

# Obama Warns Afghanistan Remains Dangerous

WASHINGTON - US president Barack Obama on Sunday declared the war against terrorism in Afghanistan had now come to a responsible conclusion, but warned the country remained a dangerous place.

"Afghanistan remains a dangerous place and the Afghan people and their security forces continue to make tremendous sacrifices in defence of their country," Obama said in a statement after a formal ceremony in Kabul ended the US and NATO combat mission. Obama said the US would maintain a limited military presence in Afghanistan to train, advise and assist Afghan forces and to conduct counterterrorism operations



against the remnants of Al Qaeda at the invitation of the Afghan government.

He said the US personnel would continue to face risks, reflecting the enduring commitment of the United States to the Afghan people.

From January 1, the Operation Enduring Freedom would be replaced by Operation Freedom's Sentinel, to help secure and build upon the gains of the last 13 years.

"Thanks to the extraordinary sacrifices of our men and women in uniform, our combat mission in Afghanistan is ending, and the longest war in American history is coming to a responsible conclusion," he said.

During ... (More on P4)...(1)

## Russia Won't Send Troops to Afghanistan: Diplomat



MOSCOW - Russia has no plan to send troops to Afghanistan after the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) ended its combat mission there, a senior diplomat said Monday. On Sunday, the ISAF formally ended its 13-year-old combat mission in Afghanistan. Some 13,000 troops, including 10,800 Americans, will stay in Afghanistan in 2015 to

play a supporting role. "By no means Russia or the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) are going to send troops to Afghanistan," Russian special presidential envoy to Afghanistan, Zamir Kabulov, told Xinhua in an exclusive interview. "Russia needs to think about its own security in the first place and see how ... (More on P4)...(2)

## Mol Welcomes End to NATO Combat Mission

KABUL - The Ministry of Interior (Mol) on Sunday welcomed the end to NATO combat mission in Afghanistan, saying Afghan forces were capable enough to defend the nation and the rebels had no courage to face them.

The US and NATO formally ended their 13-year-old war in Afghanistan at a ceremony held in this regard at the NATO headquarters in Kabul. The troops will be replaced by a small 12,800 contingent to train ... (More on P4)...(3)

## Australia's 400 Troops to Remain in Afghanistan for Training Mission



KABUL - Australia will continue to monitor the situation in Afghanistan as the U.S. and NATO formally announce the end of their combat mission after 13 years. Foreign Minister Julie Bishop has expressed concerns of the growing unrest in the region.

Bishop told ABC that Afghanistan's part of the world has seen turmoil and volatility with some "appalling incidents" in recent times. International media reports said that the U.S.-led International Security Assistance Force will be replaced by a NATO training and support mission.

A ceremony was held in Kabul to mark the end of 13 years of fighting the Taliban in Afghanistan. Australia will continue to provide training to Afghan government forces as 400 Australian troops still remain in the country, Sky News reported. ... (More on P4)...(8)

## Japan Donates X-Ray, Medical Equipments to IGICH

KABUL - Japan has donated a laboratory and x-ray equipments for Indira Gandhi Institute for Child Health (IGICH) in Kabul, a statement from the Japan Embassy said Monday.

The handover ceremony of medical equipments for IGICH was held on Sunday, it said, adding that the project has been funded by the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Projects (GAGP) by Japan with total amount of \$119,779.

It said that utilization of the modern equipments the diagnosis would become easy and the treatment be done accurately. In his message, Hiroshi Takahashi, ... (More on P4)...(9)

## 14 More Insurgents Killed in Dangam Fighting

KABUL - At least 14 more Taliban insurgents were killed in the fresh clashes between the security forces and militants in Dangam district of eastern Kunar in the past 24 hours, local officials said on Monday.

Seven other insurgents were injured in the fighting that continues for more than two weeks, Kunar Police Chief Abdul Habib Syedkuli said. ... (More on P4)...(10)

## Wolesi Jirga Team Meets Abdullah on Cabinet Delay

KABUL - The Wolesi Jirga's administration board on Monday said if lawmakers' talks with the president and the chief executive officer (CEO) about the delay in cabinet formation failed to yield any positive outcome, the assembly would take another decision.

Ten days ago, the lower house had set the government a week-long deadline to introduce cabinet nominees for a vote of confidence. The assembly had warned of a unilateral decision if the government



failed to meet the deadline (Saturday last). But on Saturday, the Wolesi Jirga decided to send a delegation to meet the president and the CEO on

reasons behind the delay in cabinet formation. Wolesi Jirga deputy secretary Irfanullah Irfan told reporters on Monday the ... (More on P4)...(4)

## Amendments to Population Registration Act Drafted

KABUL - The Wolesi Jirga's interior security commission would present before the lower house a set of amendments to some articles of the controversial Population Registration Act on Wednesday. After being approved by the assembly, the Popu-

lation Registration Bill was signed into law by President Ashraf Ghani amid objections by some lawmakers, civil society groups and political parties over not mentioning word "Afghan" in the Computerized National Identity Cards (CNICs).

As the protests continued, the president referred the issue to the Supreme Court, but the apex court is yet to deliver a ruling in this regard. The issue of bringing amendments to the law became a hot topic in the lower ... (More on P4)...(5)

## 80 Militants Give up Fighting

KABUL - An 80-member Taliban group gave up fighting in Afghanistan while a Taliban-organized roadside bomb blast killed two Afghan police personnel and injured two others on Monday, officials confirmed.

According to police, more than seven dozen militants, laid down their arms in the northern Jauzjan province, while two police personnel lost their lives in a roadside bomb in the southwest Nimroz province. "A total of 80 militants under Mufti Nematullah who were involved in anti-government activities in Qushtapa and Darzab districts of Jawzjan province over the past couple of years laid down arms and gave up fighting Monday," provincial police chief Faqir Mohammad Jawzjani told Xinhua.

Giving up fighting by these people could be a major blow to the anti-government militants in Jawzjan and adjoining provinces, the police chief added.

Taliban militants who are active in parts of Jawzjan province are yet to make comment. Meantime, ... (More on P4)...(6)

## 200 Taliban Militants Surrender to Gen. Dostum

SHEBIRGHAN - Around 200 Taliban militants renounced violence and surrendered to first Vice-President Gen. Abdul Rashid Dostum in northern Jawzjan province on Monday.

The militants laid down their weapons and announced their support from the Government of National Unity in Darzab district, during Gen. Dostum's visit.

Gen. Dostum is visiting the northern Jawzjan province after he was instructed by President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani, according to an online statement from Gen. Dostum's office.

He welcomed the surrender of Taliban militants and said the move by Taliban militants in Jawzjan is a step that would lead to a nationwide peace and stability.

Gen. Dostum called on other militants to join peace process, similarly as the militants have surrendered in Jawzjan province.

He also pledged to provide employment opportunities for all the militants who laid their weapons and joined peace process.

Jawzjan is among the relatively volatile provinces in northern Afghanistan where anti-government armed militant groups are actively operating ... (More on P4)...(7)



**HUAWEI**



**HUAWEI Ascend Mate7**



**Live Once, Live Life**  
Ultra-thin borderless design with polished metallic feel, specially for your unique style.

**1 YEAR WARRANTY**



**KHALID LEMAR**  
Official Distributor

+93(0)786 131415 | info@khalidlemar.com  
 FB.com/Huawei.khalidlemar | www.khalidlemar.com  
 D-100 -116, 4th Floor, Gul Bahar Center, Malik Asghar Square, Kabul, Afghanistan