

Airstrike in Faryab Leaves 23 Insurgents Dead

MAIMNA - At least 23 Taliban insurgents among six foreigners were killed in an Afghan military airstrike in northwestern Faryab province on Saturday, local officials said.

In addition, 14 other insurgents were injured, officials added.

The airstrike came after the Taliban insurgents attacked Kohistan district, said Mohammad Reza Rezaye, head of the Media Office of 209



ANA Shaheen Corps. "The situation is now under control of the military forces," he said. However the Kohistan Police Chief, Abdul

Had Behzad said that threats to the military forces remained high and asked them to stay alert.

Kohistan is one of the remote districts in the province, about 100 km from the provincial capital.

Over the past few months, the Taliban insurgents have increased their activities across the country and have been frequently targeting the security posts.

(Tolnews)

Stanikzai Denied Approval over Personal-Interests

KABUL - Political experts say the introduction and rejection of President Ashraf Ghani's choice for the defence minister slot was based on personal-interests.

The Wolesi Jirga or lower house of parliament on Saturday rejected Mohammad Masoum Stanikzai as defence minister nominee.

On July 1, the government introduced Stanikzai along with nominee for Da Afghanistan Bank (DAB) chief and two Supreme Court judges to the Wolesi Jirga for a vote of confidence.

A Wolesi Jirga member from Herat province Nazir Ahmad Hanafi told reporters Stanikzai was not a suitable pick for the



post.

Calling it government's fault, Hanafi said, "We did not approve Stanikzai because he was unprofessional and had no experience in military area." He said the government should introduce a professional and experienced person who could improve the fast deteriorating security situation of the country. ...*(More on P4)...(22)*

12 Nangarhar Militants Join Peace Process

JALALABAD/MAIDAN SHAHR - At least 12 militants as well as their commanders joined peace process on Sunday in eastern Nangarhar.

Malak Nazir, Nangarhar peace committee chairman, told Pajhwok Afghan News a 12 member group who was involved in anti-state activities had joined peace committee.

The group's members had also surrendered their heavy and small weapons to the



committee members, he said, adding "Mirza Khan, a dreaded Taliban commander, and his group was ac-

tive in Lalpoor, Nazyan and Ghani Khaill districts and had strong links with militants in Kunar."

Mirza Khan, a Taliban commander, said: "I was commander of 11 member groups and we were involved in anti-state activities in Shinwari area. We are now fed up of war and want to join peace process."

He asked government to provide them job opportunities to...*(More on P4)...(18)*

Armed Robbers Gunned Down three Civilians

AIBAK - A group of armed robbers have gunned down three civilians in central Samangan province.

Colonel Mohammad Baqir, police chief of Samangan province says that the incident took place in Chambark Kotal area of Dwab District last night.

He said a civilian was traveling from Rohi village to Jah Kalal when it came under the attack of armed robbers.

He said the robbers first demanded the driver to stop the vehicle but the driver did not stop and continued to drive. Baqir added that the robbers then sprayed indiscriminate fire on the vehicle leaving three civilians killed and another wounded. (KP)

10 Rebels, 4 Police Killed in Paktika Incidents

SHARAN - Four policemen and 10 Taliban fighters have been killed during separate incidents in southeastern Paktika province, an official said on Sunday.

The security official, who wished to go unnamed, told Pajhwok Afghan News the 10 Taliban fighters were killed and some wounded by foreign troops during an operation in the Marzak locality of Naki district.

The dead rebels included four Arab national and his translator and the remaining five belonged to Pakistan's South Waziristan Agency (SWA), he said.

A Taliban leader was arrested and their two vehicles destroyed...*(More on P4)...(21)*

3 Faryab Districts under Attack from Rebels

MAIMANA - Hundreds of armed insurgents, including foreign fighters, have launched attacks on security posts in three districts of northwestern Faryab province, with both the sides suffering casualties, officials said on Sunday.

Local officials said the insurgents arriving from Badghis, Ghor, Sar-i-Pul and Jawzjan provinces had launched attacks in parts of Qaisar, Almar and Pashtun Kot districts.

Provincial council head Syed Abdul Baqi Hashimi told Pajhwok Afghan News the attackers, including Pakistani and Uzbek militants, overran two security posts from uprising members and 10 villages on Saturday night.

The villages were recaptured by Afghan forces but the two posts remained in control of the rebels, he added.

An uprising member was killed and three others, including a commander Syed Muzafar, were wounded during the clashes in Almar district, Hashimi said...*(More on P4)...(23)*

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Helmand Residents Complain of Harassment by ALP

LASHKARGAH - The residents of southern Helmand province complained of harassment by Afghan Local Police (ALP).

Abdul Ghafoor, a resident of the locality, said ALP commander Noor Mohammad had sold government lands several years ago which he wanted to return and then resale them.



"The ALP commander has come to village and has beaten the residents and has also taken the household items of the people," he added. Noor Ahmad, another resident, said: "The commander blamed...*(More on P4)...(19)*

Seven Mine Planters Killed in Their own IED Blasts

LASHKARGAH - At least seven insurgents were killed as a result of their own bomb explosions in southern Helmand province, Afghan National Army (ANA) media office said in a statement on Sunday.

The explosions took place in Nawzad district when a number of insurgents were busy planting Improvised Explosive Device (IEDs) in the district, the statement added.

Two other planters were wounded in the blasts, it continued. (Tolnews)



Work on 20 Ghor Development Projects Kicked-Off

FIROZKOH - As construction work on around 20 welfare projects has been kicked-off which will help irrigate 19,000 acres of land in western Ghor province, an official said on Sunday.

The projects included construction of 12 dykes, 13 water reservoirs, four canal constructions with total length of 3,150 meters. The projects were being executed in the Dolain, Dawlatyar, Lalsar Wa Jangal districts and Firozkoh, the provincial capital.

Eng. Taj Mohammad, head of the Rural Rehabilitation and Development (RRD), said 19,000 acres of land would be irrigated after completion of the projects...*(More on P4)...(24)*

Seven Terrorists Detained in Nangarhar

JALALABAD - Security agencies have arrested seven terrorists during separate operations in eastern Nangarhar province.

A statement issued Sunday by the police headquarters of Nangarhar province states that four terrorists who were making, transporting and placing magnetic bombs have been arrested during a raid in Jalalabad city.

The raid was conducted by the counter-insurgency department of the police headquarters that identifies the four terrorists as Mawlawi Bilal S/O Gul Alam an instructor and prayers leader of Hazrat Bilal Madrassa and a resident of Nangarhar province, ...*(More on P4)...(25)*

13 Militants Dead in Drone Strikes

PUL-E-ALM/JALALABAD/ASADABAD - At least 13 insurgents have been killed in US drone strikes in eastern Nangarhar and Kunar provinces, security officials said on Sunday.

In central Logar province, commander of Afghan Local Police (ALP) Abdul Sattar Akhundzada along with his guard were killed when



militants stormed their check post late Saturday evening,

Mohammad Naem Sultan, Mohammad Aghi district chief, told Pajhwok Afghan News.

He said that militants remained unhurt in the clash. "Akhundzada was a brave commander who did not allow Taliban to enter his area and he had beaten militants several times. Unfortunately, he was...*(More on P4)...(20)*

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



You may be resigned to defend a position on a matter at work now, even if it means taking an unpopular stance. Ironically, you gain a strange sort of satisfaction when you stand alone. It's not that you enjoy fighting losing battles, but there's nothing quite like the rush of adrenaline you experience when you're in warrior mode.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



Your attempts to communicate seem to go nowhere because it seems like you're only talking to yourself. Your sense of well-being could dissipate now and you may even start to dread what's around the corner. Get a grip; the reality of the situation is really not that bad. Face the emotional intensity head on, since your fear of the unknown is worse than whatever you might encounter.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



Your words are muddled by the influence of nebulous Neptune today, and you become less clear the more you ramble on. An unresolved issue can quickly come back to haunt you with unexpected vengeance if you attempt to talk your way out of a confrontation now. In fact, the power of the unspoken word might be strong enough to temporarily threaten a close relationship.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



You might feel as if you need to act on your new idea immediately or the opportunity to gain support will be lost. But if there are too many signs of difficulty on your path ahead, you may quickly crawl back into your shell, a cave or under a rock. Your vulnerable underbelly has been visible long enough and you're growing weary of keeping your defenses up.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



A little honest self-reflection may reveal lingering remnants of unexpressed anger, although you will likely do your best to dodge this negativity today. These emotions might be subtle enough that you could easily disguise them as something else. However, harboring unresolved tension only leads to playing control games.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



You're feeling a bit dazed and confused, suffering from a lack of clarity. However, you're intent on cutting through the fog to get to the bottom of a power struggle with a friend. This interaction can leave you in a state of agitation now, for acquiring more knowledge only seems to contradict the facts. Even if your uncertainty is irritating, don't take your annoyance out on anyone else by picking a needless fight.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



You may experience a dilemma around what is public and what is private in your life. But you still could shy away from conflict even if you feel very strongly about your convictions. If you get into an argument, be careful not to make revelations about your own personal beliefs that are better kept to yourself. Remember, it's good to say less now because your disclosure can be diluted by too many words.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



Your passionate nature could draw you into a conflict with a friend while the Sun opposes provocative Pluto. But your disagreement might be over a difference of ideas rather than something tangible. Unfortunately, burying your emotions won't work, either. The way out of this unstable situation is simply to allow for multiple points of view.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



An emotional meltdown may be exactly what you need on your journey, so don't assume an air of authority by playing the role of the holier-than-thou spiritual teacher. Paradoxically, you'll emerge rejuvenated if you can let loose and express your true feelings. And, although you might be totally surprised by your outburst, those around you will breathe a sigh of relief since they are tired of you claiming that everything is perfect.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



An issue previously brought into the light seems to be beyond your control. The more you attempt to manage the situation today, the more complex everything grows. On the contrary, if you loosen your grip on the steering wheel, you could be amazed when things begin to fall into place. Luckily, you will have the final say in the matter, even if it appears unlikely at the beginning.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)



Although you're often the one who can quickly dismiss an old experience, you're not so fast to embrace the future today. A nostalgic trip down Memory Lane anchors you to your past, making it impossible to see how your engrained habits are now obstacles to your happiness. However, it's far more effective to initiate preemptive behavior than waiting for something catastrophic to happen.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



Taking the time to reassess where you find the most joy in your life can be quite eye-opening. Even if you haven't already scheduled some quiet time, it's essential for your sanity to add it into your day. But don't wait until you're so busy that you can't even hear yourself think. Knowing what makes your heart happy is the first step to achieving true satisfaction, so clear some room on your calendar for contemplation.

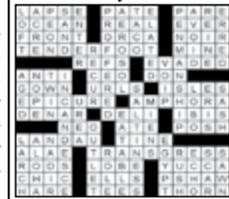
Across

1. Stair, 5. Harvard rival, 9. Writing fluids, 13. Hello, 14. Set straight, 16. Drudgery, 17. Portent, 18. A skin disease, 19. Game on horseback, 20. An official in India, 22. Inexhaustible, 24. Computer symbol, 26. Connecting points, 27. Meal provider, 30. Alabaster, 33. Decoration, 35. Mortise and _____, 37. Born as, 38. Sunrises, 41. Fitting, 42. Follow as a result, 45. Balm, 48. Off course, 51. In the direction of, 52. Go in, 54. Containers, 55. Burrowed (British spelling), 59. Fence "doors", 62. Historical periods, 63. Communion table, 65. Cypher, 66. 13 in Roman numerals, 67. Apologetic, 68. Prospector's find, 69. Gangly, 70. Awakened, 71. Biblical kingdom.

Down

1. Not barefoot, 2. An indefinite period, 3. Spectator, 4. Remedy, 5. Sweet potato, 6. Winglike, 7. Flax fabric, 8. Christmas drink, 9. Stalemate, 10. Newbie (slang), 11. Murder, 12. Blackthorn, 15. Poverty-stricken, 21. Standard, 23. Cried, 25. Require, 27. Ice cream holder, 28. Drome, 29. Ribonucleic acid, 31. Comprehended, 32. Pile, 34. Pair, 36. Catches, 39. Louse-to-be, 40. Prig, 43. Implement, 44. Sea eagle, 46. Branchlet, 47. Handcuff, 49. Collection of maps, 50. Lemon or canary, 53. Backward-looking, 55. Words, 56. Murre, 57. Found on a finger, 58. Not light, 60. Cocoyam, 61. Appear, 64. Type of whiskey.

Yesterday's Solution



before, brief, bronze, butter, cherry, chunk, clean, combat, cute, decide, effect, enter, experience, formal, hover, hurt, layer, maybe, mayor, mighty, military, number, perfect, policy, potential, rite, route, sorry, style, tier, train, trick, trust, wring.

