

Afghan Intelligence Foil Coordinated Attack Plot by Haqqani Network in Gardez City

KABUL - The Afghan intelligence operatives foiled a plot by the Haqqani terrorist network to carry out a coordinated attack in Gardez city, the provincial capital of south-eastern Paktia province. The National Directorate of Security (NDS) in a statement said Wednesday that a group of eight insurgents were arrested in connection to the attack plot. The statement further added that the suspects were arrested during an operation of the intelligence operatives in the vicinity of Gardez city. The detained militants have confessed that they were deployed to Gardez city by the Haqqani network commanders, Ghazi and Jahad, who they claim are based on the ...*(More on P4)...*(17)



Afghanistan's Historic Visit to Lord's Abandoned due to Rain

LONDON - At least 6,000 Afghan cricket fans turned out to support the visiting team in what was their first visit to Lord's, the home of cricket, in London. Afghanistan's first-ever visit to Lord's ended in a disappointment after rain forced an abandonment against a star-studded Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC). The day started in overcast conditions and saw the tourists dominate the early proceedings with Shapoor Zadran taking the prize wickets of Brendon McCullum (5) and Misbah ul-Haq (7), an official Lord's match report stated. However, opener Sam Hain and ex-West Indies batsman Shiv Chanderpaul passed 50 as a partnership to push the hosts past 100. A rain delay restricted the match to 40 overs and after Chanderpaul retired not out on 22, Hain stepped up the momentum in reaching his 50 off 66 balls, the Lord's article stated. The Warwickshire batsman was eventually dismissed for 76 after he was caught by Javed Ahmadi off the bowling of Gulbuddin Naib. Shapoor then claimed his third wicket of the match with Chris Read removed for just five as Afghanistan started to take control with MCC 180/4. (Tolonews)



Taliban Gun Down 7 Passengers in Farah

FARAH CITY - Taliban militants have shot dead at least seven of 16 the passengers they stopped on the highway in the capital of western Farah province, officials said on Wednesday. Provincial Council Chairman Jamila Amini told Pajhwok Afghan News the Taliban stopped the passengers of a bus in the Shamal Gah area of Farah City late on Tuesday. The public representative said the insurgents had killed seven of the 16 passengers they had seized from the bus while the fate of the rest was still unclear. However, the governor's spokesman, Nasir Mehri, said the Taliban had taken seven passengers hostage and killed them in separate locations on the outskirts of Farah City. The victims were civilians hailing from Farah province, he said, adding the bodies of the slain passengers had been taken to Farah Civil Hospital. Syed Ahmad, a brother-in-law of one victim, told Pajhwok his uncle served in the Afghan Local Police (ALP) three years ago. He said his uncle presently running a shop and had no links with the government. A person, who wished to go unnamed, said the seven passengers were killed by a Taliban commander named Maula Dad -- who served as a police officer before joining the insurgent group eight months ago. (Pajhwok)

Taliban Commander Killed in Nangarhar Infighting

KABUL - A Taliban commander has been killed during the latest infighting among the Taliban insurgents in eastern Nangarhar province of Afghanistan. According to the local government officials, the incident took place late on Monday in the vicinity of Bati Kot district. The provincial government in a statement also confirmed the infighting among the Taliban insurgents. The statement further added that the information received by the provincial government indicates that the Taliban leader Amad was killed during the infighting in Jantian area. Amad was reportedly involved in insurgency activities since a long time in Bati Kot district of Nangarhar, the provincial government said. The anti-government armed militant groups including the Taliban insurgents have not commented regarding the report so far. This is not the first time a report has emerged regarding the infighting among the Taliban insurgents as numerous similar incidents have taken place in the past in other provinces, specifically following the death of the group's founder Mullah Mohammad Omar. (KP)

11 Daesh Insurgents Eliminated in Kunar Drone Strike

ASADABAD - Nearly a dozen Daesh (Islamic State) insurgents have been killed in a US drone strike in the Watapoor district of eastern Kunar province, an official said on Wednesday. The provincial police chief, Maj. Gen. Juma Gul Himmat, told Pajhwok Afghan News the US forces carried out the drone raid on a Daesh hideout in the Katar Kala area of the district late Tuesday night. He said 11 fighters were killed, including three no-



torious commanders and a financier. Himmat added security personnel and civilians suffered no casualties during the strike. The militant group's activities have lately increased in Kunar, but Afghan and coalition forces have launched an air and ground operation against them. (Pajhwok)

7-Member Haqqani Network Group Held in Paktia

GARDEZ - A seven-member militant group linked to the dreaded Haqqani network has been detained in southeastern Paktia province, the spy service said on Wednesday. A statement from the National Directorate of Security (NDS) to Pajhwok Afghan News said the seven Haqqani network associates were arrested by intelligence operatives in Gardez city, the provincial capital. The statement identified



the detainees as Ashraf, Sultan, Shukrullah, Sayedulalah, Najibullah, Fazlullah and Mazomuddin and accused them of planning to carry out terrorist attacks. The men had confessed to their involvement in terrorist and destructive attacks and crossed the Durand Line into Paktia after being directed so by their commanders 'Ghazi' and 'Jihadyar,' the NDS statement claimed. (Pajhwok)

Seven Insurgents Killed in Clash with Afghan Forces

KABUL - According to 205th Atal Military Corps officials the clash erupted when insurgents attacked a convoy and check posts. At least seven Taliban insurgents were killed and 11 others wounded on Tuesday on the Kabul-Kandahar highway when the Taliban attacked a military convey, said local officials Wednesday. Gada Mohammed an official from 205th Atal Military Corps said the clash started when Taliban insurgents attacked a military convey and security checkpoints. The clash continued for several hours, Mohammed said. Two policemen and two soldiers were killed in the clash, Mohammed added. Taliban has not commented. (Tolonews)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

Making wise decisions is impossible today because the facts won't stand still. It's like the truth is a moving target and every time you aim your intentions at a goal, it's in a different place just a few minutes later. However, you are closer to your dreams than you realize; it's the act of trying to lock them into place that causes them to slip away.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

Your best friends take on new roles today as they become spiritual advisers. Whether or not you've ever seen them in this capacity, you're looking for something more than mundane assistance. Fortunately, those who know you best can touch your soul and inspire you to widen your horizons.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Reality appears to be shapeshifting today in order to conform to your dreams. Unfortunately, the facts are not what they seem to be, since they are also dependent on your perspective. Your lack of objectivity makes it easy to jump to incorrect conclusions in the pursuit of opening your heart and awakening your mind. Don't try to make the irrational rational.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

Your bold aspirations of possible adventures aren't usually part of the Crab's character. However, you're inspired to reach beyond the edges of your emotional safety and stretch your mind in the process. But don't stop to consider if your plans are realistic or even possible; leave the concrete thinking for another day.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

You might be surprised by the subjects you bring up today in the course of normal conversation. It's as if you have a magnetic attractor that pulls in the most sensitive and sensational topics. You don't even need to go looking for controversy; it arrives without any effort. There's no reason to back away from discussing a delicate issue as long as you understand the impact it could have on others.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

It seems as if you're surrounded by dreamers today and you are spiritually refreshed by what they share with you. Oftentimes, vague visions and ethereal thoughts make you nervous because you feel the need to turn them into something more practical. However, you're ready to go for a ride now, eager to see where people's thoughts carry you. Avoid making any concrete plans yet; stay in the realms of unrealized potential, instead.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

You could think you're going one way at work only to find yourself heading in the exact opposite direction. But don't be shocked at the wide divergence of destinations because they may end up being quite similar. The truth is that the road ahead is more obscured than you realize, as if a heavy fog has descended over your future.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

Set aside a block of time today for unfettered daydreaming. Don't try to channel your thoughts down a particular path. A guided meditation is counterproductive now, for it limits your exploration rather than encouraging it. Tear down the walls or simply wander beyond them. Something important awaits your discovery if you venture off the beaten track.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

You may decline an invitation to do something wild and wonky today, but turning your thoughts inward can be a significant decision. It's as if the winds of fate filled your sails and blew you directly to a secret island that's not on any maps. Nevertheless, it feels like a spiritual home and sets a series of events into motion that deepens your soul. Although a profound experience changes you for the better, the real magic starts.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

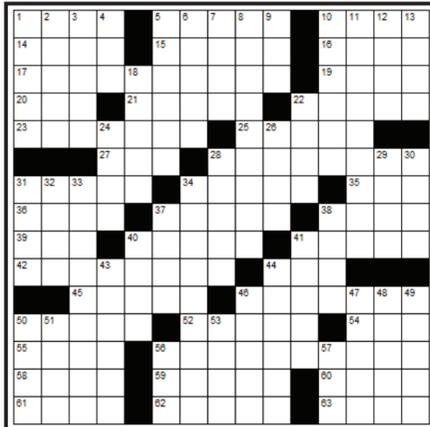
A missed appointment may be momentarily frustrating, but it can open up a bit of unexpected free time on your calendar. This serendipitous mix-up could actually be the fates knocking at your door, bringing you exactly the opportunity you needed. A cosmic gift is being delivered today, but it's up to you to do something wonderful with it.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

You find yourself cast in an entirely new 'light' when something surprising occurs today. Perhaps you were feeling as if your energy was blocked, or maybe you believed you weren't up for a task that was assigned to you. However, you can't ignore the positive feedback you're receiving from the cosmos now. You realize that you were the only one standing in your way.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

People often don't see you as you view yourself. It's as if you are looking through a filter that softens your edges so much that you seem confused or out of touch. However, your experience is quite different now as you gain power from a profound encounter with a close friend or associate. You know exactly what you want today; unfortunately, something is lost between your thoughts and what others hear.



Across
1. Anagram of "Sees", 5. Films of impurities, 10. Replete, 14. A jaunty rhythm, 15. Prongs, 16. Dwarf buffalo, 17. Imprecise, 19. Not more, 20. Make a copy of a recording, 21. Come to pass, 22. Explosion, 23. Gist, 25. Willow, 27. Fuss, 28. In a compliant manner, 31. Backward-looking, 34. Berths, 35. Furrow maker, 36. Applications, 37. Melodies, 38. Aquatic plant, 39. Hotel, 40. Peachy, 41. Pit, 42. Interconnected systems, 44. Sick, 45. Auspices, 46. Experience, 50. Heatedly, 52. Door part, 54. Jump, 55. Death notice, 56. Bandoneon, 58. Great affection, 59. Smidgens, 60. A Freudian stage, 61. A whitetail, 62. Take as one's own, 63. Physiques,
Down
1. Leave out, 2. Nasal passage, 3. Thick slices of something, 4. And so forth, 5. Plaster, 6. "Odyssey" sorceress, 7. Two-toed sloth, 8. The study of measurement, 9. South southeast, 10. Collapsed, 11. Uncanny, 12. Not a win, 13. Not first, 18. Condominium, 22. Partiality, 24. Hearing organs, 26. Knights, 28. Pools, 29. Records, 30. Not nays, 31. Wreckage, 32. Feudal worker, 33. Provisional, 34. Helmet flower, 37. Indian dress, 38. Competent, 40. Motherless calf, 41. Birch relative, 43. Disorder, 44. Swallow, 46. Open, as a bottle, 47. Rhinoceros, 48. Testicle, 49. Opaque gems, 50. Grasp, 51. Double-reed woodwind, 53. Within, 56. Spy agency, 57. Bar bill,

Yesterday's Solution
CRAFTY TETYE GARD
LABOR RIAHA OVEE
OPERA EWER MINE
DETACHMENT MIITE
HOE HEELS
COWEB ROMOSE
ALLOHA SENESENT
DEMO EOSTIN IDEEA
SOBR IQUET MADAM
SHEA EAB
TARO TUMULTUOUS
UNAU IRES INTRO
BATS OGLE ADTEU
ALLEE NETS LOCAL
abroad, bees, blanket, break, center, charm, chicken, clown, comic, crank, dens, drapes, erase, exist, fancy, frame, goose, house, nearsighted, online, outcome, parody, plant, rospen, quick

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