kidnapers, including five women, were arrested during a raid by special Afghan forces last night after receiving a tip-off. The kidnapers would keep their victims at their home with their hands tied and would beat them until their families paid the ransom money, Amarkhil said. He said the kidnapers had rented a house in Nawabad area and they recently kidnapped four persons and sought money from their relatives. Ali

Mohammad, a taxi driver in Ghazni city, said: "I received a call and the caller told me he wants buy my car, but it was a trap." He said his hands were tied and one of the five women sat on his head and the man started hitting him with wooden sticks and broke his hand. Sayed Reza, who faced a similar incident, said he was invited by a man for a meal and he accepted the invitation, but he was on the way when the gang captured him and tied his hands and blindfolded him. "They severely beat me, I paid them 30,000 afghanis and then they freed me. I immediately reported to the police," he said. The police chief said two policemen involved in selling weapons had also been detained in Gilan district. He said the accused had sold 30 weapons and a large number of bullets to militants. (Pajhwok)

Al-Qaida Militant Killed in Airstrike

KABUL - One militant of the al-Qaida terrorist network was killed following an airstrike in Zabul province on Tuesday, the military said on Wednesday. "The coalition forces launched an airstrike in close coordination with the Afghan security agencies in surrounding areas of Shar-e-Safa District, Zabul province, killing one militant of the al-Qaida network," Afghan Special Forces Operational Coordination Command said in a statement. The targeted militant had been involved in organizing subversive activities in Afghanistan and was



responsible for crimes against the people of Afghanistan, the statement said without providing details. The Afghan security forces and the coalition troops will continue to target terrorists and their hideouts to provide security for Afghans, the statement said. Zabul province with Qalat as its capital, 340 km south

30 Taliban Fighters Eliminated in Faryab, Claim Officials

MAIMANA - The local officials of northern Faryab province on Wednesday said that they have killed 30 Taliban insurgents during a clash in the Garziwan district of the province. Thirty Taliban insurgents including their several commanders were killed and five others wounded during a clash between security personnel and Taliban fighters on Tuesday in the Jar Qala area of Gharziwan district, Faryab governor Syed Anwar Sadat told Pajhwok Afghan News. Eighty percent of the areas have been cleared of the presence of militants, he



said. Taliban commanders, Mullah Alim Khanjar and Maulvi Khitab, were among the slain insurgents, the provincial police chief, Col. Syed Aqa Indarabi, said adding Taliban left behind their seven dead bodies in the area. He didn't disclose the casualties inflicted on security personnel during Tuesday's gun battle, but said an Afghan police officer, two Afghan National Army (ANA) soldiers and four public uprising members lost their lives during the Zafar operations in the past two weeks. The operation ... (More on P4)...(18)

Kunaris Seek Justice for Kerala Massacre Victims

ASADABAD - The people of eastern Kunar province on Wednesday demanded the government punish the perpetrators of the mass killing of 1260 innocent people in the Kerala village of Asadabad in 1979. The inhabitants of the area say the Kerala massacre took place on April 20, 1979, when 1260 people were killed by the Soviets-backed communist regime of the Khalqi branch of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA). Tuesday marked 39th anniversary of the massacre. Local officials and family members of those killed in Kerala participated in a gathering observing the anniversary. A resident of Kerala, Maulvi Obaidullah Bahari, said his 10 relatives, including his father and three ... (More on P4)...(19)

Moby Scoops Key Award

KABUL - Moby Group in Afghanistan, the Soong Ching Ling Foundation (CS-CLF) from China and Sultan Bin Fahad Bin Abdulaziz from Saudi Arabia on Monday night won the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Dream Asia Award. The annual AFC Dream Asia Awards are presented in three categories - corporate, non-governmental organization and individual - and they recognize and honor those who have shown exemplary commitment towards social development using football as an agent for change. The awards were handed to the winners by the Chairman of the AFC Social Responsibility Committee, Ahmed Eid, at a ... (More on P4)...(20)

10 Taliban Dead, 20 Others Detained in Kunduz

KUNDUZ CITY - Ten Taliban fighters were killed and 20 others detained during an operation by Afghan forces in the Chardara district of northern Balkh province, an official said on Wednesday. Ten Taliban including their commander, Qari Najibullah, were killed and 20 other rebels arrested by security personnel during Tuesday night operation in the Ghondai village of Chardara district, the provincial police chief, Brig. Gen. Moham-



mad Qasim Jangalbagh, told Pajhwok Afghan News. The village has been clear of the presence of Taliban and the Afghan Local Police would be stationed in the area, he said. A resident of the village said on condition of anonymity that he saw two dead bodies laid on the ground this morning. There were nearly 15 militants in the village, but now he doesn't know about the rebels whether they were killed or still alive, he said. (Pajhwok)

Conflict Kills 4 Militants, Wounds 12 in Baghlan

PUL-E-KHUMRI - Four Taliban militants were killed and 12 others injured as clash erupted in Dand-e-Shahabudin district of the northern Baghlan province, 160 km north of Kabul on Wednesday, police spokesman in the province Zabihullah Sheja said. "Four Taliban rebels have been killed and 12 others injured since the eruption of fighting in Dand-e-Shahabudin district early

today," Sheja told reporters here. The official, however, didn't say if there were casualties on the side of security personnel. Meantime, Zabihullah Mujahid who claims to speak for the Taliban outfit in contact with media, besides confirming clash in Dand-e-Shahabudin, claimed capturing a bazaar and inflicting casualties on security personnel ... (More on P4)...(21)

1 Civilian Killed, 2 Wounded in Ghazni Province

GHAZNI - One civilian was killed and two others injured as a bomb blast struck a car in the eastern Ghazni province on Wednesday, provincial police spokesman Fahim Amiri said. "A magnetic bomb attached in a car of tribal elder Haji Mirza Mohammad exploded at around 01:00 p.m. local time today

killing the elder and injuring two others," Amiri told Xinhua. The official pointed finger at the Taliban militants, saying the armed outfit by organizing subversive activities was attempting to terrorize the locals. Civilians often bear the brunt of war in the conflict-ridden Afghanistan ... (More on P4)...(22)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

An overly self-critical assessment of your current career path could lead you to obsess about a recent situation at work. However, it's helpful to consider your part in creating the drama today. Unwanted responsibilities may land on your plate now, reminding you of what you are sacrificing to maintain the status quo. Suffering in silence isn't your style, so you won't be able to remain quiet for long.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

Although you're standing with both feet solidly planted on the ground, you still believe that nearly anything is possible today. However, you may run into more obstacles than you expect when you stretch your wings. Before your confidence turns into discouragement, remember that the current resistance makes you more determined than ever to accomplish your goals.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

It's mind-boggling to contemplate all the possibilities that are in front of you today, but seem just beyond your grasp. Unfortunately, you can't pursue every opportunity that knocks at your door. But even with the limitations you face now, you still can find your way by narrowing your focus like a laser beam. Set one goal above all the others. Once you prioritize your intentions.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

You're unsure of your next move because the normal relationship between cause and effect isn't very apparent now. Your specific actions don't seem to elicit the expected responses, making you hesitant to try again. But even if reality throws you a curve ball today, keeping your faith in the outcome is crucial. Continue to follow your heart no matter what anyone else says.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

You're a champion at holding your position with an air of confidence, but you might not be as sure of yourself as others think. It's as if you need to be acknowledged for your performance is more important than anything else - and you could feel disappointed if people don't give you the feedback you want. You may need to adjust your methodology in order to get a job done right.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

Your practical approach to life is wholeheartedly supported by those around you. But the cosmic encouragement of the determined Taurus Sun and the ambitious Capricorn Moon won't last, so you better act now while success is likely. Aim for the most tangible results possible because this isn't time for pie-in-the-sky visions. Taking concrete steps allows you to make the most from the current potential.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

Although there may be too much work to finish in one day, you still are given a wonderful opportunity to play catch up today. Don't panic; tasks have been stacking up gradually, so it could take some time to get to the bottom of your list. Meanwhile, the Moon's visit to your 4th House of Domestic Conditions offers you the support you need to focus on your current responsibilities.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

Remain open-minded and make allowances for someone else's perspective today, even if you're convinced that you are on the right track. No matter how certain you are about your plan, self-righteous behavior isn't productive to a successful collaboration. Instead of alienating yourself from potential allies by assuming your position is superior, try to see things from a different point of view.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

Your energy level is hard to manage now, especially if you recently made promises you can't keep. It's disheartening if your progress isn't as consistent as you wish, but unexpected delays may actually be the universe's way of giving you another opportunity to reconsider your strategy. Aside from streamlining your plans, you can also improve your chances for success by eliminating activities that are extraneous to your current goals.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

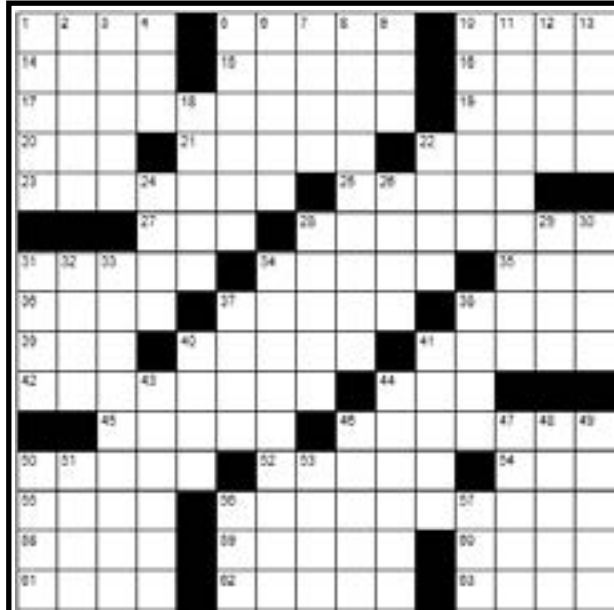
You might not know how to honor your shifting feelings without threatening the integrity of the preexisting foundations. You seek enduring relationships, but don't want them to deteriorate into mechanically comfortable arrangements. Thankfully, there's no need to sacrifice your security now to reinvigorate a significant partnership. However, you still may be required to take a calculated risk.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

Serving others can be a meaningful spiritual practice, but sometimes selfless work has its limitations. You may derive considerable benefit by stepping back today and not working quite as hard to please everyone while the Moon is camped out in your 12th House of Privacy. However, favorable lunar aspects minimize your desire to become completely invisible.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

Maintaining a high level of clarity in communication is possible to achieve if you only say what is absolutely necessary now. However, your most imaginative ideas may be lost if you keep your conversations succinct. Don't forget to honor your dreams, even if you want to be pragmatic in social interactions today. Wait until you can share your visions for the future with friends who might not be so judgmental when your thoughts wander.



Across

- Being, 5. Hacks, 10. Couch, 14. Not highs, 15. Cowboy sport, 16. Sweeping story, 17. Not arrogant, 19. Ploy, 20. Anagram of "Bid", 21. Property claims, 22. Stops, 23. Bliss, 25. Brownish disk, 27. Hasten, 28. Ring-shaped friedcake, 31. Consumed, 34. Vulcanized rubber disks, 35. Weep, 36. Slender, 37. Eccentric people, 38. Assistance, 39. Short sleep, 40. Tapestry, 41. Thigh armor, 42. Particular, 44. Mayday, 45. Mongolian dwellings, 46. Improvised, 50. French for "Our", 52. Unreactive, 54. What we breathe, 55. ___ vera, 56. Warehouse, 58. Eccentric person, 59. A small anchor, 60. Lazily 61. Fizzy drink, 62. Something of value, 63. Caustics.

Down

- Avoid, 2. Relating to audible sound, 3. Mops, 4. S, 5. Holiday on a boat, 6. Cozy, 7. Norse god, 8. Sluiceways, 9. Soak, 10. Angel, 11. Luxuries, 12. Clenched hand, 13. Cards with 1 symbol, 18. Killed, 22. Embraces, 24. Not us, 26. Northern diving birds, 28. Belonging to a duke, 29. Website addresses, 30. Sort, 31. Feudal worker, 32. "What a shame!", 33. Walked on one's toes, 34. Leeches, 37. Court order, 38. Metal fastener, 40. Unit of land, 41. Cuspid or molar, 43. Exclamation of satisfaction, 44. Avenue, 46. Twilled fabric, 47. Flashy, 48. Passageway, 49. Quarries, 50. Badgers, 51. Margarine, 53. Gestures of assent, 56. Calypso offshoot, 57. Petroleum.

Yesterday's Solution



abate, allay, arose, began, cabal, cans, catch, close, comrade, crest, cull, deed, dolly, energy, enjoin, feet, flashy, fret, green, guest, happen, harden, invoke, leer, libel, mire, mission, music, petal, placate, rake, revile, serif, smooth, sober, sole, still.

