

# 26 Rebels Killed, 300kgs of Opium Seized

LASHKARGAH - A commander was among 26 Taliban insurgents killed during an operation in southern Helmand province, where 300 kilograms of opium was also seized, officials said on Thursday.

The governor's spokesman, Omar Zwak, told Pajhwok Afghan News security forces were engaged in operations over the past few days in Garamser and Sangin districts.

He said the operations had so far resulted in the killing of 26 insurgents, including a com-



mander. The dead militants included 12 Pakistanis.

Taliban commander Maulvi Mohib was killed along with his four comrades during an airstrike in Garamser district, Zwak said, adding security forces had defused a large number of landmines during the operations. Meanwhile, the Afghan National Army (ANA) personnel seized nearly 300 kilograms of opium in Nahr-i-Siraj district of the province, Zwak added. "Security forces recovered the opium from ... (More on P4)...(18)

## Religious Scholar Gunned Down in Herat



HERAT CITY - Unidentified gunmen shot dead a religious scholar in the provincial capital of western Herat province, the gubernatorial spokesman said on Thursday. The incident occurred on Wednesday night, Jilani Farhad told Pajhwok Afghan News. The cleric named Abdul Farid Sabir was a prayer leader at the Mahdia Mosque. "After leading Isha prayer, he went out of the mosque and was shot dead in the head by unknown gunmen," the spokesman added. Meanwhile, Herat Zonal Hospital spokesman Mohammad Rafiq Sherzai confirmed receiving a dead body on Wednesday night. "The dead man is 50 years old." (Pajhwok)

## 4 Men Involved in Shop Robberies Detained in Kunduz

KUNDUZ CITY - Police on Thursday claimed detaining four burglars in northern Kunduz province. The detainees were accused of robbing shops in Kunduz and Baghlan provinces.

Col. Najibullah Sartir, crime branch chief at the police headquarters, said in a statement the four men had been under surveillance for a long time and were finally netted in Kunduz city on Wednesday.

He said the detainees' recent crime was robbing a mobile shop in Baghlan. After they fled to Kunduz, police arrested them. The detainees are currently under investigation. (Pajhwok)

## At Large for 3 Years, Alleged Killer of 4 Police Arrested



KABUL - The Ministry of Interior (MoI) on Thursday announced the arrest of an individual who killed four policemen at a security check-post in southern Helmand province. A statement from MoI said the detainee, Gulbadin, hailed from Marja district and was currently living in Zaranj-- capital of northwestern province of Nimroz. Gulbadiwas arrested on November 26. Three years ago, he killed four colleagues at a check-post in the Torkhel area of Marja district and later joined insurgents.

The man allegedly surrendered a police pick-up, three Kalashnikovs, a machinegun and one rocket to the rebels. He had since been active with the Taliban in Nimroz.

The detainee is under investigation and has confessed to his crime. (Pajhwok)

## Police Nab Key Al-Qaeda Financial Facilitator

KABUL - The Ministry of Interior of Afghanistan (MoI) on Friday said in a statement that the special units of Afghan National Police (ANP) arrested a key Al-Qaeda financial facilitator in the suburbs of Khogyani district of the eastern province of Nangarhar.

The MoI stated that the terrorist was arrested during a special operation and he is a Pakistan national. Another terrorist has been eliminated during the operation, the MoI said. (Tolonews)



## Communist Regime Survivors Demand Justice

KABUL - Afghanistan Victims' Families Association on Friday asked government to serve justice on war criminals and violators of human rights who committed atrocities during the communist regimes of Hafizullah Amin and Noor Mohammad Taraki.

It is believed that up to 5,000 people were buried in mass graves in Pul-e-Charkhi area of Kabul after being subjected to brutal tortures and severe jail terms.

The Association accused the present and past governments in Afghanistan of not serving justice on the perpetrators who committed the

crimes during the communist regimes of Noor Mohammad Taraki and Hafizullah Amin.

The killings by the communist regimes happened during solar years of 1357 and 1358 (1978-1979).

"We have persistently said that the victims have been forgotten by the governments in Afghanistan, and no one is there to provide justice to the families of the victims. All those who were killed after merciless tortures and then buried in these graves deserve respect and criminals who committed these crimes must be ... (More on P4)...(19)

## US Soldier Succumbs to Injuries Suffered in Bagram Attack

KABUL - A US soldier has succumbed to the injuries he sustained in last month's bomb attack on the Bagram Airfield in central Parwan province.

With the passing of the soldier, the death toll from the November 12 suicide increased to five, the Department of Defense announced on Wednesday.

"Sgt. First Class Allan E. Brown, 46, of Takoma Park, Maryland, died at Walter Reed National Medical Center, Bethesda, ... (More on P4)...(20)

## Takhar Ulema Council Speech on Women Sharply Criticized

TAKHAR - Takhar provincial council and women rights activists in the province sharply criticized recent remarks by Mawlawi Abdul Samad on women and said he should apologize to women otherwise he should be brought to justice.

Mawlawi Abdul Samad, head of Takhar's Ulema Council in his recent sermon in Taloqan city, the provincial city, said women are deficient and the most shameless people in the world.



Women activists and the provincial council said these remarks are insults to women and insisted if government does not take action, ... (More on P4)...(21)

## 15 Taliban Killed, 23 Wounded in Fresh Operations: MoD

KABUL - Fifteen Taliban fighters have been killed during fresh security operations in different provinces of the country, the Ministry of Defence announced on Friday.

At least 23 militants were wounded in the operations conducted in the past 24 hours in Nangarhar, Kunar, Paktika, Ghazni, Paktia, Logar, Kandahar, Uruzgan, Zabul, Daikundi, Badghis, Herat, Faryab, Kunduz and Helmand.

A statement from MoD said



weapons and ammunition were also seized by security forces during the offensives. The ministry said nothing about security forces' casualties. (Pajhwok)

### Outlook Horoscope

#### Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



You're enjoying the cosmic momentum today, but you might not be so happy when circumstances stop your progress. Rather than just accepting the resistance you encounter, you want to do battle with anyone who stands in your way. Unfortunately, fighting the opposition of an authority figure only exacerbates the stress. It's smarter now to collaborate than to compete.

#### Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



Your moods are all over the map today and it may be helpful to share your feelings with someone you can trust. Stay open to the possibility that there are good things waiting in the wings, even if they haven't made their entrance onto your life stage yet. However, there might be a rough patch when the headstrong Aries Moon catches up to erratic Uranus, creating some uncomfortable psychological turmoil.

#### Gemini (May 21-June 20)



You and your friends are on a roll, solving all the world's problems today, but progress is slowed when someone speaks up and warns against jumping to conclusions. Sobering words can be a buzzkill, but it's wise to heed them anyway. Don't worry, lucky Jupiter lends a helping hand to the willful Sun now, so your enthusiasm won't slump for long. Finding the right mix between compassion and practicality allows you to make a positive difference.

#### Cancer (June 21-July 20)



You're driven by professional ambitions today, and you know you have what it takes to climb the ladder of success. However, it can be a drag when your physical body can't keep up with your groundbreaking ideas. Your lack of stamina may hinder you in the early afternoon, but don't throw in the towel just yet. When you take time to rest, you'll go farther in the long run.

#### Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



You're intent on soaring higher than ever before, but sometimes a successful launch requires a delay for an evaluation of the quality of your work. Unless you understand the wisdom of slowing down, you may feel like you're hurrying up just to wait. Luckily, sensible Saturn is offering constructive criticism from your 5th House of Self-Expression.

#### Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



All you want to do is push a task to completion today, yet unexpected changes require more caution than insistence. Authoritative Saturn stops you for an unexpected pop quiz in order to determine what else you need to know before continuing on. Don't fret over lost time; it's not really lost if you become more efficient in the long run.

#### Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



Hot and cold, stop and go - the flipping and flopping of energy today is mildly infuriating. One moment you're given the green light and the next you're pulled over for speeding. As unpleasant as it is to deal with restrictions and limitations, sometimes it's a blessing in disguise that keeps you from rushing into an unwise decision. The dynamic Aries Moon parties with unpredictable Uranus in your 7th House of Relationships.

#### Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



There's plenty of work to get done today, and you're fully prepared to power through it all. Paradoxically, problems that surface now may actually be for the best, because they reveal larger issues that could grow into showstoppers later on. Meanwhile, you're tempted to overpower any resistance with brute force as the brash Aries Moon rumbles.

#### Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



On one hand, you're ready to play the day away, but on the other hand, you know it's in your best interest to keep your shoulder to the wheel. One minute you're enjoying the lighter side of life; the next it feels like you're sabotaging your own success. Luckily, your stress is only temporary because the buoyant Sun-Jupiter sextile reminds you of how far you can fly when you take the time to fully prepare for your journey.

#### Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



You are nothing if not persistent, so even if you encounter frustrating setbacks today, you're still dead set on accomplishing your goal. The radiant Sun collaborates with jovial Jupiter, encouraging you to go big or go home. Although the bulk of the work you do might not be acknowledged now, the legacy and reputation you build will both precede and outlast you. Motivational author Napoleon Hill wrote.

#### Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

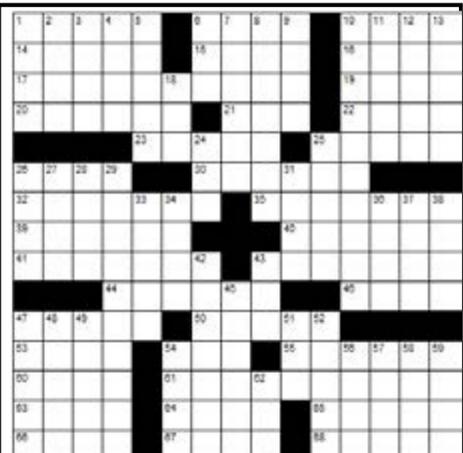


Your friendly demeanor may suffer today if you let your anxiety grow out of hand. It seems as if one person after another blocks your progress as you strive to complete your tasks. Try not to lash out in frustration if you feel overly constricted. Hurting someone's feelings won't advance your cause and it leaves a bad taste in your mouth. Surprise your haters with a smile and your success.

#### Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



Although one part of you wants to let loose, you're still determined to get serious about taking care of business. Escaping into fantasyland often lurks as an attractive temptation in your life, but the current planetary focus on your 10th House of Career won't allow you to wander too far off track. Nevertheless, extravagant Jupiter is telling you that buying something you covet will lead to satisfaction. This internal tug of war may be frustrating.



#### Across

- Mixes, 6. Formally surrender, 10. Taps, 14. Fool, 15. Twosome, 16. Violent disturbance, 17. Similitude, 19. Feudal worker, 20. Current amount, 21. Frozen water, 22. Took flight, 23. Ancient Roman magistrate, 25. Provides food, 26. Whine with snuffing, 30. A type of bivalve, 32. Control surface on a plane, 35. Palatable, 39. Two-seater, 40. Relating to the lips, 41. Windpipe, 43. Roars, 44. A four-wheel covered carriage, 46. Being, 47. Wealthy man, 50. Acts out without words, 53. Death notice, 54. Zero, 55. Steps, 60. Netting, 61. Grandee, 63. \_\_\_ vera, 64. Musty, 65. Stadium, 66. Lairs, 67. Aquatic plant, 68. Cantankerous.

#### Down

- Flexible mineral, 2. Anagram of "Dome", 3. Not stiff, 4. Numbskull, 5. Look at with fixed eyes, 6. Consumer Price Index, 7. Without difficulty, 8. Bishopric, 9. Sea eagle, 10. More desirable, 11. Passageway, 12. In shape, 13. Seethes, 18. Crimson, 24. Charged particle, 25. Relating to a fetus, 26. Insulation, 27. Teller of untruths, 28. Forearm bone, 29. Bed coverings, 31. Story, 33. Rehabilitation, 34. Portent, 36. Life stories, 37. Statutes, 38. If not, 42. Naval officer, 43. Vagrant, 45. Sickly, 47. Bedouin, 48. Poplar tree, 49. American buffalo, 51. Eastern Standard Time, 52. Brown ermine, 54. Nil, 56. Unit of land, 57. Angers, 58. Deliver a tirade, 59. Remain, 62. Calypso offshoot.

#### Yesterday's Solution



angle, array, avoid, batter, broom, button, center, clean, close, concrete, daughter, deuce, doubles, gone, hypnosis, late, literature, loon, loot, middle, poise, recent, rite, season, separate, sirs, shot, something, stone, store, stream, swing, tent, trick, uncle.

