

16 Insurgents Perished in Military Offensive

KANDAHAR CITY - At least 16 militants were killed in Afghan security forces operation in the Maiwand district of southern Kandahar province on Friday, the governor's spokesman said. Zia Durrani told Pajhwok Afghan News that 16 militants had been perished in Bawar operation launched by the joint Afghan forces in the district. The offensive, he said was still under-

way in the area and the security forces recovered huge arms and ammunition from the rebels. Civilians and security forces remained unhurt in the operation, he said. Jan Agha, the police chief for Maiwand district, said that apart from the killing of insurgents and recovering of ammunition, the security forces had destroyed a number of drug production factories. (Pajhwok)



19 Dead, 50 Hurt in Attack Imambargah

KABUL - As many as 19 persons were killed and over 50 wounded in a gun and bomb attack in Peshawar, the capital city of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan, on Friday when suicide attackers forced their way inside Imambargah, police and hospital officials said Friday. Heavy firing was also reported when gunmen entered the Imambargah in the upscale Hayatabad locality, the Pakistani dawn.com reports. It said that residents confirmed



three explosions took place inside the Imamia Masjid Imambargah during the Friday prayers. Security and rescue operation teams were dispatched to the area, with forces cordoning off the site for further inspection. The attack comes two weeks after a suicide bombing at an imambargah in Shikarpur which killed 61 people, the deadliest sectarian ... (More on P4)...(22)

Seized Azure Truckloads Ordered Moved to Kabul

KABUL - The National Security Council (NSC) has directed local officials in northeastern Badakhshan province to move to Kabul for taxation the 64 trucks they had seized ferrying illegally extracted azure. Badakhshan officials on Sunday said they had seized trucks carrying azure worth 1 billion afis, blaming the smuggling attempt on some influential persons. The Presidential Palace said the decision came at the NSC



meeting chaired by President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani on Wednesday evening. The Ministry of Interior was also directed to draw plans curbing smuggling of the precious stone, the palace said in a statement. (Pajhwok)

Petroleum Prices up, Food Stable in Kabul

KABUL - Fuel prices increased and sugar's decreased, but those of other daily-use commodities stayed stable during the outgoing week in Kabul, market sources said on Thursday. A filling station worker in Wazirabad locality, Abdul Saboor, told Pajhwok Afghan News one liter of petrol's price increased from 40 afghanis to 42 afghanis and the same quantity of diesel from 43afis to 44afis. About two months ago, a liter of petrol was sold for 58afis and of diesel 56afis. But their prices sunk after a large amount of the products was im-

ported from Central Asia nations. However, the rate of a kilogram of liquefied gas hovered between 32afis and 40afis in different parts of Kabul. A liquefied gas seller Mohammad Sharif in Thamani area sold a kilogram of gas for 40afis, the same price as of last week's in the area. But another gas seller Mohammad Nader in Pul Pacha area sold the same for 32afis. Eng. Baryalai Rahmani, fuel control director at the Ministry of Commerce, said the ministry had not fixed gas price because it was sold on a ... (More on P4)...(21)

4 Terrorists Detained: NDS

KABUL - The spy service on Thursday said four militants involved in planting roadside bombs and terrorist activities had been arrested during a special operation in southern Kandahar province. The National Directorate of Security (NDS) said two AK-47 assault rifles with 300 bullets, 11 different landmines and 120 kilograms of explosive materials were recovered from the detainees residents of Arghandab and Spin Boldak districts. The four were involved in a series of terrorist acts and planting roadside bombs, the agency said in a statement that identified the suspects as Zalmai, son of Mira Jan, Bacha son of Lalai, Abdul Hadi son of Janan and Amir Mo-hammad son of Shah Wali. (Pajhwok)

Addicted Man Kills His Seven Relatives

QALAT - An addicted Afghan man has reportedly killed seven of his relatives in southeastern Zabul province of Afghanistan, according to local security officials. The incident took place in Qalat city late on Thursday night after the addicted man started opening fire on his rela-

tives. Provincial police chief Ghulam Jilani Farahi confirmed the incident and said the man was shot dead while he was trying to flee the area after opening fire on his relatives. According to Farahi the man was identified as Ehsanullah who was add ... (More on P4)...(23)

Killer, Robbers Among 9 Held

KABUL / CHARIKAR - Police seized 10.5 kilograms of heroin and 3,500kg of ammonium nitrate and detained nine persons on various charges in different provinces, the Ministry of Interior and police said on Thursday. A man was detained in Kabul's 10th police district possessing 500 grams of heroin and another three persons in a car were arrested carrying 10kg of heroin in southern Zabul province's Shahr-i-Safa

district, the ministry said in a statement. A fifth person was detained in Kabul's sixth police district in connection with a murder case and two others in the capital's third police district limits for allegedly involved in armed robberies, said the statement, which provided no further details. Two more people were detained shifting 3,500 kg of ammonium nitrate in a vehicle in central Parwan province, provincial police ... (More on P4)...(24)

Residents Want Traffic Director Sacked

NEILI - A number of drivers, provincial council members, civil society activists and shopkeepers in central Daikundi province on Thursday demanded the government to forthwith sack the traffic director who they alleged of involvement in corruption. The protest held as the traffic department recently put a ban on unregistered vehicles in Neili city, the provincial capital. The protesters accused the traffic department of corruption and said that

traffic officers take money from drivers on one pretext or another. Ali Jan, a resident of Neili city, said traffic officers did not discharge their duties but they prefer to mint money. The driver told Pajhwok Afghan News the traffic department should ban the unregistered cars much earlier. Currently, more than one thousand non-customed paid cars were plying in Daikundi. He said most of the cars were imported from Wesh area in Baluchistan province of Pakistan

without bearing valid number plates. Ali Jan complained that a driving license which should be paid only 10 Afghanis as tax cost 250 Afghanis by the traffic department. The drivers without licenses should pay 200 Afghanis every day to the traffic personnel, he added. He demanded the government to register the non-custom paid vehicles in the province. Deputy provincial council head Subhan Naiebi who participated in the ... (More on P4)...(20)

7 of a Family Dead in Road Mishap

GHAZNI CITY - Seven persons of a family were killed in a traffic accident in southern Ghazni province on Friday, a police official said. Col. Asadullah Insaifi, senior police official, told Pajhwok Afghan News that a Corolla car collided head-on with another vehicle on Kabul-Ghazni Highway near Rozi locality on the outskirts of Ghazni City, the provincial capital, at around 8:00 am. Four children, two women and a man were died

in the crash, he said, adding that the slain man was a dental doctor by profession in Ghazni City. The doctor, he said was heading to Kabul with his family when his car collided with another vehicle coming from the opposite direction. He said that the driver of another vehicle had been detained for interrogation. Baz Mohammad, director of Ghazni Civil Hospital, confirmed receiving seven dead bodies. (Pajhwok)

Explosives, Suicide Vests Recovered

SHARAN - Police in southeastern Paktika province recovered 200 kilograms of explosives and two suicide vests from a car, an official said on Thursday. Nisar Ahmad Abdul Rahimzai, director National Directorate of Security (NDS), told Pajhwok ... (More on P4)...(26)

Illinois Troops to Help with Afghanistan Drawdown

SPRINGFIELD - About a dozen Illinois National Guard soldiers from Camp Lincoln are headed to Afghanistan to help with the withdraw-

al of U.S. troops. The unit is deploying for about nine months as part of Operation Resolute Support. The soldiers will ... (More on P4)...(25)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

You may be bored with your daily routine and are tempted to do something drastic about it today. Fortunately, you can get away with making changes that only a few days ago would have created problems. Don't let a current opportunity slip through your fingers. Pushing for short-term gratification now doesn't necessarily prevent you from establishing long-term goals as well.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

Aiming high is admirable, yet you may be too ambitious for your own good today. Reaching too far sets you up for failure and you could lose sight of what you can actually accomplish. If you fall short of your objectives, don't try to shift the blame to anyone else. Just temporarily scale back your goals and try again. Hitting your mark builds confidence and empowers you to strive for something more.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You might feel slighted as the spotlight of appreciation shines on everyone except you while the Moon is traveling through your 7th House of Others. But don't lose sight of the fact that the real lessons come from confronting your feelings, and not from unconsciously projecting them on to those around you.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

You normally prefer contemplation prior to action, but you're likely to say you can do something now before you even consider the actual steps. Thankfully, you can always renegotiate a promise if your enthusiasm gets the best of you. It is far better to be straightforward and let everyone know what's going on as soon as you realize you are over-committed.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

You have excess nervous energy that has nowhere to go today. Unfortunately, if you can't find a way to express it in a healthy manner, you could suddenly lose your temper for no reason at all. However, undertaking a complex project that demands all of your focus is a perfect outlet for your adrenaline. Don't worry about finishing everything you start now; just jump in and get the ball rolling.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

Normally, you have more than your fair share of common sense at your disposal, but you seem to have misplaced your sound judgment today. You're striving for a more unconventional approach to a solution, but you may not be able to logically justify your radical ideas. Fortunately, your intuition is probably right on track. Instead of wasting precious time and energy explaining your every move, just do what seems the most expedient.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

Your plan to catch up on all the little things that you recently let slide makes it difficult to relax now. But your good intentions may not be enough to shift you into the right gear. Although you know what you must do to reach your destination, you might resent having to be productive when all you really want to do is chill. Nevertheless, don't postpone your chores.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

You may be considering an adventurous plan to acquire something you have wanted for a while. However, it wouldn't hurt to do another round of research now that the purchase date is getting closer. You might have set very high expectations, yet suddenly are surprised at how much everything costs.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

Everyone seems to know your story before you say a word today, prompting you to feel emotionally vulnerable. Nevertheless, the cavalier Sagittarius Moon is hanging out in your 1st House of Personality, putting your emotions right out in the open for all to see. But rather than worrying about someone's opinion of you, change your frame of reference and enjoy being recognized for who you truly are.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

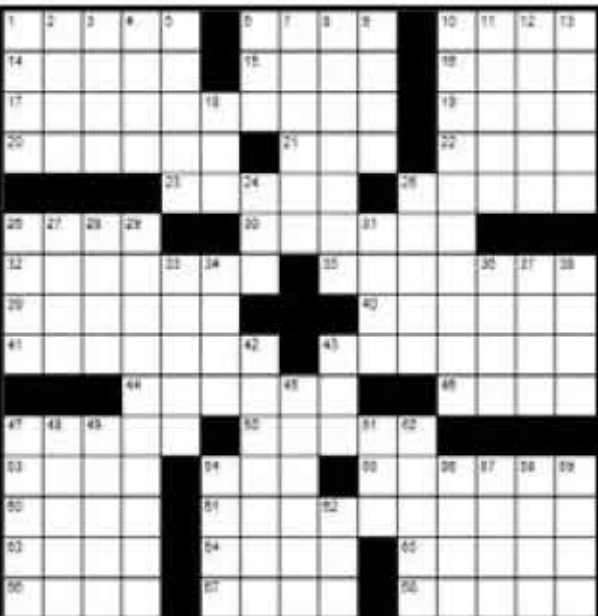
You want to perform a disappearing act today and, fortunately, changing your calendar to include a bit of rest and recreation is a great idea. You expend a lot of energy meeting your obligations and acting responsibly in your daily life. There's nothing wrong with wanting to kick back and take some downtime or run off with your friends.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

You might long for some good old-fashioned fun today, but you could have so many social activities scheduled that they become more like chores rather than play. The friendly Sagittarius Moon illuminates your 11th House of Friends, making it nearly impossible for you to turn down an invitation. However, selectively eliminating a few invitations now clears your calendar and gives you a better chance for enjoyment.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

You naturally take charge today without even realizing it because your intuition is so strong. At first, you may not understand why things unfold so smoothly as circumstances seem to fall in your favor now. Thankfully, the Moon harmonizes with your key planet Jupiter, bestowing cosmic good fortune upon you. Nevertheless, you must also do your part by remaining open to all of the opportunities knocking at your door.



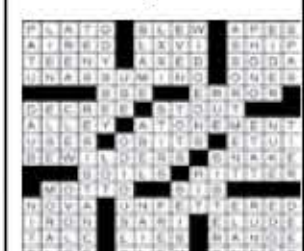
Across

- 1. Slenderizes, 6. Charity, 10. Unit of land, 14. Area of South Africa, 15. Genuine, 16. Prompted, 17. Improve, 19. Outcropping, 20. Third sign of the zodiac, 21. Father, 22. Anger, 23. Pasted, 25. Creases, 26. Oversupply, 30. Made noises while sleeping, 32. Rejoinder, 35. Revolutionary, 39. Bear witness, 40. Creation, 41. Berthing, 43. Kitchen set, 44. ___ public, 46. Writing table, 47. Moon of Saturn, 50. Adolescents, 53. Anagram of "Dome", 54. Poetic dusk, 55. Outcome, 60. Rational, 61. Enticements, 63. Not now, 64. Badgers, 65. Approximately, 66. Classify, 67. Visual organs, 68. Lance

Down

- 1. Catch, 2. Disabled, 3. Bit of gossip, 4. Anagram of "Mail", 5. Hoisting device, 6. Arrive (abbrev.), 7. Heavy, 8. Bullfighter, 9. Toboggan, 10. Recognized, 11. Papal, court, 12. Kingdom, 13. Borders, 18. Petroleum, 24. Utilize, 25. 4-door car, 26. A metric unit of weight, 27. Adriatic resort, 28. Style of hairdo, 29. A sporting competition, 31. Hindu princess, 33. Descendant, 34. Canvas dwelling, 36. Adorable, 37. The products of human creativity, 38. Scallion, 42. Entryway, 43. Coloring agent, 45. Fail to fulfill a promise, 47. Exams, 48. Potato state, 49. Laser printer powder, 51. Cashew or almond, 52. Eyeglasses, 54. Feudal worker, 56. Trim, 57. Not there, 58. Killer whale, 59. Russian emperor, 62. S

Yesterday's Solution



about, agent, apply, credit, earlier, express, first, income, input, institution, issue, location, mare, number, oldest, pain, payment, pert, please, purchase, pure, receive, remind, require, rope, rose, seam, stamp, staple, taxable, tenant, there, transaction, write

