

Policemen among 15 Dead in Security Incidents

LASHKARGAH/KABUL - Three policemen among 15 people have been killed and several others wounded in different incidents in different parts of the country, officials said Wednesday. Maj. Farid Ahmad Obaid, police spokesman in southern Helmand province, told Pajhwok Afghan News that a clash erupted in Naway district on Tuesday night between militants and police. One rebel was killed and two others wounded in the firefight, he added.

Two police personnel wounded in a clash with rebels in Sarwan Kala and Zambali areas of Sangin and In Zabul, three policemen died in a road accident on Kabul-Kandahar Highway near Sufa district late Tuesday evening, Sardar Muhammad, the district police chief, said. In Kandahar, the 205 Atal military corps in a statement said six militants were killed and four others injured in cleanup operations in Maiwand and Zherri districts. It con-



firmed three Afghan National Army (ANA) soldiers wounded in a blast in Khas Uruzgan district in Uruzgan province.

Another statement from the Ministry of Defence said five militants killed and two others wounded when their own bomb

they were making exploded prematurely in Qarabagh district of southern Ghazni province. (Pajhwok)

NDS Claims Foiling Big Sabotage Act in Kabul

KABUL - The National Directorate of Security (NDS) on Wednesday claiming foiling a devastated sabotage act by arresting a would-be suicide bomber and his facilitator linked to the dreaded Haqqani Network, in capital Kabul. Mohammad Ayub known as Abbas, the resident of Bagrami district was arrested with suicide bomber Mir Ahmad known as Hussain from the fifth police district, a statement from the NDS office said.



During initial investigations, both the pair confessed to committing the crime and receiving suicide bombing training from Abdul Qadir Armini and Aziz Hafiz, the son of Jalaluddin Haqqani in the Darul Huda Madrassa. Both the men said they were tasked to carry out a suicide attack in the capital Kabul. (Pajhwok)

Book Titled Professional Journalism Launched



KABUL - A new book—Professional Journalism—has been launched in Pashto language by Danish Karokhail, editor-in-chief of Pajhwok Afghan News, in Kabul. The book, containing 316 pages and 14 chapters, is dedicated to the three fallen Pajhwok's reporters—Abdul Samad Rohani, Janullah Hashenzada and Omid Khpalwak. Habibullah Rafi, renowned researcher and member of Afghanistan Science Academy, and Abdul Ghafoor Lewal, an author and journalist, called the book a major contribution to the field of journalism. Danish Karokhail has two decades of professional journalism and media management experience in Afghanistan. "Twenty years of experience in journalism prompted me to write the book with the aim of helping other journalists to demonstrate professionalism in the

field," Karokhail wrote in introduction part of his book. A part from basics of journalism, the book also discusses the current style prevalent in Pashto journalism. Habibullah Rafi expressed the hope that the book could prove an asset for professional journalists. Abdul Ghafoor Lewal, head of Afghanistan centre for strategic studies, said the book was not only a theoretical and academic work but also showed extensive experience of a successful journalist. "The book will have a historic significance. If someone else wanted to write a book on journalism this could be a well guide," he added. Karokhail has won many medals and awards in journalism. He has also published many articles and research papers in national and international media. (Pajhwok)

3 Children Killed, 2 Injured in Ghazni Blast



GHAZNI CITY - Three children were killed and two others wounded when a roadside bomb ripped through an auto rickshaw in the Giru district of southern Ghazni province on Tuesday, an official said. The governor's spokesman, Shafique Nang, said the explosion happened at about 2.30pm when the hidden bomb struck the three-wheeler carrying passengers. The blast killed three children and injured two others aged between 9 to 13 years old. The wounded kids were taken to a hospital in the nearby Andar district, the official said, but had no information about their condition. With no Taliban spokesman immediately available for comment, Nang accused the rebels of planting the roadside bomb. (Pajhwok)

Judge Dropping off Children at School Killed, Daughters Injured

JALALABAD - An appellate court judge was killed and his two daughters, 11 and 12 years of old, wounded in a magnetic bomb blast early Wednesday morning in eastern Nangarhar province, officials said. The incident took place in Shisham Bagh area police district four of City Jalalabad when Mahmood-al-Hassan, judge for eastern Laghman, was dropping his daughters off at a school, provincial officials

said. The sources added that the magnetic bomb was placed inside his car. His daughters have been taken to the hospital, officials said, adding the police investigations have begun to find the perpetrators. However, the motive behind the incident is unclear so far. No group including the Taliban has claimed responsibility for the attack. (Tolonews)

6 Construction Company Employees Killed in Baghlan



PUL-E-KHUMRI - A private construction company owner was among six employees killed in insurgents' ambush in northern Baghlan, officials said. The incident took place in Chahar Tapa village on Wednesday when the workers were in the way to Badakhshan, spokesman of Baghlan police Ahmad Javed Besharat

said. He added the armed attackers had also taken two other employees with them. The police have started search operations to rescue the abducted employees, Besharat said. He blamed the incident on the Taliban, however, the group has not yet commented in this regard. (Tolonews)

Air India Starts Ladder Point Checking for Kabul Flights after Hijacking Alert

NEW DELHI - Air India has started ladder-point checks of passengers and crew and their cabin luggage for its flights to and from Kabul, following a hijacking alert issued by the Intelligence Bureau. "The ladder-point checking at the Delhi airport is done by CISF personnel and the local security in Kabul does the checking there," an Air India of-

ficial said on condition of anonymity. "Post the checking at the ladder, we also check all luggage in the overhead bin and their owners are identified. No luggage, without any owner, is allowed to stay in the flight." The official added that they started these checks around the Christmas time, when the Intelligence Bureau (IB) had is-

sued an alert warning of another Kandahar-style hijacking and urging the airline to scan passengers and crew thoroughly. On December 24, 1999, an Indian Airlines flight (IC 814) from Kathmandu to Kandahar with 174 passengers and 11 crew members was hijacked by Pakistani terror group Harkat-ul-Mujahideen. The ... (More on P4)... (14)

3 Killed, 12 Wounded in Kandahar Violence

KANDAHAR CITY - Three persons including a child were killed and 12 others wounded in separate security incidents in southern Kandahar province on Wednesday, officials said.



The first explosion left ten children injured when they hit a planted mine in the Shah Walikot district, with seven of them were in critical condition, police spokesman Zia Durrani told Pajhwok Afghan News. In charge of Mirwais Hospital confirmed several wounded children had been brought to the hospital, with some of them in critical condition. Durrani said the second blast took place at around

11:00 am in the Salwaghi locality of Zhari district. He said children were playing with the hand grenade when it exploded and resulted in the killing of a miner girl and injured another one. Separately, the owner of a private company was killed and two others wounded when unidentified gunmen opened firing one them in Kandahar City, the provin-

cial capital, the governor's spokesman said. Samim Khpalwak said the incident took place in Agha Sahib locality of 13th police district. He said the slain individual was civilian. The spokesman said gunmen managed to flee the scene and police had started investigations to nab them. Elsewhere, police found the ... (More on P4)... (15)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

Your current dependency on others makes you feel uneasy since you usually take pride in your self-sufficiency. But today's nurturing Cancer Full Moon lands in your 4th House of Security, reminding you how much you need people in your life. You must find a way to balance your love of freedom with your desire for healthy relationships.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

The most trivial conversation today could suddenly turn into a discussion about your most significant aspirations in life. In fact, all subjects are fair game now with the Cancer Full Moon spotlighting your 3rd House of Communication. However, her opposition to the powerful Sun-Pluto combination in your 9th House of Big Ideas requires you to connect your current situation with your larger goals.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Finances may present a problem now, unless you stop to handle a sticky situation before it grows out of hand. Fortunately, you can prevent a possible fiscal mess by cutting back on your expenses to bring them more into alignment with your current resources. The cautious Cancer Full Moon's presence in your 2nd House of Money indicates that a little prudence is wise at this time.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

You don't like it when someone is overly insistent; you can feel the pressure in your gut and it just makes you want to push back harder or withdraw into your shell. Your emotions are at high tide while today's powerful Full Moon floods your 1st House of Self. But others see through your veneer now even if you try to hide your annoyance.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

Your imagination is in full bloom now and it's nearly impossible to keep your colorful fantasies from growing out of control. Although the Cancer Full Moon emphasizes your 12th House of Escapism, you can prevent losing touch with reality today by focusing on chores that have been left undone. Thankfully, it's not necessary to do everything at once, even if you are so inclined.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

You can create something of lasting value today, even if this is a day of rest. The Cancer Full Moon brightens your 11th House of Community, prompting you to enjoy the magic of a spontaneous moment with friends; all you need to do is give yourself permission to have fun. Supervising recreational activities with children may prove to be just as enjoyable for you as it is for them.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

You're torn between taking care of your own personal needs and making sure that others are having a nice time. Of course, you Libras make the most gracious hosts and hostesses, but it might feel like the current situation is an either-or proposition, as if there isn't enough happiness to go around. The Cancer Full Moon in your public 10th House of Responsibility opposes the Capricorn Sun in your private 4th House of Foundations.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

It really could be a lovely day in the neighborhood if you're willing to stick close to home today. You might just learn something enlightening about yourself or your loved ones by resisting the temptation to leave the nest while the Cancer Moon lights up your 9th House of Faraway Places.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

Handling criticism isn't easy for anyone, but it can be exceptionally tough on you Archers when your sunny optimism is cast in the shadows of doubt. The Cancer Full Moon shining in your 8th House of Deep Sharing reflects your uncharacteristic emotional intensity. You won't be satisfied today unless you schedule time to sink into the unknown watery realms. Thankfully, you don't have to take this journey alone.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

You have the capability to effectively tailor your actions to produce specific results today because you can intuitively feel the energy of others. Unfortunately, too much analysis now only gets in your way while the receptive Cancer Full Moon meanders through your 7th House of Relationships. Worrying about how others perceive you is stressful and it's unfeasible to think that you can control all the emotional variables at this time.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

Although some of your craziest fantasies have practical applications now, it may require a fair amount of patience to figure out how best to realize your dreams. No matter how far out your imagination takes you today, the Cancer Full Moon's presence in your 6th House of Self-Improvement allows the thoughts to unfold without negative judgment.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

Turning the day into a spiritual retreat seems like an idea that's very close to your heart, yet you're afraid it might disappear with the flash of a frown if you discuss it with someone else. However, you might be quite surprised when your friend or partner responds with a smile and a twinkle in the eye instead of the negativity you expect.

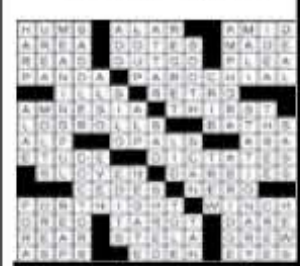
Across

- Lather, 5. Close, 9. Man, 13. Again, 14. Keyboard instrument, 16. Many millennia, 17. Location, 18. Crown, 19. Alumnus, 20. Precipitous, 22. Iotas, 24. Resorts, 26. Negatively charged particle, 27. Kneecap, 30. Free, 33. Scaremonger, 35. Curses, 37. Toss, 38. Anagram of "Amend", 41. Liveliness, 42. Quietens, 45. Flogger, 48. Intensify, 51. A baby's room, 52. A French dance, 54. G G G G, 55. Adjuvants, 59. Gladden, 62. Stinging remark, 63. Queues, 65. God of love, 66. Wicked, 67. Barges, 68. Knights, 69. Sort, 70. Sea eagle, 71. Achy

Down

- Back talk, 2. Module, 3. Abhorrent, 4. Cleaning device, 5. Excluding, 6. Anagram of "Sire", 7. Small terrestrial lizard, 8. Eager, 9. Deep purplish red, 10. Relating to aircraft, 11. Give temporarily, 12. Terminates, 15. Point of greatest despair, 21. Inside of your hand, 23. Incite, 25. Slender, 27. Gloomy atmosphere, 28. Not silently, 29. An Old Testament king, 31. Showman, 32. Contemptuous look, 34. Explosive, 36. Agile, 39. A very long period, 40. Medication, 43. Readable, 44. Petty quarrel, 46. Tall woody plant, 47. Futile, 49. Iniquities, 50. Beginner, 53. Adult male singing voice, 55. Assist in crime, 56. A pioneer in electrochemistry, 57. Trickle, 58. Stitched, 60. Unit of pressure, 61. Being, 64. South southeast

Yesterday's Solution



about, adjust, alert, allow, chain, class, collection, column, deliver, drive, excite, hats, hour, humid, later, local, lust, match, money, muse, night, orbit, overtime, panther, parade, period, plasma, point, really, result, retail, right, robin, skate, sleet, tell, today

