

# Operation Launched in Helmand to Wipe out Militants

the government's writ was established in areas where Taliban had been in control for the last eight years, occupying "hundreds of thousands of acres of land." He said the insurgents would allow poppy cultivation on the land and plan and execute their attacks from the areas. The police chief said operations in other areas of the district would be launched three days later to retake large swaths of land from insurgents and establish security posts there. So far the joint forces have not suffered any casualties. A security official told

Pajhwok Afghan News the operation in Nad Ali was currently being carried out by Helmand-based security forces, but personnel from neighbouring Kandahar and western Herat provinces would be called in over the next few days. He said after the launch of the operation, many insurgents had fled the area, but some remained planting roadside bombs. A resident of the Loy Manda area, Syed Gul, said it was for the first time in the past many years that security forces had arrived in the area to conduct operation



against militants. He said though insurgents were yet to put up any resistance, the government forces should be careful in their actions in order to avoid civilian casualties or intimidate them in the name of Taliban. (Pajhwok)

## 73 Insurgents Killed in Military Operations

KABUL - 73 insurgents were killed in separate military operations across Afghanistan in past 24 hours, ministries of Defense and Interior said. Defense Ministry statement said that 23 insurgents were killed, a number injured and 11 others arrested during military operations in nine provinces, Khaama press reported. 54 different types of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) were also defused by Army soldiers



during the past 24 hours, the statement added. In the meantime, statement issued by the Interior Ministry states that 50 insurgents were killed, two wounded and five others arrested in police operations in past 24 hours. Statement added that the operations were also assisted by Afghan National Army and personnel from the National Directorate of Security (NDS). The statement further added tha... (More on P4)... (23)

## New Farah Governor Vows to Reopen Gulistan Road

FARAH CITY - The governor has said plans were ready to improve economy and security in the Gulistan district of western Farah province. During a visit to the volatile town, 240 km east of Farah City, the provincial capital, Governor Mohammad Asif Nang promised he would reo-

open the road connecting the district with provincial capital. The road has been closed since June last year by Taliban insurgents, who control most of the town's 219 villages. The highway's closure has landed local residents in trouble as they face many problems while travelling on the route. Nang, who recently assumed charge as Farah's new governor, was flown to the district's centre on Tuesday, heading a delegation. The delegation included Gen. Taji Mohammad Mujahid, the 207th Zafar ... (More on P4)... (24)

## Gen. Hamid Claims Cut in Taliban's Foreign Funding

KANDAHAR CITY - An Afghan military commander on Wednesday claimed Taliban's foreign financing had reduced in southern Afghanistan this solar year, subsiding threats they posed. Maj. Gen. Abdul Hameed Hamid, the Afghan National Army's 205th Atal Military Corps commander in the south, was speaking to Pajhwok Afghan News during an inclusive interview. Gen. Hamid said not only the foreign funding had reduced, but internal differences in the insurgent group had also widened. He said foreign groups and individuals cut short money supplies to the Taliban this year as compared to last year's finances after considering the group "no longer effective."



and will further drop next year. "The military official claimed new differences in the group's top leadership had surfaced. He said Mullah Mansoor Dadullah, once ousted from the movement... (More on P4)... (19)

"The Taliban would previously receive a huge amount of money for their operation costs and they used a big portion of the money on suicide attacks and making roadside bombs, but these activities have declined

Explaining the situation Rahima said "My husband took my two daughters out of the house on pretexts of taking them to his sister's house". "When his father left home my husband locked me in a room and wounded me" she added. Rahima's mother Maryam says when her husband took the knife he told Rahima "Now I will cut ... (More on P4)... (20)

## Over 500 KG of Explosives Seized

SHARAN - Afghan National Army soldiers and personnel from the National Directorate of Security have seized over 500 kilograms of explosives, ammunition and bombs in Paktika Province. National Directorate of Security (NDS) says that the materials belong to Haqqani terrorist network which were seized from the group's depots in Jabbarkhil area of Urgon District. A statement issued by NDS on Wednesday states that 50 pairs of military suits, 49 anti-vehicle mines and other materi-

als used in terrorist activities were also seized during the operations. NDS statement adds that Haqqani network planned to carry out terrorist activities through these materials in different parts of Paktika Province. In November 2014 a suicide bomber of Haqqani Network carried out an explosion in a volleyball ground in Yahyakhil District of Paktika Province that left at least 61 people killed and more than 50 others wounded. Children of 7-14 were among the victims who were ... (More on P4)... (21)

## Small Pharma Firm Helping Afghanistan Achieve Self-Sufficiency in Medicines

KABUL - Over a dozen people that include some women work in a small pharmaceutical plant in Bagrami area in the eastern edge of Kabul City where they produce different kinds of medicine. "Within my limited resources, I am trying to help my country achieve self-sufficiency in pharmaceutical products,"

Mohammad Yaqub, managing director and owner of SunPharma, told Xinhua in a recent interview. Built in a 400 square meters lot three years ago, the pharmaceutical firm has been producing over a dozen types of medicines, Yaqub, in his early forties, said. He said he started his business with only 1 mil ... (More on P4)... (22)

## Bomb Blast Leaves 5 Injured

JALALABAD - Five people were wounded in a bomb blast in Jalalabad, the capital of eastern Nangarhar province on Wednesday, an official said. The incident took place when a bomb targeted a police ranger close to the custom department around 9: 00 am. Police spokesman Hazrat Hussain Mashriqiwal confirmed the incident but he had no information about casualties. Ahmad Zia Abdulzai, the governor's spokesman, said two policemen and two civilians were slightly injured in the blast. However, director of Jalalabad Civil Hospital Dr. Humayun Zaheer said that they have received five wounded ... (More on P4)... (25)

## Blast Leaves 8 Wounded; Huge Drugs Cache Seized

PUL-I-KHUMRI / ZARANJ - At least eight persons, including women and children, were wounded as a result of gas balloon explosion in northern Baghlan province while tens of kilograms of drugs seized in southwestern Nimroz, officials said on Wednesday. Ahmad Sayyar Nekzad, director of provincial hospital, told Pajhwok Afghan News the gas explosion occurred at a

residential house in Khost district leaving all the eight members of a family injured. Five children, two women and a man were among the victims, with five of them said to be in. Meanwhile, Rahmatullah Naser, Nimroz police chief, claimed seizing 41 kilograms of drugs including heroin that was skillfully placed in a vehicle. The contraband was being smuggled to Iran, he added. (Pajhwok)

## 2 Rebels Dead in Drone Strike; School Torched

ASADABAD - Two militants have been killed in a drone strike while another school was torched by rebels in eastern Nangarhar province, officials said

Wednesday. Kunar police Chief Brig Gen. Abdul Habib Sayedkhel told Pajhwok Afghan News two Taliban com ... (More on P4)... (26)

### Outlook Horoscope

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

Managing your schedule is complicated today because seeing things in a clear light is nearly impossible. Although you want to get to the truth, you don't have the time or energy to pursue answers through endless analysis. It doesn't matter whether or not you even have a long-term plan; just set your goals high and do what you can to reach them.

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

You may be under the false illusion that people are giving you a hard time but, surprisingly, they rush to your rescue if you need their support. However, you must be open to graciously accept what others are offering now, or you could miss an opportunity to receive help over a rough spot. There's no reason to show your superiority, especially when your perspective is out of whack.

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

No matter how determined you are to have a good time today, you're still likely to feel overwhelmed by all that's expected of you. Although you may have a plan in hand, sticking to it is no easy matter. The best bet is to just do whatever seems most important minute by minute along the way. Unfortunately, your time is running out. You can have fun another day; put your best foot forward now by finishing one task before beginning another.

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

Taking your mind off work may be tricky business these days, but your desires could drive you to distraction, whether or not they are convenient. Unfortunately, ignoring your feelings isn't a viable option now because they remain persistent, especially if you resist them. Surrendering to the inevitable is more sensible than trying to avoid it.

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

Although you might not have an obvious reason to be more self-confident today, it feels as if you are being guided by a benevolent mysterious force. Nothing is gained by questioning whether or not this ethereal assistance is real, so just listen to your intuition with an open mind.

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

You're not ready to trust your choices today because you think you're missing a piece of the puzzle, but gathering additional information isn't the answer, either. Nevertheless, you still may want to do more research or, at least seek out the benefit of other people's advice. Even if you're concerned about the current conflict between your head and your heart, it's time to take a risk and let your passion guide you.

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

Sharing your vision of the future is a powerful catalyst for your friends and associates today. However, no one is interested in receiving more data now, so spouting facts and figures to defend your fantasies is a waste of energy. If you attempt to coerce others to support your plans, they may end up making empty promises just to placate you.

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

There's no reason to add more stress to an already delicate situation, but your forthright response could be tough for someone to handle, anyway. On one hand, everything might seem more difficult than it has to be today. On the other hand, you're willing to follow an over-complicated plan because you have a very clear trajectory in mind, even if it's an unpopular one.

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

You want others to see you shining brightly in the best possible light today because you believe your actions are a source of inspiration. Luckily, you can keep far enough ahead of everyone else now that you appear to be a natural born leader. Fortunately, you don't have to do anything differently from what you have already done in the past.

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

Calculating your options and weighing the various pros and cons to your ambitious plans is your top priority now. Naturally, you want to make the best choices, but the most sensible course of progress grows more complicated with the crosscurrents from other people's opinions. Even if your closest friends and allies are on your side, they might withdraw emotionally once they realize that there's little for them to do.

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

You're anxious to assume a leadership position today because you intuitively know what needs to happen next. Unfortunately, those around you aren't so quick to relinquish their power now. Caution is advised; you can't just command an authoritative role in order to demonstrate your competence. Avoid direct confrontation at all costs; fortunately, you can use your ingenuity to find an indirect route to achieve your objectives.

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

Miracles aren't likely to happen out of the blue, even if you woke up anticipating something special today. Nevertheless, serious healing magic can suddenly unfold right before your eyes as long as you don't try to force anything on your own. Above all, don't push your perspective on anyone else. Swim like a Fish in a school and, for now, take the course of least resistance.

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-64.

Across: 1. Ancient Athenian philosopher, 6. Gusted, 10. Mimics, 14. Broadcast, 15. 66 in Roman numerals, 16. Transport commercially, 17. Little, 18. Cut down, 19. Fizzy drink, 20. Not arrogant, 22. 1 1 1 1, 23. South southeast, 24. Mistake, 26. Edict, 30. Stalwart, 32. Laneway, 33. Amends, 37. Applications, 38. Death notices, 39. Decorative case, 40. Confuses, 42. Serpent, 43. Dirties, 44. Batter, 45. Slogan, 47. Female sib, 48. Exploded star, 49. Unshackled, 56. Press, 57. Indian dress, 58. Avoid, 59. After-bath powder, 60. Untruths, 61. Cooktop, 62. Blackthorn, 63. The original matter (cosmology), 64. Contemptuous look.

Down: 1. A Maori club, 2. Mortgage, 3. Region, 4. 10 10 10 10, 5. Amazing adventure, 6. Hold responsible, 7. 71 in Roman numerals, 8. Not odd, 9. Freshwater ducks of Eurasia, 10. Variety, 11. Record player, 12. Duck down, 13. Resorts, 21. Utilize, 25. Regret, 26. Apply, 27. If not, 28. A ball of yam, 29. Opposition, 30. Mixes, 31. Infants, 33. Cain's brother, 34. French for "State", 35. Microwave (slang), 36. Layer, 38. De-testably, 41. A parcel of land, 42. Female siblings, 44. Best seller, 45. Virtuous, 46. Convex molding, 47. Earthquake, 48. Pesky insects, 50. Found on a finger, 51. No charge, 52. Distinctive flair, 53. Graphic symbol, 54. Border, 55. A whitetail

Yesterday's Solution: agree, attack, campus, class, confident, context, credit, event, fault, foreign, government, heard, heart, ideal, nature, parson, perfect, photo, quote, reach, rely, right, rims, sense, speak, tape, target, tam, teat, terror, test, tone tough, train, truck, video, waste, watch

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