

# Rebel Attacks to Capture Lapis Lazuli Mine Repulsed

FAIZABAD - Local officials on Monday said security forces repulsed three attacks from militants to capture lapis lazuli mine in Karan wa Manjan district of northeastern Badakhshan province.

Provincial police chief, Brig. Gen. Ghulam Sakhi Ghafari, told Pajhwok Afghan News the militant assaults began late on Sunday and continued till Monday morning.

Four militants were killed and three others wounded in Afghan forces' retaliatory attacks,



he said. "This would not be the final attack from the enemy, they may carry out more attacks for capturing the lapis lazuli mine in the district," he said.

He added the Ministry of Defence (MoD) had deployed special attack helicopters to the area and more troops had arrived from capital Kabul and Faizabad, the capital of Badakhshan, to deal with more possible attacks.

An intelligence official, who wished ... (More on P4)...(18)

## Helmand Child Bomber was Assigned by His Father for Insurgency

LASHKARGAH - A teenage child suicide bomber, who had surrendered to the security forces in southern Helmand province, was assigned by his own father for insurgency, local officials said.

The provincial government office issued a statement following the detention of the child suicide bomber, saying the child was initially used to gather information regarding the check posts in Helmand.

The statement further added that the 12-year-old Nabiullah is originally hail-

ing from Shajoin district of Zabul who assigned by his own Taliban father to participate in insurgency activities.

According to the local officials, Nabiullah was eventually tasked to conduct more insurgency besides gathering information and was later assigned to conduct suicide attack on Ishaqzoi check post.

The child has confessed that he was forcefully taken by his father to join the Taliban group.

The local officials are saying ... (More on P4)...(19)

## Taliban and ISIS Militants Suffer Casualties in Nangarhar

KABUL - The Taliban insurgents and loyalists of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) terrorist group suffered casualties in the latest operations in eastern Nangarhar province of Afghanistan.

According to the local security officials, the militants were killed or injured in Chaparhar and Haska Mina districts on Sunday.

The provincial police commandment in a statement said a Taliban in-

surgent was killed in an airstrike conducted in Behmaro area of Chaparhar district.

No further details were given regarding the airstrike and it is yet not clear if the airstrike was carried out by the Afghan Air Force or the US forces based in Afghanistan.

Both the Afghan and US forces conduct regular operations against the militant groups in this province. In the meantime, the statement, said



a loyalist of ISIS terrorist group was wounded during a clash with the security forces in Haska Mina district. The statement said the Afghan security forces and ... (More on P4)...(20)

## Salang Pass Reopens for Passenger Buses: Official

KABUL - The Salang Pass, linking Kabul with northern provinces, was reopened only for public transport buses on Monday morning after three days of closure due to snowstorms, an official said.

The highway, which passes through mountains in Parwan and Baghlan provinces, had been closed for traffic since Thursday due to severe snowstorms.

Salang Maintenance



Commander Gen. Abdul Rajab told Pajhwok Afghan News the highway was reopened only for passenger buses at around 8am. Cargo trucks are not allowed to ply through. Passenger vehicles will not be allowed to cross the Salang Pass after 6pm when temperature falls below the freezing point and frost covers the lanes, ... (More on P4)...(21)

## Nangarhar Bombing Leaves 3 Soldiers Hurt

JALALABAD - Three Afghan National Army (ANA) soldiers were wounded as result of the roadside bombing in the Behsud district of the eastern Nangarhar province on Monday, an official said.

Attuallah Khogyani, the governor's spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News the incident took place in Beniga locality of the district before noon.

He said a roadside bomb hit security forces convoy leaving three soldiers injured.

The wounded ANA soldiers had been evacuated to the Nangarhar public health hospital and their health condition were said to be stable, he said.

Baes, a resident of the area, confirmed the incident and said he heard a powerful blast in which security forces vehicle was destroyed.

No one so far takes the responsibility of the explosion. (Pajhwok)

## Afghan Citizen Reunites with Family in Nebraska

KABUL - After President Donald Trump's executive order on immigration, a Nebraska-bound Afghan has reunited with his spouse and children, a TV channel reported.

Abdul Bari, a refugee from Afghanistan, met his wife and two sons this week after months of uncertainty, KETV said. "I've been waiting for three months to see my family. I'm very excited..." The man embraced his spouse and kids at the Lincoln airport Friday, saying they were supposed to arrive on January 27, but inclement weather and concerns over Trump's order delayed his arrival. Bari's family was cleared due to their special immigration visas. He said: "I'm so happy and grateful to be here, so I can pursue my education and work to support my family here and also my parents back in the country." His wife asked the TV channel not to show her face because of security concerns. Bari and his family are optimistic Nebraska will remain a refugee-friendly place. (Pajhwok)

## Delhi Police Arrest Afghan Trickster for Duping Women

KABUL - A flamboyant Afghan citizen has been detained in New Delhi on charges of cheating several women out of cash and other valuables, Indian media reported.

Based on a complaint from an American woman, the Delhi Police Crime Branch arrested Hameedullah for sexually exploiting her and defrauding her of \$86,000. The impostor befriended her on social media.

The Times of India reported the 34-year-old man used luxury cars, frequented high-end hotels and night clubs to charm women,



whom he later sexually exploited. In case of threat from his targets to expose him, the smart Afghan would blackmail them by saying he would tell the authorities that they had terror links in his war-torn country. Posing as MK Fahim, the complainant became friends with the American on Facebook. He claimed ... (More on P4)...(22)

## 3 Civilian Killed, 4 Hurt in Laghman Mortar Shelling

MEHTARLAM - Two women and a child were killed and four other civilians wounded in a mortar shells firing in the Alingar district of eastern Laghman province on Monday, an official said.

Sahardi Zwak, the governor's spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News

the civilian casualties resulted by a clash between security forces and the Taliban.

He said two women and a child were killed and four civilians were wounded as in the militants' mortar shelling.

The wounded had been ... (More on P4)...(23)



### Outlook Horoscope

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

Choosing your words wisely is of paramount importance today. You're confident that you can fulfill every verbal contract you make, but one too many could cause you to drop all your spinning plates in an instant. Instead of pushing your limits, quit while you're ahead. Under-promising and over-delivering is always preferable to spreading yourself too thin.

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

You're scrambling to finish tasks that remain incomplete and in your haste to make up for lost time you could find yourself overwhelmed again. Disorganization in your surroundings disrupts your peaceful environment today, and you might be worried that the clutter reflects badly on you as a person. Rather than allowing anxiety to divide your energy among too many distractions.

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

You're happy to juggle multiple things at once, bouncing from project to project on a whim. The chatty Gemini Moon merges mind and mouth - and thoughts are spoken nearly as quickly as they form. As a result you may not even realize how much you're taking on until you hear yourself agreeing to something out loud. There comes a point when words mean very little and others demand that you follow through with your promises.

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

You prefer to keep things to yourself today as you just don't have the energy to explain what's on your mind. It's a challenge to stay focused when your thoughts keep distracting you from the task at hand. Walking away from your work may seem counter-intuitive, but taking short breaks to enjoy some silence can help you gracefully move through the day.

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

You want to be there for your friends but it seems like everyone wants to do something at the same time today. If you don't think before you speak, you might consent to a social engagement that's contrary to your personal desires. There's no point in going if you resent being there in the first place.

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

You're eager to prove yourself to your coworkers today by managing all your professional affairs efficiently. However, heavy workloads are only impressive when you can carry them without a struggle. There's no use in packing your agenda so tightly that you need to work overtime to get it all done. Besides, neglecting your home life creates its own set of consequences as falling behind on the job.

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

Wandering off on one tangent can lead you to many others when you realize how much you still have to learn. A number of fascinating topics for study enter your consciousness as the inquisitive Gemini Moon meanders through your 9th House of Higher Education. A thirst for knowledge is healthy, but you could end up overwhelmed by an onslaught of data if you don't respect your mental limits.

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

The mundane world doesn't interest you at the moment as you are drawn down the deep tunnels of your own mind. The curious Gemini Moon stalks through your 8th House of Self-Analysis today, distracting you from your responsibilities in favor of getting lost in your head.

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

It's impossible to be bored today because it seems like everyone has an amusing story to tell you. The loquacious Gemini Moon lights up your 7th House of Companions, inspiring delightful discourse with almost anyone you encounter. However, it may slowly dawn on you just how much time you're losing in idle chatter, prompting you to put your foot down rather abruptly. Irma Kurtz wrote, "Givers have to set limits, because takers rarely do."

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

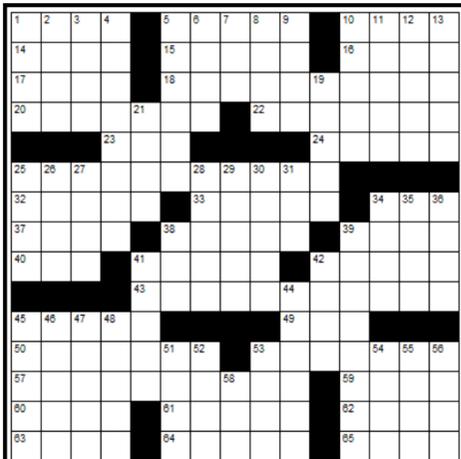
It appears as if everyone needs something from you today, and you're all too willing to help out. Unfortunately, tasks that you think will only take five minutes end up taking longer; you may run out of time before you know it. Overextending your mental and physical limits won't do you any good. Sacrificing your own well-being for the sake of others is a slippery slope.

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

You're having such a great time that it's hard to know when to stop and take a break today. The carefree Gemini Moon zips through your 5th House of Fun and Games, prompting you to turn any activity into a celebration. Everyone appreciates your lighthearted demeanor, but being the life of the party has its drawbacks now. Serious Saturn scolds Luna later on.

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

Your body might be out and about in the world but your head wishes it could stay home. You may think you can operate with a divided mind today, but your preoccupation regarding family matters could detract from the daily grind more than you expect. Sobering Saturn restrains the fidgety Gemini Moon later on, warning you to remain on track rather than letting underlying anxiety hijack your day.



**Across**

1. Steering mechanism for a vessel, 5. Sired, biblically, 10. Role, 14. Double-reed woodwind, 15. Swelling under the skin, 16. Operatic solo, 17. Constellation bear, 18. Designation, 20. Podium, 22. Helps, 23. Vagrant, 24. Verse, 25. Walk about, 32. Angles of a branch or leaf, 33. Heathen, 34. Mesh, 37. Aquatic respiratory organ, 38. Lukewarm, 39. Not less, 40. French for "Summer", 41. Discussion group, 42. Mortise and tenon, 43. Ceaselessness, 45. Noodles, 49. Consume, 50. Cover, 53. Soccer goal scorer, 57. Handwritten document, 59. Savvy about, 60. Skittles, 61. Renegade, 62. Tidy, 63. Thin strip, 64. Lyric poem, 65. Collections.

**Down**

1. 60 minutes, 2. River of Spain, 3. Not a win, 4. Often Italian or Swedish style, 5. Deaden, 6. Biblical kingdom, 7. Precious stone, 8. Dogfish, 9. Bronzes, 10. Ter-race, 11. Rebel, 12. Violent disturbances, 13. A Eurasian aromatic herb, 19. Type of poplar tree, 21. Certain card games or liquors, 25. Use a beeper, 26. Way out, 27. Anger, 28. Flip over, 29. Continuation of the coat collar, 30. Nimble, 31. Little bit, 34. Not a single one, 35. God of love, 36. 10 10 10 10, 38. Buff, 39. Brings up, 41. Knells, 42. Russian emperor, 44. Homestead, 45. Gauderies, 46. Utilize, 47. Ringworm cassia, 48. Believe in, 51. Unit of land, 52. Kind of school, 53. Hurried, 54. Leg joint, 55. French for "State", 56. Decays, 58. Nigerian tribesman.

**Yesterday's Solution**

STOWS PLAT IBIIS  
TORAH LULU MESA  
BRETTE ROAR PALL  
BOOTLEGGERS RUES  
FLEA EGESTA  
SELF SOG TIS  
LIVIT FLEX SAWEID  
ATRIUM ESTRADE  
PLAID TENT IDES  
BYE ROE OINK  
ENGUITE OPAL  
ATLS FISHMONGER  
SEAT UNJO SEINSE  
ECCLE SNOB ERAISE  
DEER ESNE ROWED

across, agent, anticipate, behind, blunt, breaker, bright, bronze, center, clocks, cord, cover, destroy, dimension, enjoy, evade, flower, mite, money, music, pare, quick, rest, rookie, sewn, solid, speed, start, steak, swerve, tackle, tent, threaten, tight, title, truth, under, young.

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