

60 Rebels Eliminated, Scores Injured in Paktika Province

Sixty Taliban has been killed and 40 others injured in security forces offensive in the Sarobi district of southeastern Paktika province, the Ministry of Interior (MoI) said on Tuesday.

SHARAN - Security forces had launch offensive against the Taliban in Sarobi district recently, a statement from the MoI said; adding militants had been purge of the several villages of Sarobi district.

Ten vehicles, 14 motorcycles, one anti craft gun machine and a number of Taliban ammunition were destroyed during Afghan forces offensive, the statement said. Police chief Col. Dadullah Khan confirmed the clash and killing of 60 insurgents during the operation. Four Afghan forces were also injured during the operation, he added.

Noor Agha a resident of Surobi district told Pajhwok Afghan News, that still many areas of the district were under Taliban control. Taliban have not yet commented about the Sarobi district offensive. (Pajhwok)



Taliban Judge, Deputy Governor Killed in Jawzjan Clash

SHIBERGHAN - A Taliban judge and a designated deputy governor for northern Balkh province have been killed during a clash with security forces in Aqcha district of Jawzjan province, an official said on Monday. The Jawzjan governor's spokesman, Mohammad Reza Ghafori, said Matiullah, the Taliban's deputy governor for Balkh, was injured during the Sunday clash with security forces in Kalta Shakh area of Aqcha district.

Matiullah succumbed to his wounds this morning, he said, adding that Mualvi Abdul Hai Hanif, the shadowy judge for Khamab district of Jawzjan, was killed in the firefight on Sunday. Ghafori said at least five other members of the group were injured and they might have died while a gun battle in Kalta Shakh village was underway.

Security forces had so far suffered no casualties during the conflict. Taliban spokesman, Zabihullah Mujahid, said their three fighters were killed and five others wounded during the Sunday clash. But the fighters also inflicted casualties ... (More on P4)...(10)

Khost Lakan Tribe Seeks End to Land Dispute with Kuchis

KHOST CITY - Lakan tribesmen in southeastern Khost province have demanded of the government to intervene and resolve a fresh dispute between them and Kuchi tribe over a piece of land.

The Lakan tribesmen, who held a gathering in Lakano bazaar in Khost City, the provincial capital, on Sunday, claimed the Kuchi tribesmen had encroached on their 5000 acres of land and the nomads had taken positions in bunkers in some areas.

A tribal elder from the Lakan tribe, Ahmad Shah Khan, said they possessed legal documents of the land and they had presented the documents to the government as well.

But the government not only ignored their calls, it also sided with the Kuchi tribesmen, alleged the elder, who claimed armed Kuchis had taken positions to keep the land while the government was doing nothing. Another elder of the tribe, Noor Jamaluddin, told reporters that the two tribes would enter a bloody encounter if the government did not intervene and find solution to the issue.

A member of the provincial council and resident of Lakano area of Khost City, Abdul Wali Wahidzai, accused the Khost governor of siding with the Kuchis in the dispute. He said the governor came from the Kuchi tribe and was on the side of his tribe, but if anything unfortunate happened, the governor would be responsible for that.

However, deputy head of the Kuchi council, Awaz Khan Kuchi, told Pajhwok Afghan News that they owned the land since the time of Amir Abdur Rahman Khan (Emir of Afghanistan from 1880 to 1901) and rejected the claim that Kuchis had taken up guns and positions. Instead, he urged the Lakan tribe to resolve the issue through talks and avoid violence.

"Our tents are no more, we have no option but to at least build a shelter for ourselves. When other Khostis can build homes, why not the Kuchis, where they should go," he said. Khost Governor Hukam Khan Habibi rejected the accusation ... (More on P4)...(11)

Taliban Group Member Says Regretting for Anti-Afghanistan Insurgency Activities

KABUL - A Taliban group member who has surrendered to the government in eastern Nangarhar province of Afghanistan says he regrets for the insurgency activities he has conducted against the country.

The provincial government in Nangarhar in a statement said the Taliban group member was previously conducting insurgency under the command of the two senior Taliban commanders Arshad and Sulaiman.

The Nangarhar National Directorate of Security (NDS) said the surrendered Taliban insurgent has been identified as Subhanullah who was involved in destructive activities in Khogyani and Chaparhar districts.

NDS further added that Subhan joined the peace process and handed over a AK-47 rifle after defecting the Taliban ranks.

Subhan said he joined the Taliban group nearly one and half years ago and was conducting insurgency under the command of the named Taliban leaders.

He admitted to have targeted the security posts, security vehicles, government compounds, besides conducting other destructive activities.

Emphasizing that he is regretting for the insurgency activities he has conducted... (More on P4)...(12)

Fighting in Wardak Closes Kabul-Kandahar Highway

KABUL - The Kabul-Kandahar highway was closed for traffic as result of clashes between the Afghan forces and Taliban militants in central Maidan Wardak province on Tuesday, an official said.

The Maidan Wardak governor's spokesman told Pajhwok Afghan News the highway was blocked in Syedabad district after a firefight erupted in the area in the morning. He said two Taliban fighters were killed during the fight that was still ongoing.

Jamal Ahmad, who was traveling from the Kabul to southern Ghazni province, said he had turned back to the central capital due to the highway closure. Some sources said the Taliban had warned passenger vehicles not to ply the highway. Gul Islam Syal, the Zabol governor's spokesman, ... (More on P4)...(13)



Iraqi Delegation to Investigate Embassy Attack



KABUL - Concerned about retaliatory attacks after defeat of Daesh in parts of Iraq, Baghdad calls for stricter security measures at embassies.

The Iraqi government has sent a delegation to Kabul to investigate the Daesh attack on their embassy in Kabul on Monday. Iraq's foreign ministry said following Daesh's defeat in Iraq, Baghdad had urged a number of countries to put more security measures in place to safeguard Iraqi embassies.

Meanwhile Afghanistan's acting minister of foreign affairs, Salahuddin Rabbani, spoke to his Iraqi counterpart on Monday by phone and assured him that such attacks will not change Kabul and Baghdad's commitment to fighting terrorism.

Rabbani said that Kabul is committed to maintaining the safety of Iraqi diplomats. Afghan National Security Adviser Haneef Atmar also met with Iraq's ambassador ... (More on P4)...(14)

NATO Helicopter Has Hard Landing in Afghanistan; 2 Injured

KABUL - A NATO statement says a U.S. Black Hawk helicopter encountered a mechanical problem that forced a hard landing in eastern Afghanistan.

The region is where American troops are supporting Afghan security forces in a campaign against the Islamic State group's affiliate in Afghanistan. The statement says two soldiers received minor injuries during the hard landing early on Tuesday in the Achin district of eastern Nangarhar province. It says the crew was rescued and that the aircraft was being recovered.

The Taliban in a statement claimed they opened fire on the helicopter, killing everyone on board. (AP)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



There appears to be a clear path from your current location to your ultimate destination. You see no reason to dilly-dally and are eager to head out without a backward glance. However, you could inadvertently walk right into a trap unless you cool your jets and review your plan one more time.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



It's a special gift when you can sink deeply into your feelings without experiencing the anxiety that usually accompanies uncertainty. Thankfully, your current self-confidence gives you the support you need in order to address a subject of concern that's bothering you.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



You can't help but sport a smile today because so many signs are pointing toward your success. At least that's what you might think if you believe everything you are told. Although you don't want to accept the truth before you verify it, your research won't likely turn up any surprises. You may ultimately choose to forge ahead with your plans, but remain flexible enough to modify them if you must.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



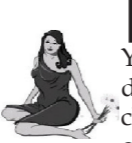
You might surprise your coworkers with your uncharacteristically freewheeling style today. It may appear as if you've thrown caution out the window, but you're actually more careful than anyone realizes. Although your current positivity does not invite reckless behavior, it does encourage you to make the most of a situation while it lasts.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



It feels as if you can't miss in whatever endeavor you pursue now; all you need to do is state your intention and wait for it to manifest. However, nothing could be further from the truth. Setting your goals is actually the easy part today, and without relentless follow-through your thoughts will be for naught.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



You're caught between two extremes today, trying to avoid making unilateral choices. On one hand, you have your finger on the truth and you want to shout it from the mountaintops. On the other hand, you're not eager to leave home, no less make a public spectacle of yourself. However, this internal struggle is unnecessary, no matter how critical it seems in the moment.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



Maintaining your forward progress is nearly impossible now, especially if you are easily distracted by other people's dramas. Although you wish you could pursue every conversation to its natural conclusion, your packed calendar doesn't leave much room for spontaneity. Your day would be boring if you simply ignored others, but there's a price to pay for all of your social activity..

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



Your long-term prospects are promising as you assess your present position and your planned trajectory. Although you may have particular concerns, your current actions seem to support your professional ambitions. However, you might question your role on a team that works independently of your agenda. If you find that your goals are too different from your coworkers, you need to reinvent your job.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



The open road stretches out before you; you have your map, a full tank of gas and enough time on your hands to create a bit of mischief. Although you don't have a specific goal in mind, you're not sure you need one now. After all, it's all about the journey and not the destination. Nevertheless, you can only drive around in circles for so long until boredom strikes, inspiring you to break out of the rut and move on to the next phase of your travels.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



You're quite content being alone now, especially if it means you can work at your own pace free from distractions. Nevertheless, you may get hooked into a conversation that turns weird today, causing you to retreat even further. Be as kind as possible when reasserting your need for space.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

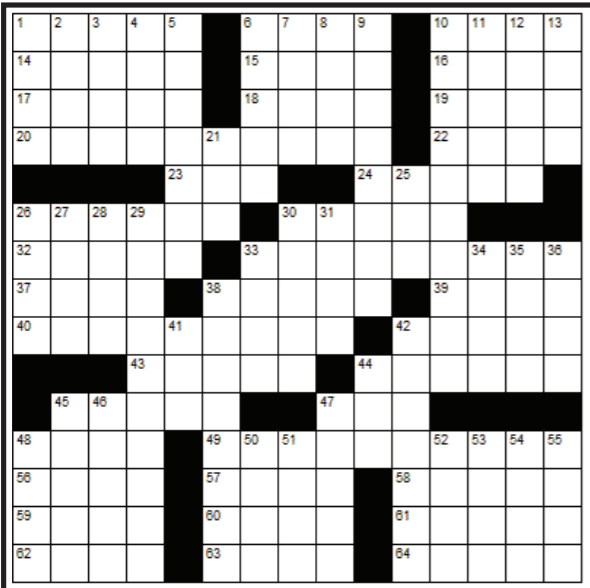


Staying in the here and now is tricky business because your mind keeps bounding off into the future. A wide variety of choices stretch out before you today, and you're acutely aware that your current decisions will determine where you go. Nevertheless, pulling your thoughts back into the present is so confining that you slip off to escape into parallel worlds and unrealistic fantasies.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



You are driven to succeed at work now and won't allow mundane obstacles to slow you down. Creating a path to the top of your profession is one way of distinguishing yourself from the crowd. However, you are not interested in pie-in-the-sky dreaming today; you want a concrete action plan, a comprehensive timeline, and solid commitments from your coworkers, too.



Across

1. Data stream manipulator, 6. Broth (Scottish), 10. Short run, 14. Gorillalike, 15. Paddles, 16. Within, 17. Ringworm cassia, 18. Module, 19. Knights, 20. Kir's starship, 22. Jacket, 23. Band booking, 24. Hard wood, 26. Beginning, 30. A type of small mammal, 32. Arrogant, 33. Not uppercase, 37. Minor quarrel, 38. Villain 39. L L L L, 40. Brawlers or fighters, 42. Spasmodic laryngitis, 43. Blockage of the intestine, 44. Diner, 45. Rockweed 47. Completely, 48. Short skirt, 49. Unwilling to part with money, 56. Dull pain, 57. Multicolored, 58. Inebriated, 59. Tibia, 60. By mouth, 61. Delete 62. Retained, 63. Sort, 64. Relaxes, ,

Down

1. Carryall, 2. Not closed, 3. Effort, 4. Feudal worker, 5. Accused, 6. A village outside a castle, 7. Hindu princess, 8. Twin sister of Ares, 9. Prized, 10. Bewilder, 11. Negatively charged particle, 12. Roam, 13. Party thrower, 21. A sizeable hole, 25. Tavern, 26. Chooses, 27. Relating to urine, 28. Curdled soybean milk, 29. Enough, 30. People who accomplish, 31. Barley beards, 33. Place, 34. Found in some lotions, 35. Disparage, 36. Catch a glimpse of, 38. A place providing lewd entertainment, 41. Grippe, 42. Gauge, 44. Santa's helper, 45. Small sheet of microfilm, 46. Not cool, 47. Muddle, 48. Disguise, 50. Breezy, 51. Harvest, 52. Arid, 53. Orange pekoe, 54. At one time (archaic), 55. Colors,

Yesterday's Solution

BELL VALLEY DUST
LIVELY WIDE DINAU
AIMS NEGLECTFUL
BLATHER ERUDITE
LIVE DOTES
FIREPROOF
ERASE FLAKY YOW
SONS AFFIRE BOLA
TNT SHAVE AUGER
STEIN NIT
HALOGEN ADDRESS
INSISTENCE ECCE
EGIS CRANE SHOE
DONE HOPED SLOWS

activity, adventure, approve, argue, arrival, challenge, cover, create dare, res, garbage, gill ideally, lease, linger, listen, meal, money, napkin, paper, patio, pledge, point, porch, price receive, relax

L I N G E R T G P O R C H
F T G B S U M M E R N K M
E E N D A R E L A X I Q O
G E I D E A L L Y E K C N
D G H L L V K I U R P O E
E N T E A I G S U A V Y
L E E E T R R E T T N E T
P L M V D A V R C N E R I
P L O O W R E R I E W N V
A A S R E A E R E V R M I
T H T P T O S S C D A J T
I C A P O I N T S A N L C
O P G A R B A G E H S U A