6 Security Personnel Dead, 14 Hurt in Badakhshan Fighting

FAIZABAD - Six security personnel have been killed and 16 others, including two civilians, wounded during a clash with the Taliban in northeastern Badakhshan province, a well-placed source said on Tuesday.

A security official, who wished to go unnamed, confided to Pajhwok Afghan News the clash took place during a clearing operation in the Yaftal Bala locality on the outskirts of Faizabad, the provincial capital.

The fighting was still underway in the area where four Afghan National Army (ANA) soldiers and two policemen had been killed so far. Eight soldiers and five policemen and two civilians have been wounded, the sources added.

Crime branch chief, Sakhi Haideri, confirmed the fighting was still ongoing but he did not comment on causalities among security forces. The Taliban have not yet commented about the clash in Faizabad. (Pajhwok)

Prisoner Hangs Himself in Sar-I-Pul Jail

SAR-I-PUL - An inmate in the central jail of northern Sar-i-Pul province has allegedly committed suicide by hanging himself, an official said on Tuesday.

The inmate, a former policeman Abdul Ghafoor, had been sentenced to one and a half years imprisonment a month ago over negligence in duty at a military base, said Zabihullah Amani, the governor's spokesman.

He told Pajhwok Afghan News the former policeman was resident of Baghawi village of Sar-i-Pul city. Ghafoor hanged himself in the wee hours of Tuesday. An investigation into the incident was underway, he said.

The provincial council head, Mohammad Rahmani, said the policeman hanged inside of the prison's mosque. He added prison's officials mistreated prisoners and sometimes beat them. (Pajhwok)

Suicide Bomber Blown up by Own Explosives in Zabul

QALAT - A suicide bomber was killed before he reached his target in the Shahjoi district of southern Zabul province, an official said on Tuesday.

Wazir Ahmad Jawadi, the district chief, told Pajhwok Afghan News the incident took place Monday evening. The explosive jacket the attacker was wearing did not explode due to a technical fault and, he said, adding only the bomber was killed in the blast. He said the bomber wanted to blow himself up in crowd of needy people who were being distributed relief items. Separately, three Taliban were killed during security forces' operations in the Shahr-i-Safa and Mezani districts, deputy police chief Col. Ghulam Jilani Farah said. (Pajhwok)

Two Policemen Killed in Clash with Gunmen in Parwan

KABUL - The clash took place in Charikar city, the capital of the province, Provincial Police Chief Mohammad Zaman Mamuzai said.

At least two policemen were killed in a clash with gunmen in northern Parwan province on Monday afternoon, local officials said. In addition, another policeman was injured.

The clash took place in Charikar city, the capital of the province, Provincial Police Chief Mohammad Zaman Mamuzai said.

In the meantime, an eyewitness said that two policemen were killed in the clash and four others were injured.

But a source told TOLOnews that the clash happened between Afghan ...(More on P4)...(17)

Former Jihadi Commander Killed in Kapisa Blast

MAHMOOD RAQI - A former jihadi commander, Fathullah, has been killed and his colleague wounded in a blast in the Nijrab district of central Kapisa province, an official said on Tuesday.

Police spokesman Mohammad Ayub Yusufzai told Pajhwok Afghan News the explosion took place in Ghaus valley late on Monday when the vehicle Fathullah and his colleague were traveling in struck a roadside bomb.

Yusufzai blamed militants for the bomb attack, saying an investigation had been launched into the incident.

Mahmood, a resident of Nijrab, said Fathullah was a famous jihadi leader and played an impressive role in maintaining security in the district.

With the killing of the Hezb-I-Islami Afghanistan ...(More on P4)...(15)

Civilians Among 7 Dead in Fresh Logar Clashes

PUL-I-ALAM - Two civilians and five Taliban have been killed in an overnight clash with security forces in the Charkh district of central Logar province, an official said on Tuesday.

Governor Spokesman Saleem Saleh told Pajhwok Afghan News the clash took place in the Pangram district between security forces and the Taliban on Monday night.

Security forces escaped unhurt in the gun battle.

Syed Ahmad Shah, a tribal elder, confirmed a clash erupted in the area last night. He said three civilians of a family, including a woman, were killed in the overnight clash.

"A mortar shell fired by security forces from the direction of district centre struck a house in the area, killing three people of a family," he said.

Saleh, however, said it was not exactly made cleared the mortar that killed civilians fired from which side. He said the issue was being investigated.

Qasem Khoshwal, the provincial council member, said the residents of Pangram complained civilians had been killed in security forces firing. He said the public representatives would investigate the issue and share the matter with security officials. Taliban have not yet commented about the incident.

But Taliban Spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said in his social media account that clashes ...(More on P4)...(16)

Taliban District Chief Among 8 Rebels Dead in Clash, Blast

HERAT CITY - Eight Taliban, including their shadow district chief, have been killed separately during a clash and blast in the Keshk-e-Kohna and Shindand districts of western Herat province, an official said on Tuesday.

Jilani Farhad, the governor's spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News the clash erupted when insurgents attacked a security forces' convoy in Koh-i-Antan locality of Qalamin village of the district on Monday night.

He said retaliatory firing by the security forces' caravan resulted in the killing of Mullah Ghani alias Mullah Mobariz, a Taliban shadow chief for Keshk-e-Kohna, and his five other associates.

No casualties were inflicted on security personnel during the firefight, he ...(More on P4)...(18)

5 Insurgents Detained in Nangarhar

JALALABAD/KANDAHAR CITY - Intelligence officials have detained five insurgents in various districts of eastern Nangarhar province, where six rebels joined the peace process, officials said on Tuesday.

Nangarhar governor's spokesman, Attuallh Khogyani, told a news conference here that National Directorate (NDS) personnel detained three persons from a car in Ghazi Amanullah Khan Township in Rodat district. He said the detainees were expert in planting roadside bombs.

Landmines, silencer-fitted pistols and bullets were recovered from the detainees, said Khogyani. He said NDS forces had also nabbed a Taliban member Mohammad Jalal in Batikot district. His comrade, Ilyas Mohammad, had also been detained in Achin district, he added.

According to Khogyani, ...(More on P4)...(19)

5 Dead, 4 Hurt in Samangan Traffic Accident

AIBAK - Three men and two women were killed on Tuesday when the vehicle they were travelling in crashed into a truck in Hazrat Sultan district of northern Samangan province

Another four people in the minibus were injured in the early morning accident, Samangan police spokesman Munir Rahimi told Pajhwok Afghan News.

He said the dead included three men and two women and three men and a woman were injured in the crash. Rahimi blamed the fatal accident on high speed and drivers' carelessness. The injured were evacuated to the provincial civil hospital.

Shams Alami, a doctor in ...(More on P4)...(20)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

A growing sense of compassion helps you let go of recent conflicts and enjoy the pleasurable experiences to be found within your imagination today. Your mental toughness dissipates once affectionate Venus glides into velvety Pisces and your 12th House of Dreams, redirecting your focus to the awe of spiritual mysteries. Tune into your tender spots instead of pushing your emotions aside for the sake of convenience.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

Your ideals can blur with the object of your fantasy today, clearing a path to a new romance or rekindling an old one. Thankfully, you pick up solid support and meaningful inspiration from friends and associates when your ruling planet, Venus, enters sympathetic Pisces and your 11th House of Teamwork. But this cosmic generosity is a two-way street.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Although you might hand over some of your power to those around you, their acknowledgement of your contributions means the world to you now. Fortunately, you may find the recognition you seek once resourceful Venus moves into your 10th House of Status. However, you still must remain singularly focused on your objectives or you'll quickly fall from grace. Don't turn down your ambition just because someone is uncomfortable with the volume.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

Nurturing relationships and keeping everyone happy can be exhausting, prompting you to plan your great escape. It's all too tempting to think about running away when alluring Venus slips into your 9th House of Faraway Places. Imagine foreign lands where you are free from the responsibilities and complications of your current life.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

You can advance your hopes with the help of a supportive partner today, but you must be willing to blend cool logic with impassioned desire. Sweet Venus shifts into dreamy Pisces and your 8th House of Deep Sharing, highlighting a romantic component to partnerships, which can be more about feelings than facts.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

Allow yourself the pleasure of sharing time with someone who has no ambition other than to enjoy your company. Instead of building a relationship on hopeful expectations, simply be open to learning from the dance of give and take. Fortunately, kind Venus reveals the power of love and respect as she glides into your 7th House of Partnerships today, attracting compassionate individuals who don't require you to be perfect. As Leonard Cohen sang.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

Balancing your dreams with reality seems to be within reach today but you must work extra hard to achieve the results you desire. Venus enters psychic Pisces and your 6th House of Self-Improvement, helping you figure out what you must do to reach your goals. However, you may be reminded of a hurtful situation from your past, increasing your vulnerability now. Stay strong and resist the urge to run.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

The magic of attraction happens when you are less focused on a goal and simply open yourself up to enjoy whatever or whomever comes your way. The sweet pleasures of love and play are spellbinding once desirable Venus drifts into dreamy Pisces and your 5th House of Romance.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

You can work yourself into a state of unhappiness if you continue to look elsewhere for emotional satisfaction. You're not interested in worldly pursuits today; you just want a luxurious taste of peace and quiet. Thankfully, gentle Venus swims into the imaginative waters of Pisces and your 4th House of Security, providing you with a safe and dreamy environment at home.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

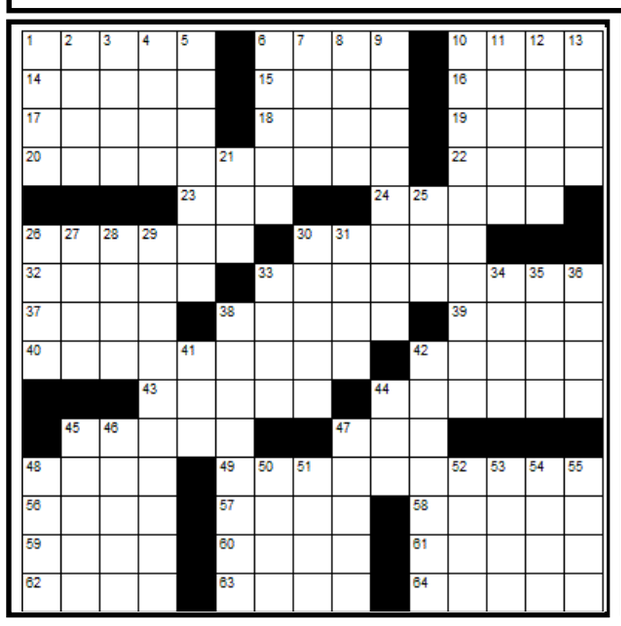
You may be lost in a lovely fantasy now, which encourages blind faith and a hyper-positive attitude. Kindness and compassion take priority over duty and deadlines when it comes to matters of the heart. Although you might feel a bit disoriented as sensual Venus begins her dance in spiritual Pisces and your 3rd House of Information today, reconnecting with your dreams replenishes your creativity.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

Personal finances are on your mind when Venus, the planet of money, joins four other planets already in your 2nd House of Income. But economic issues are deeply entangled with your core values; cash flows more readily when your work aligns with your beliefs. A generous salary isn't sufficient to keep you happy and healthy if you're stuck in an unfulfilling job.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

The stark contrast between romantic ideals and interpersonal realities can initiate a fierce debate between your head and your heart today. Several planets in pragmatic Capricorn convince you to let reason take center stage. However, graceful Venus twirls into your poetic sign, creating waves of emotion and inspiring romantic fantasies. Fortunately, you appear irresistibly desirable now, inviting plenty of attention from others.



Across

1. Muscular contraction, 6. Style, 10. Footnote note, 14. Hawaiian veranda, 15. Black, in poetry, 16. Naked, 17. "Smallest particles", 18. Go on horseback, 19. Tall woody plant, 20. Donor, 22. Historical periods, 23. Frozen, 24. Greek sandwiches, 26. Hit the sack, 30. Descendant, 32. Redress, 33. Seltzer, 37. Deaden, 38. Seaweed, 39. Prospector's find, 40. In need of repairs, 42. Trudges, 43. Kind of alcohol, 44. Livestock pen, 45. Portion, 47. Ghost's cry, 48. Territory, 49. Deplorable, 56. Abominable Snowman, 57. Frosts, 58. Electronic letters, 59. Acquire deservedly, 60. Savvy about, 61. Approximately, 62. Kiss, 63. Tidy, 64. Captured.

Down

1. Generous slice of pie, 2. Head, 3. Shortly, 4. Identical, 5. Dud, 6. Compassion, 7. Death notice, 8. Extinct flightless bird, 9. Arouse, 10. From the inside, 11. Donkey, 12. Notions, 13. D D D D, 21. Card with one symbol, 25. Ouch!, 26. South African monetary unit, 27. Decorative case, 28. Male turkeys, 29. Mating of related people, 30. A seal, 31. Mogul, 33. Whip, 34. Anagram of "Loot", 35. Cocoyam, 36. A musical pause, 38. Most distant point in solar orbit, 41. And so forth, 42. Shield from danger, 44. Put clothing on, 45. Song of praise, 46. Foreword, 47. Stupefy, 48. Caustics, 50. Skin disease, 51. Of higher order, 52. Dogfish, 53. Dog sound, 54. Bloodsucking insects, 55. Distinctive flair.

Yesterday's Solution

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

airplane, assist, avoid, base, blown, death, double, dream, embassy, fantasy, ferry, focus, futile, gamble, giant, grand , learn, mesa, mire, needy, nightmare, pegs, penalty, penny, rare, region, royal, states, steam, storm, strong, temper.

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