

27 Militants Killed in Afghan Airstrikes, Ground Offensive

KABUL - A total of 27 militants have been killed within days in eastern Afghanistan, the country's Defense Ministry said on Wednesday. "On Tuesday, based on a tip-off, the Afghan National Army (ANA) air force carried out air raids against militants' position in Gomal district of eastern Paktika province, killing 17 Taliban terrorists and destroying a car bomb in the stricken hideout," the ministry said in a statement. The army personnel also killed 10 Islamic State (IS) militants during a ground offensive in Rodat district of the neighboring Nangarhar province on the same day, according to the statement. The army soldiers also seized five AK-47 automatic guns, two machineguns, a rocket launcher and a telecommunication radio after the operation. No member of security force was hurt during the above raids, the statement added. The militant groups have yet to make comments. ...*(More on P4)...(14)*



Two Dead, 27 Injured in Afghan Bus Accident

KABUL - Two people were killed and 27 others were wounded after a long-distance bus veered off a road along a mountainous highway in Parwan on Wednesday, an official said. The accident took place in the morning after two buses crushed in Pul-e-Khaki area in Salang Pass, causing one bus falling into a ditch along the road, an official with the country's National Disaster Management Authority said. ...*(More on P4)...(15)*

Warhead Explosion Claims Lives of Two Children

ASADABAD - Two children were killed as a result of a warhead blast of a shell in eastern Kunar province, an official said on Wednesday. The incident took place in Manogi district on Tuesday evening when the shell a boy and his sister were playing with exploded. Brig. Gen. Abdul Habib Syedkhel, the provincial police chief, told Pajhok Afghan News the victims were five and seven years of age. (Pajhok)

Offensive against Taliban Launched in Maidan Wardak

KABUL - Heavy clashes between security forces and Taliban are underway in the Nirkh district of central Maidan Wardak province, an official said on Wednesday. The clashes erupted after the security forces launched a clearing operation codenamed Topan-1 in the district, the governor's spokesman, Tork-alai-Himmat told Pajhok Afghan News. Having no confirm causality figures, Himmat said the offensive would continue until the area was purged of insurgents. Mohammad Rahim, a resident of Deh Hayat locality, said the clashes



erupted at around 8:00am in the area. Fighting in the town was still ongoing, he added. "Heavy weapons fire could be heard in the area. But there has been no credible report yet about casualties." Meanwhile, Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed one tank of security forces was destroyed and all soldiers on board killed. The governor spokesman, however, rejected the claim. (Pajhok)

Jawzjan Woman Commits Suicide by Hanging Herself

SHIBERGHAN - A woman hanged herself in northern Jawzjan province, taking the number of female suicide incidents to seven since March 2015, officials said on Wednesday. The 25 years old hanged herself from a ceiling fan with her shawl, the crime branch chief, Col. Abdul Hadi, told Pajhok Afghan News. Her mother-in-law immediately called his son (brother-in-law of the woman) to take her to hospital, but she died on the way. The woman leaves behind two children, with the motive behind her resort to yet to be known, according to the official, who said police had launched an investigation into the incident. Meanwhile, the Afghanistan ...*(More on P4)...(16)*

Takharis Cut Imported Chicken Meat Consumption by Half

TALUQAN - The residents of northern Takhar province have reduced by "50 percent" consumption of imported chicken meat after some poultry farms were established in the province, an official said on Wednesday. Agriculture Department Head Hidayatullah told Pajhok 12 poultry farms had been established in Taluqan, the provincial capital, and some district during the past two years. He said the 12 farms supplied as many as 290,000 kilograms of chicken meat to the market, reducing reliance on imported meat



by 50 percent. According to Hidayatullah, these farms have been constructed by local residents without being assisted by the agriculture department. He said people in the province now did not buy imported frozen broiler meat and nobody was selling it in the market anymore. The agriculture department head said increased local production could help improve the country's economy. Abdul Salam Majidi, a resident ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

Afghan Police Officer Killed after Firing on Coalition Troops

KABUL - An Afghan police officer who was shot during an exchange of gunfire with members of NATO's force in Afghanistan has died, the Ministry of Interior said on Wednesday. The officer apparently opened fire on a NATO force delegation near the main entrance of the Ministry of Commerce and Industries in the capital, Kabul, on Tuesday, the ministry said in a statement. NATO force soldiers returned fire, wounding the gunman, said U.S. military spokesman Colonel Michael Lawhorn. No NATO



force members were wounded in the exchange, he said. The shooter died later in hospital and the Interior Ministry said it had ordered police to investigate the incident. So-called insider attacks by members of Afghan security forces on their international military allies were a major worry several years ago but have become more rare as the number of foreign troops has dwindled. (Reuters)

Civilian Killed, Intelligence Agents among 3 Wounded

ZARANJ/MAIMANA - An official of the National Directorate of Security (NDS) was wounded along with his colleague in western Nimroz province while a civilian was killed in a roadside bombing in northern Faryab, officials said on Wednesday. The NDS personnel and one of his subordinates were attacked by two motorcyclists on the 200-bed Hospital Road in Zaranj, the capital of Nimroz province on Tuesday evening. An intelligence official, ...*(More on P4)...(18)*

Khost Public Health Director Wounded in Shooting

KHOST CITY - The public health director of southeastern Khost province was shot injured in an insurgent attack on Wednesday, officials said. The shooting took place in the Matoon area of Khost City at around 8am, when the acting public health director, Dr. Mohammad Hashim Saedi, was on his way to office, Governor Hukom Khan Habibi told Pajhok Afghan News the attackers tried to abduct the director, but Saedi was wounded in the subsequent during exchange of fire. Police have launched an investigation into the incident. The condition of Saedi was stable Khost Civil Hospital Director Dr. Yousuffaiz said. Saedi was appointed as acting public health director around 45 days ago. No one has so far claimed responsibility for the attack. (Pajhok)

Afghan Citizen with Expired Visa Detained by Indian Police

KABUL - An Afghanistan citizen roaming suspiciously near the Chandigarh International Airport was detained by Indian police on Tuesday. Ahmad Manzoor, whose visa had expired last year, came to Chandigarh from New Delhi on Sunday with his friends, the Times of India quoted a police officer as saying. The detainee had come to Chandigarh to buy a soap-making machine before going to Mumbai. The Afghan, who also worked as a translator for tourists from his country, had come to India in 2009. (Pajhok)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

Remaining upbeat about your contributions is helpful as you move toward your destination, whether you're making plans to achieve a professional goal or striving to be noticed within your community. Luckily, you may receive assistance from an important ally now that friendly Venus is visiting your 10th House of Public Status. Do your best work without looking back.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

It's always quite rewarding to be appreciated for who you are. Today may be exceptionally sweet because you're likely to receive an abundance of positive energy from the buoyant Venus-Jupiter trine. However, it isn't appropriate to overwhelm people with your exuberance, especially at work. A small touch of self-restraint can help you win the admiration and respect of everyone you encounter.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You're clear about what you want out of a relationship now, especially if you have already been working to redefine your needs. The time is now ripe to make something special happen, and you could blow your chance if you wait too long. Maintain a positive attitude while sharing your feelings, even if you're unsure about where the conversation will lead. But don't allow the present moment to pass without following your heart.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

You may be emerging from a very trying period, yet you're still able to overcome any disappointment and rationalize what you want. However, delicious feelings are bubbling up from your subconscious now and tempting you to set aside your newfound emotionally detached objectivity.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

You might feel like a lazy lion with a stack of excuses to justify your unproductive nature. Nevertheless, you still harbor dreams of being highly successful at your career. Cheerful Jupiter is expanding your 2nd House of Income, and his trine to resourceful Venus in your 6th House of Work resonates with your ambitious plans to accomplish a lot today.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

You could wake up in a positive mood, willing to patiently go along with whatever happens today. You realize you're okay waiting for satisfaction because of the limited potential pleasures that are currently available to you. Even if you try to fight against the changes, your resistance fades quickly once you sink beneath your noisy thoughts and into the less familiar non-verbal world of emotions.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

It feels as if your boundaries are paper thin today, prompting you to withdraw into the world of your feelings so that you don't have to deal with anyone's judgement. You really don't want to waste energy rationalizing what's in your heart. The positive signals coming from your subconscious are integrally connected with your truth. Your negativity is the biggest thing standing between you and your success.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

It is in your best interest to temporarily set aside your personal pursuits so you can concentrate on selfless acts of generosity now. But don't spoil the moment by asking what's in it for you. If you really need to know the answer, you're entirely missing the point. Ultimately, if you focus on exhibiting the highest expression of love.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

You might bury your anger because you don't want it to interfere with the lovely energy that's floating through your environment today. Thankfully, it may seem as if everything you touch turns to gold as magnifying Jupiter harmonizes with valuable Venus in your 2nd House of Money. But acquiring riches isn't your key to happiness. Your willingness to work in service to others is the priceless gift that brings you true spiritual satisfaction.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

Unfortunately, you can't hide from your responsibilities today just because good times are calling your name. Thankfully, you can still enjoy yourself by expressing your creative urges within a practical project. The good news is that gracious Venus harmoniously trines joyous Jupiter in your 9th House of Big Ideas, encouraging you to play new games.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

Your feelings are so raw now that you don't know how to say what you're thinking without upsetting others. However, maintaining silence isn't a smart strategy either, since suppressed emotions will find a way to blast their messages to the surface sooner or later. In fact, the longer you pretend everything is fine, the more likely you are to strike out at the wrong target.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

You're a bit too eager to please others now with accommodating Venus hard at work in your 11th House of Social Networking. Jolly Jupiter's current magnanimity makes it easy for you to be a wonderful friend, but you must be cautious about only acknowledging the good news. The power of positive thinking is contagious, but you could take your optimism too far today. Obsessing on potentially negative outcomes isn't useful.



Across
1. Type of sword, 5. More prudent, 10. Lacquered metalware, 14. Gave temporarily, 15. Foreword, 16. Egg-shaped, 17. Comprehended, 19. Whimper, 20. Letter after sigma, 21. Expert, 22. Mountain lakes, 23. Voter, 25. Angry, 27. Skirt's edge, 28. Icebreakers, 31. Not fluid, 34. Frustrates, 35. G, 36. At the peak of, 37. Pretentious, 38. Rip, 39. Band booking, 40. Extraordinary, 41. Expletive, 42. Not the arts, 44. Best seller, 45. Squash, 46. Having small rounded lumps, 50. Pandemonium, 52. A form of oxygen, 54. 3 in Roman numerals, 55. Grasp, 56. Ingenuity, 58. Competent, 59. Anagram of "Aside", 60. Leer at, 61. Playthings, 62. Something of value, 63. G G G G.

Down
1. Wash out with a solvent, 2. Prison-related, 3. Provide, 4. French for "Summer", 5. Discernment, 6. alia, 7. Cease, 8. One who indulges in eroticism, 9. 16 1/2 feet, 10. Chief ingredient in ketchup, 11. Excessively eager, 12. A field of grass, 13. L L L L, 18. Deserved, 22. Checks, 24. Flake, 26. Depend, 28. Smidgens, 29. Orange pekoe, 30. Arid, 31. Droops, 32. Ear-related, 33. In a logical manner, 34. Land tenures, 37. Circle fragments, 38. Ballet attire, 40. Wildebeests, 41. Made from apple juice, 43. Wears away, 44. Truthful, 46. Exploded stars, 47. Feudal lord, 48. Passageway, 49. Ascends, 50. Gossip, 51. Vagabond, 53. Z Z Z Z (American), 56. Spy agency, 57. Holiday drink.

Yesterday's Solution
ambush, athlete, bonus, boring, clock, covert, dance, intrigue, lane, leader, light, lips, lunch, pardon, passionate, pipe, player, recent, right, round, rung, sandwich, shout, slide, stack, stand, suede, supervisor, swing, ticket, tickle, trophy, trouble.

