

Pakistanis among 44 Rebels Dead in Nimroz Offensive

ZARANJ - Forty Four militants, including 25 Pakistani, have been killed and 31 others wounded during clearing operation in the Khashrud district of southwestern Nimroz province, an official said on Tuesday.

Police Chief Brig. Gen. Ghulam Jilani Abu Bakar told Pajhwok Afghan News the operation was underway in the district over the past six days.

He said: "Security forces recovered a huge quantity of weapons that included 25 landmines, 77 bags and six cans of explosives, 50 explosive plates, four



remote controls, a corolla type of vehicle, a Mazda type of vehicle, one machine gun, one RPG and a Kalashnikov. Forty-One strong bunkers of the enemy were destroyed in the operation, he added.

Taliban Spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid rejected government narration about casualties inflicted on the Taliban and said over 102 security personnel had been killed and wounded, 15 tanks and military vehicles were destroyed during a clash a couple of days back.

He said four...*(More on P4)...(14)*

First Private TV Formally Goes on Air in Badghis

KABUL - The first and only private television channel, Abor, has formally launched its programs after a six-month test broadcasting in western Ghor province.

The Afghanistan Journalists Center (AJC) in a statement to Pajhwok Afghan News said the channel's main station was set up in Qala-i-Naw, the capital of Badghis.

Abor private television channel would air programmes on political, social, economic and cultural issues, the statement said. Mohammad Naim Nazim, head of Abor television, said the channel would function in line with the media law.

Its broadcasts were accessible in 85 square kilometers and covered nearby districts such as Qadis and Maqur besides the provincial capital, he said. Badghis information and culture director Ahmad Ehsan Sarwaryar hailed the development and said media had a vital role in...*(More on P4)...(15)*

16 Insurgents Dead in Helmand Clashes

LASHKARGAH - Sixteen Taliban gunmen were killed and another eight wounded during separate clashes with security forces in southern Helmand province, police said Tuesday.

Nearly 200 Taliban fighters stormed the centre of Greshk district on Monday night, sparking battles with security forces, said the town's police chief, Capt. Mohammad Ismail Khpalwak.

He said eleven attackers were killed and eight others



were wounded in the clashes that lasted two hours. One policeman was killed in the firefight, Khpalwak said, adding security forces also seized some arms and ammunition from the scene. He said the rebels wanted to capture the district centre, ...*(More on P4)...(16)*

Alleged Killer of 2 Children Awarded Death Penalty

JALALABAD - The appellate court in eastern Nangarhar province on Tuesday announced sentencing the alleged killer of two children from Surkhrod district to death.

A statement from the court said it conducted the hearing on Monday in Jalalabad, the provincial capital. Judge Abdul Wali Qazizada awarded death sentence to the murders of the children. ...*(More on P4)...(18)*

Afghan Telecom Worker Killed in Herat Gun Attack

HERAT CITY - One employee of the Afghan Telecom Company has been killed and another wounded in a Taliban attack in western Herat province, an official said on Tuesday.

Police spokesman Abdul Rauf Ahmadi told Pajhwok Afghan News the incident took place close to a police station in the Shindand district main bazaar on Monday. Abdul Qader, a resident of the locality, said the telecom...*(More on P4)...(19)*

Afghanistan War Veteran Kills Himself and His Family in Canada

KABUL - An Afghanistan War Veteran who suffered Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder shot his mother, wife and daughter and then turned the gun on himself. Lionel Desmond 33, shot and killed his wife Shanna, his 10-year-old daughter Aaliyah and his mother Brenda and then shot and killed himself in Nova Scotia, Canada last week. The victims bodies were found on...*(More on P4)...(20)*

9 Taliban Arrested in Nangarhar Raid

JALALABAD - Two Afghan and seven Pakistani Taliban have been arrested in security forces' operation in the Ghanikhel district of the eastern Nangarhar, an official said on Tuesday.

Abdul Wahab, the down's administrative chief, told Pajhwok Afghan News the operation was conducted in Golai locality of the district on Monday night.

He said there was no clash during the operation but two Afghan and seven others Pakistani militants ar-



rested during the operation. Attuallah Khogyani, the governor's spokesman, confirmed the raid and said security forces were took the militants with themselves after they were arrested. ...*(More on P4)...(21)*

Hundreds of Returnees Receive Aid in Nangarhar

JALALABAD - The Refugees and Repatriations Department has provided cash and food assistance to nearly 770 refugee families that recently returned to eastern Nangarhar province.

A statement from the Labour and Social Affairs Department said on Tuesday food items were distributed to 716 families with financial support from the World Food Programme (WFP). It said 34 other families were each provided with \$120 by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) to rent a house for their living.



Meanwhile, UNOCHA also provided cash assistance of \$156 to each of 20 families to buy themselves food items. As a result of efforts by the Labour and Social Affairs Department and with financial support from USAID, another 19 war-affected families were given relief items. A statement from the governor house said each family was provided with 17 food and non-food items worth \$240. Representing the Labour and Social Affairs Department, ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

Held over Alleged Sexual Harassment in Austria

KABUL - A group of six Afghan refugees have been arrested in Austria over alleged sexual harassment, it has been reported.

The men are accused of sexual harassing several women on New Year's Eve in Innsbruck, the capital city of Tyrol in western Austria.

Police Chief Martin Kirchler has said police identified the men who are between 18 and 22 years old, and who all came to Austria as refugees. Kirchler further added that young men allegedly touched at least 18 women and girls inappropriately as crowds celebrated the end of the year in the streets of the Tyrolean capital. One of the



men has confessed, while the others claim that they cannot remember anything, Kirchler said. This comes as a court in Sweden jailed a group of five Afghans after they were found guilty of raping a young fellow refugee. They were convicted of forcing the victim, who was under age 15, into a forested area on the outskirts of Uppsala where they raped the individual at the end of October. Part of the assault that included a beating was recorded...*(More on P4)...(22)*

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

The best advice you could follow is to let go of your attachment to the plans you made for today. You can still accomplish your objectives, but things at work won't likely unfold as you expect. The Sun's dynamic square with anything-goes Uranus hotwires communications, suddenly blasting a conversation into uncharted territory.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

A confrontation with a coworker isn't easy to resolve if it brings up differences about basic values. Nevertheless, unexpected events could rattle a professional relationship when the willful Sun squares irrepensible Uranus. Sometimes, an honest dialogue is necessary to clear the air. However, stepping around disapproving individuals is wiser than escalating a minor disagreement into a major battle now.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You are leaning over the edge of an exciting conceptual shift now. You may be experiencing an equal share of anticipation and fear. But even if you're ready to jump, remember that today's wild-and-crazy Sun-Uranus square can tempt you with immediate distractions when you should stay focused on your long-term goals. Keep in mind that your success is directly proportional to the effort you apply.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

Although you can be a lot more flexible than anyone realizes, you may choose to dig in your heels today and stubbornly resist change. But the shocking Sun-Uranus square casts things in an entirely different light. Thankfully, you surprise everyone by how quickly you adapt to the new scene once you see how your actions affect the ones you love.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

Your long-term vision conflicts with your current responsibilities at work and you don't see a simple way to solve this dilemma. The pressure for resolution has been building for a while and it could reach a crescendo today. Naturally, it's healthy to confront the problem, but it may not be time to make your move yet.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

Your long-term vision conflicts with your current responsibilities at work and you don't see a simple way to solve this dilemma. The pressure for resolution has been building for a while and it could reach a crescendo today. Naturally, it's healthy to confront the problem, but it may not be time to make your move yet. Frustration morphs into the most effective action if you don't get impatient over an issue you cannot change in the present moment.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

Don't bother playing it safe today, since the unexpected can happen even when you're taking the most cautious route. Thankfully, you can reach your goals if you're willing to step outside of whatever box contains you. It's as if you sense the lightning bolt that awakens your consciousness when the Sun forms an electric square with brilliant Uranus, giving you a glimpse of the bright future ahead.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

Traditions that you once held in high esteem are now being challenged by current events. The Sun's tense square with unruly Uranus electrifies the atmosphere with a call for rebellion that encourages you to undermine authority. Nevertheless, it's wiser to break with the past than to allow a breakdown in civility at work or in your household.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

Misunderstandings and mix-ups may lead to explosive words today, so listen carefully and speak slowly to avoid needless arguments. You might be uncharacteristically hesitant to go out on a limb now because you're afraid of the possible negative responses to your wild and crazy behavior. Nevertheless, your urge for innovation and independence is fueled by a radical Sun-Uranus square, leaving you to wonder if this is your moment to strike out on your own.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

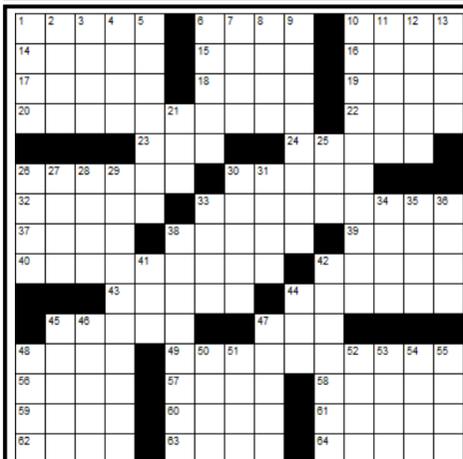
Reality brings you a surprise gift today but you must wait to open it. However, adherence to the rules is tossed out the window when the Sun squares unorthodox Uranus, turning a simple event into a life-altering one. It helps to have your ducks in a row now, since someone else's erratic behavior can mess up your plans. Thankfully, you're not as bound up by protocol as you thought.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

Your opinions are strong today and you might be itching for an intense debate. The expressive power of the Sun in your 12th House of Destiny is amplified by its dynamic square to uncontainable Uranus. Although it may be nearly impossible to settle down thanks to all the excitement you feel, pushing back against an authority figure isn't smart, either.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

Unmet responsibilities or an argument with your boss may open your mind to more inventive ways of taking care of business today. In fact, a minor crisis might unexpectedly turn into an apparent opportunity when the Sun creates a dynamic square with revolutionary Uranus. Stay cool if you're hit by a shockwave; you can recover swiftly if you remain adaptable enough to consider alternative approaches.



Across

- Caper, 6. Big bag, 10. Short run, 14. Hawaiian veranda, 15. Gambit, 16. Within, 17. Up to, 18. Coarse file, 19. Clairvoyant, 20. Spontaneous abortion, 22. Family group, 23. Binge, 24. Rowed, 26. Ends a sentence, 30. Antiquated, 32. Pain, 33. Truce, 37. Top of a house, 38. Operatic solos, 39. Bucolic, 40. Set up, 42. Loamy deposit, 43. Bass horns, 44. Growing in two parts, 45. Animal life, 47. Dawn goddess, 48. Indian music, 49. Concomitant, 56. French for "State", 57. Chocolate cookie, 58. Picture, 59. Destiny, 60. Harvest, 61. 9 9 9 9, 62. Sleigh, 63. Feudal worker, 64. Grain to be ground.

Down

- Add, 2. Deliver a tirade, 3. Against, 4. Found on a finger, 5. Party pooper, 6. Bit of parsley, 7. Winglike, 8. Outlay, 9. Hunchback, 10. Discernment, 11. Anoint (archaic), 12. Place, 13. Trumpet, 21. Vile, 25. Donkey, 26. Trim, 27. Prima donna problems, 28. Part of a plant, 29. Enamored, 30. One who is excessively proper, 31. Nursemaid, 33. Diva's solo, 34. Notion, 35. Vesicle, 36. If not, 38. Tuna, 41. Small rounded bread, 42. Itemizing, 44. Type of snake, 45. Deadly, 46. Marble, 47. Run away to wed, 48. Umpires, 50. Mining finds, 51. Low-fat, 52. Arab chieftain, 53. Hindu princess, 54. How old we are, 55. "___ we forget".

Yesterday's Solution

OVER DATE GOAT
RIVE ERASE UPDO
COIL ULTIBERATION
ALLEGED IDENTURE
GET FIGHT
STRATEGIZES
HEATS ANENT WAO
ONCE AMASS SALE
ESE AGENT OCTAL
GET FORTIGHT
REACT NIOEL
ARTLESS DWELLER
COLORATURA AURA
ESAU LOSER RANG
REST TWICED SUES

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