



NORWEGIAN
REFUGEE COUNCIL

Humanitarian Work Paralysed in Many Parts of Afghanistan: NRC

KABUL - The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) has urged the warring parties to allow aid groups to deliver assistance in hard-to-reach areas.

Attacks on hospitals, schools and aid workers had paralysed humanitarian work in too many areas, the NRC secretary said in a statement on Wednesday.

Currently on a visit to Afghanistan, Jan Egeland noted many recent civilian casualties in the Afghan war had taken place in hard-to-reach areas. Some 1.150 schools were attacked or occupied in 2018, said the NRC secretary. As a result, half a million children have been added to the rising number of kids without education.

The first weeks of 2019 had seen many civilians displaced by intensified conflict across the countryside, Egeland deplored.

"Whilst international attention is focused on peace talks, I have met countless Afghan women, men and children who have fled air raids, crossfire and military offensives in central and southern Afghanistan," he said. The Afghans continue to be attacked, abused, displaced and refused their rights, with two-thirds of the population (17 million people) living in war-hit areas, he said.

About 6.3 million were in need of humanitarian assistance, the NEC official said, explaining 60 per cent of them were children.

"All the civilians I met in conflict-stricken Uruzgan and Kandahar expressed a deep yearning for peace after generations of senseless and bloody war. "The Afghans in the countryside have seen frontlines shift for decades and yearn for security, a possibility to return to their lands and to restart livelihoods," Egeland continued. (Pajhwok)

NATO Chief: Afghanistan Remains a Top Priority



ANKARA - NATO's mission in Afghanistan remains a top priority, the bloc's top official said Thursday at a meeting in Brussels. "We continue to support Afghan forces with training and with funding," NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg hold a press conference, according to a NATO

statement. He said NATO helps Afghan security forces fight international terrorism and create the conditions for a peaceful solution. "We went into Afghanistan together, and together we will determine our future posture based on conditions we determine with the Afghans," he

added. His remarks came amid reports that the U.S. may withdraw some or all of his forces from Afghanistan. Stoltenberg addressed a wide range of issues, including the recent U.S. pullout from the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty, at a two-day ...*(More on P4)...(11)*



Afghan Troops Keep Pressing Militants Amid Peace Efforts

KABUL - Some 37 Taliban insurgents have been killed and 14 others injured in different parts of Afghanistan since early Thursday, as security forces continued to press militants by conducting daily raids and operations, the Ministry of Defense said Friday.

"Afghan National Army (ANA) conducted 11 military operations, 79 small-range special operations within the past 24 hours. The raids left 37 terrorists dead and 14 others injured," the ministry said in a statement.

The raids were launched in 11 of the country's 34 provinces. Twenty Taliban militants were killed and 10 others wounded during clashes in Andar and Qara Bagh districts of eastern Ghazni province. The Afghan security forces, backed by the NATO-led coalition troops, have increased ground and air offensives against militants over the past few months, while militants have been attempting to take territory and consolidate their positions during the winter in the mountainous country. On the outskirts of Tirin Kot, capital of southern Uruzgan province, 10 insurgents were killed during a raid in ...*(More on P4)...(12)*

Flash Flood Kills 7, Displaces 800 Families in Farah



FARAH CITY - Flash flooding caused by heavy rains killed at least seven people and rendered hundreds of families homeless in western Farah province. A resident of Pusht Koh district, Jalil Ahmad, told Pajhwok Afghan News the flooding followed heavy raining and snowfall on

Wednesday. He said seven people had been killed, including two children and two women, and 80 houses swept away in the flood in Anzeer area of the district, displacing 800 families. Abdul Hakim Noorzai, the district's administrative chief, ...*(More on P4)...(13)*

10 Gunmen Involved in Harassing Citizens Detained



KABUL - Kabul police have arrested a 10-member group of gunmen involved in beating a civilian in the capital, an official said on Thursday. Basir Mujahid, spokesman for the 101st Asmaee Police Zone, told Pajhwok Afghan News beating an innocent man in front of Gul Bahar Centre late on Wednesday night.

Mujahid alleged the detainees were accused of insulting, beating and harassing Kabul residents. Ten weapons and two vehicles were seized from the gunmen. Cases against the detainees would be referred to judicial organs for investigations, Mujahid concluded. (Pajhwok)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



You might feel especially playful today, Aries. You can expect to feel a great deal of love and affection from others. Be aware that you will have a strong tendency to indulge in food and drink, so try to keep things in moderation. You may have an aversion to work and lack self-discipline.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



The bizarre nature of the day may leave you feeling a bit bewildered, Taurus. Don't sweat it. Focus on your romantic nature and incredibly nurturing heart. Use your instinctive healing abilities to care for a close friend in need. Today is an especially good day to connect with others and openly share your feelings.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



You will be in an especially affectionate and loving mood today, Gemini. Your romantic nature is heightened and your nurturing qualities are strong. You're extra sensitive and receptive. You might find that you have no problem communicating your truest feelings to others. Connect with those you feel especially close to, and enjoy an intimate evening.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



Annoyances of daily life may rub you the wrong way today, Cancer. Other people's strong opinions and odd quirks may be difficult to swallow and your fuse may be a bit shorter than usual. Emotions could also run high, and you may do battle with the feelings in your own heart. Perhaps someone you care about deeply is creating unnecessary friction in your relationship.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



Your heart beats extra strong today, Virgo, but it may not seem like anyone knows it but you. You may feel like you aren't really fitting in with the energy of the day. Don't get down on yourself for it. Realize that not everything is going to go according to your plans. Let things come to you. The unexpected is bound to happen, so don't try to resist the impending change.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



Some vivid and interesting dreams could bring a lot of repressed memories up and force you to confront them. This could be a bit disconcerting, Virgo, but still positive. Psychological obstacles to financial success and romantic happiness could be cleared away, which could change your life. It's vital that you write down your dreams. You won't want to miss out on this.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



This is a fantastic day for you, Libra. Join close friends and share a night on the town and fine meal. This is a chance to begin a new cycle of romance. Reflect on past relationship problems, examine their causes, and toss them away so you can invite in a new, uplifting energy for the next cycle of romance.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



Your warm, sensitive nature is perfectly suited to today's aspects, Scorpio. Your emotional energy is strongly tied to your heart, and you will find that there's a longing to be close to others. Indulge in conversation with close friends and let your imagination run wild. Your creativity is especially piqued today, so start an art project or write a song that inspires or perhaps changes the world.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



You will enjoy a great deal of affection from others today, Sagittarius. You radiate an air of love and beauty. Love will come in strong, erratic bursts and you should be on the alert to expect the unexpected. New people will pop out of the woodwork to share their feelings. All group activities are favored, and you're sure to be the life of any party.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



Your heart may be especially sensitive today, Capricorn. You may feel a bit vulnerable. Your romantic nature is particularly strong, so treat yourself to a pampered evening, including a good meal with someone you love. All relationships with women will go smoothly now. You might want to give your mother a call if you haven't spoken with her in a while.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

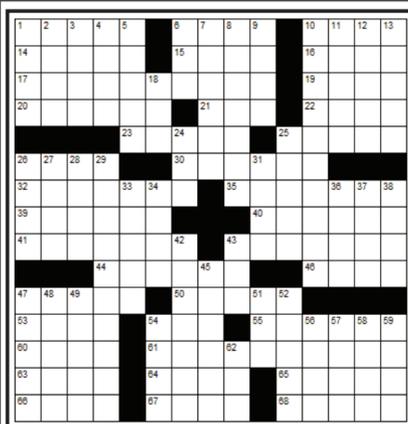


All aspects of love and romance will go especially well today, Aquarius. You might take this opportunity to make a bold move toward the object of your affection. Go with an unconventional approach and move fearlessly. Your relationships will go well. Nurture your romantic side and communicate your feelings. Love will act suddenly and unexpectedly. Go with the flow.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



Your connection with others is especially strong today, Pisces. You will enjoy an important nurturing role. Reconnect with your mother and let her know how you're feeling. Curl up with loved ones tonight and surprise someone with a romantic gesture. Try something unconventional. Your feelings may be strong and erratic. You may be feel like pulling back into your protective shell. If so, do it.



Across

1. Patter, 6. 20th-century art movement, 10. Anagram of "Dice", 14. East African country 15. Comply with, 16. Exploded star, 17. Interlace, 19. 8 in Roman numerals, 20. Heavy and filling food, 21. "___ the season to be jolly", 22. Ailments, 23. Double-reed instruments, 25. Stodgy, 26. Swing around, 30. Beneficial, 32. Reap, 35. Incapacitate, 39. Crazy 40. Filament, 41. Wander aimlessly, 43. Repossess, 44. Third sign of the zodiac, 46. Auspices, 47. Trimmed, 50. A strict vegetarian, 53. Absent Without Leave, 54. Nevertheless 55. Straight, 60. Mongolian desert, 61. Possible, 63. Anagram of "Seek", 64. Neuter 65. Jagged, 66. A musical pause, 67. Midmonth date, 68. Church council,

Down

1. Slaloms, 2. Confined, 3. Within, 4. Gave the once-over, 5. Very slow in tempo, 6. Female deer 7. Decreases, 8. Contrived, 9. Yeses, 10. Sacrosanct, 11. Spirals, 12. Iniquities, 13. A type of flower, 18. A spider spins this 24. Not in, 25. Melodies, 26. Leveling wedge, 27. Alley, 28. Constellation bear, 29. A preacher, 31. A small high-pitched flute 33. Ceased, 34. Appear, 36. Boast 37. 53 in Roman numerals, 38. Shade trees, 42. Held (someone's attention), 43. 18-wheeler 45. Urticate, 47. Beeper, 48. Aroused, 49. Gowns, 51. Former boxing champ, 52. 9999 54. A sharply directional antenna, 56. Not, 57. Black, in poetry, 58. And, 59. Marsh plant 62. Commercials, , , ,

Yesterday's Solution

JUDGES PISHAW
RANGIE BITOPFIAN
ORANGE EPINETTE
PEW ERODING LLOT
A FAR MILK GERS
LURE WETS ARSE
SLED AGO PRISIS
GEO ARBITRIG
MAORITIGON DAUB
ALALACANT LUNA
GLUT ROLLE EDDY
ALW BULLDOG FERE
DENIABLY LLOTTED
STUMBLE LINES
SPEED SLEIDS

arrive, automobile, axiom , ceiling, design, dinner electronics, extra famous , gnome, grasp, great groom, , heart, lanes lilt, marigold, meadow, moon, moral, motto never, note, novel onion ,rebel, right, round

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