

# 145 Taliban Suffer Casualties in Want Wegal Clash

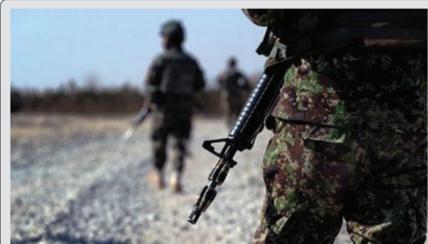
**At least 145 militants were killed or wounded after they attacked the Want Wegal district centre in eastern Nuristan province on Wednesday morning, an official said.**

JALALABAD - Local officials said the attack on the district was led by foreign army officers in which two Afghan security personnel also killed and 15 others wounded. Reports reaching here said the Taliban launched a coordinated assault on the district center and the battle with Afghan forces continued for five hours. Rahmatullah Rahmati, the Want Wegal district administrative chief, told Pajhwok Afghan News that the Afghan security forces put up a strong resistance to the militants and as a result, 45 rebel fighters were killed and more than 100 others were wounded. He did not give exact figures, but claimed foreign fighters were among ...*(More on P4)...(15)*



## Zakhilwal Condemns Attack on Folk Singer

PESHAWAR - Afghan Ambassador to Pakistan Hazrat Omar Zakhilwal has denounced violence against legendary Pashto folk singer Zarsanga and her family. Currently admitted to a city hospital, the recipient of the Presidential Award and her family were beaten up with sticks by people with whom they had a financial dispute. In addition to a large number of fans, ex-president Hamid Karzai and Ambassador Zakhilwal also expressed their concerns over the attack on the singer in Nowshera district and inquired after her health. The ambassador tweeted he had sent his deputy to the Lady Reading Hospital to extend her financial support. "Violence against Zarsanga has hurt many of her admirers in Afghanistan ... "Such artists connect not only countries but also peoples through their talent. Zarsanga is one such artist who has done great service to the Pakhtun people and culture," said Zakhilwal. Zardasht Shams, deputy head of Afghan mission, met the folk singer and wished her swift recovery. ...*(More on P4)...(16)*



## 20 Baghlan Villages Cleared of Taliban in Ongoing Operation

KABUL - At least 50 Taliban insurgents were killed in an ongoing operation in Baghlan-e-Markazi district of northern Baghlan province by Tuesday night, local officials said. Local officials in northern Baghlan province said on Wednesday that over 20 villages were cleared of Taliban insurgents by Tuesday night in ongoing operations in Baghlan-e-Markazi district of the province. The operation was launched eight days ago to clear the area of insurgents. Officials said in this time nearly 50 Taliban insurgents ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

## 2 Health Officials Abducted in Jawzjan

SHEBERGHAN - Security officials in northern Jawzjan province on Wednesday confirmed Taliban abducted two senior health officials from Sheberghan-Mazar-i-Sharif highway. 1st Lt. Niamatullah Kahzad, Jawzjan crime branch chief, told Pajhwok Afghan News Dr.Yaseen and Khal Mohammad were abducted by the Taliban when they were on their way from Mazar-i-Sharif to Sheberghan City, the provincial capital. He said the incident took place at around 9:00pm today (Wednesday). The Taliban took the two health officials to Qamsae village with their vehicle and then transfer them to an unknown location, he added. Kahzad said efforts ...*(More on P4)...(18)*

## 6 Rebels Killed, 3 Children Injured in Paktika Blasts

SHARANA - Six Taliban insurgents have been killed and three children wounded in separate landmine explosions in southeastern Paktika province, officials said on Wednesday. Deputy police chief Col. Dadullah Khan Hotak told Pajhwok Afghan News a land explosion injured three children in Sharan city bazaar on Wednesday morning. However, education director Mohammad Nasim Wajid said schools were closed for summer vacation and the injured children might not be students. Separately, six militants were killed including commanders and eight others were wounded in a blast caused by their own landmine in Khariben area of Yusufkhel district late on Tuesday night. He said the landmine exploded when the rebel commanders were distributing explosives to fighters. A resident of the area, who did not want to be named, confirmed the blast, but was unaware about casualties. Two weeks ago, two militants were killed in the same area in a similar incident. *(Pajhwok)*

## Intel Operatives Seize Explosives-Laden Truck in Kabul



KABUL - Intelligence operatives have seized a vehicle full of explosives in Kabul, thwarting a possible terrorist attack in the capital, the spy service said on Wednesday. National Directorate of Security (NDS) said in a statement to Pajhwok Afghan News the Hino truck full of explosives was seized and defused in Chahar

Asiab district. The explosives, weighting 2,500 kilograms of ammonium nitrate, had skillfully been placed in 50 bags in the truck for suicide attacks in the capital, the intelligence agency said. The plot was organised by the Nasrullah, known as Huzifa, who was responsible for suicide bombings in Logar province. NDS said the organiser planned to take the truck to Kabul. Based on information provided by NDS, the Taliban had already set attack targets in Kabul. The exact time or date of the seizure, however, was not mentioned in the statement. *(Pajhwok)*

## 9 Daesh, Taliban Fighters Killed in Nangarhar Offensive

JALALABAD - At least nine Daesh (Islamic State) rebels and Taliban fighter have been killed during an air and ground operation in eastern Nangarhar province, an official said on Wednesday. Police spokesman Lt. Col. Hazrat Hussain Mashriqi told Pajhwok Afghan News the security forces targeted IS hideouts in the Mamand Dara area of Achin district late on Tuesday. He said eight Daesh rebels



were killed and several heavy and light weapons destroyed during the offensive. Security forces and civilians suffered no casualties, he added. On the other hand, one Taliban insurgent was killed and another wounded as a result of a clash with security forces in Landibasol area. The IS and Taliban have so far said nothing in this regard. *(Pajhwok)*

## Kunar Female Prisoners Kept in Nangarhar Jails

ASADABAD - Female prisoners from eastern Kunar province are kept in jails in neighboring Nangarhar province for the lack of required facilities. Official says the transfer of female prisoners from Nangarhar to Kunar for investigation is a problematic process. Prison officials Mohammad Yousuf, deputy in charge of Kunar jail, says they bring female prisoners to Kunar when prosecutors want to investigate their cases and then the females are sent back to the jails. "It is a problematic process to bring prisoners from one province for investigation to another and take back despite security threats on the way," he said. Yousuf said they had nine policewomen in the past but currently there was only one policewoman who attended the office once a week for searching of prisoners. He said if the issue of the lack of policewomen in Kunar was resolved, there would be no need for keeping Kunar female prisoners in Nangarhar jails. Judiciary officials: Abdul Ahad Haidari, head of the appellant attorney's office, said there were no exclusive posts for female attorneys and the number of female defense lawyers was insufficient. ...*(More on P4)...(19)*

## Outlook Horoscope

### Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



Although the good news keeps getting better, you're holding a healthy dose of self-doubt in reserve today. It's as if you're afraid to acknowledge something is going right because it might suddenly disappear in a puff of smoke. Nevertheless, so much now depends on how you respond to current opportunities.

### Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



You might believe that your newfound superpowers enable you to accomplish anything you set your mind to now. However, reality is the great scorekeeper and will likely reveal a more complex path to success. Don't allow discouragement to steal your thunder at the first sign of a setback.

### Gemini (May 21-June 20)



You're all about the presentation today because you want your peers to admire you. However, you could end up putting so much energy into creating a memorable show that you appear stiff. Don't set superiority as your goal; instead, aim for spontaneity. Naturally, you must be prepared and know your material. However, others will want to work and play with you now because of who you are.

### Cancer (June 21-July 20)



You feel quite magnanimous toward your friends and family, often going out of your way to shower them with praise or gifts. However, you could be generous to a fault today, giving so much that you leave little left over for your own needs. Self-improvement can be just as important now as doing good deeds.

### Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



There's no need to look far for love and affection today, because those closest to you bring the greatest joy into your life. No doubt, your bold and bubbly manner sends signals to everyone you encounter that you're ready for some fun. But you're not just interested in lighthearted play; you also want to expand your thinking.

### Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



A trivial event might trigger a deeper exploration now as you reexamine what you value most. Someone may challenge one of your core beliefs, prompting you to defend your honor. However, rationalizing your choices won't restore harmony to your world; in fact, your words could foster a needless conflict today. Instead of engaging in a verbal sparring match, let your actions speak for you.

### Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



People are drawn to you today because they think you have all the answers, or at least, a viable plan. However, you may not see yourself in the same light as others do. From your perspective, you are looking at a goal in the distance and you're trying to figure out how to reach it, just like everyone else. Mother Teresa advised, "If you have not the experience, ask."

### Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



You can't put your finger on the source of your optimism today, but it seems that you have hidden helpers in the midst. It's as if there are angels watching over you and intervening on your behalf. It doesn't matter where the cosmic assistance is coming from; you're poised to gain rewards from your current pursuit of success. However, satisfaction is not linked to a promotion at work; it's connected with be-

### Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



Your lack of perspective tempts you to spend more time dreaming about distant horizons and strategizing about long-term goals than meeting your current obligations. Although your coworkers might feel abandoned, your friends are very supportive of your big-picture thinking now. However, finding a balance between the present and the future enables you to remain productive while also imagining a more perfect life.

### Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



You may consider initiating a power play today if you think you're ready to assume control of a project at work. This won't come as a surprise to your peers because your recent efforts have set you up for this ambitious move. The good news is you can consolidate your influence by organizing your resources.

### Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

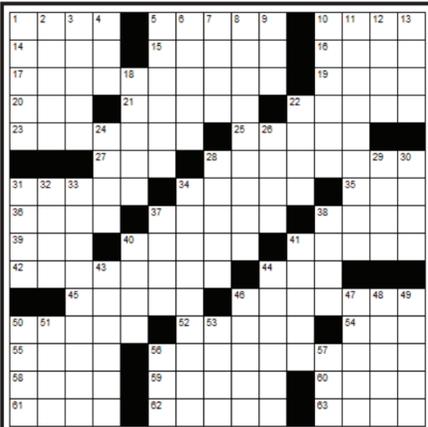


You are in such a dynamic growth phase that it's challenging to keep up with all that you're learning about yourself and your world. New opportunities for study, travel or creative projects inspire you to imagine options that would have been out of the question until now. If others are encouraging you to choose a different direction in life, take their advice very seriously.

### Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



Although you might be blessed with an unexpected cash windfall in the form of a gift or an inheritance today, it's more likely the benefits will be of the metaphysical sort. Your life is in the process of taking off to unimaginable heights, but you won't do as well operating on your own. Exploring a new partnership at work is a propitious undertaking because you stand to gain a lot from others now.



**Across**  
1. Leisure, 5. Foe, 10. Expresses relief, 14. Bit of gossip, 15. Confederate States, 16. Greek letter, 17. Excessive desire for wealth, 19. A neutral color, 20. Pelvis, 21. Overweight, 22. Blots, 23. Braided cords, 25. Rituals, 27. Fury, 28. Poetic rhythms, 31. Mends, 34. Arm joint, 35. Lyric poem, 36. Quaint outburst, 37. Peel, 38. Type of sword, 39. Barbie's beau, 40. Bloop, 41. Make improvements, 42. Type of onion plant, 44. 3 in Roman numerals, 45. Not inner, 46. Unclothe, 50. Deservedly receives, 52. Cut, 54. 12 in Roman numerals, 55. Kiss, 56. A young fish, 58. Not sweet, 59. Go in, 60. Astringent, 61. Not difficult, 62. Excrete, 63. Plateau, .  
**Down**  
1. One more than seven, 2. Courtyards, 3. Oozes, 4. An uncle, 5. Comestible, 6. 9999, 7. XXXX, 8. Woeful, 9. Aye, 10. A pen for swine, 11. Zodiacal prediction, 12. French for "State", 13. Methods, 18. People who accomplish, 22. Goulash, 24. A region of SE Pakistan, 26. False god, 28. Chin indentation, 29. Biblical garden, 30. Sow, 31. Apollo astronaut Slayton, 32. How old we are, 33. Resentful, 34. Imposing, 37. Cabbagelike vegetable, 38. Arab chieftain, 40. Handguns, 41. Duck down, 43. Famished, 44. Flip, 46. Prods, 47. Banish, 48. Nasal passage, 49. Greek letter, 50. Anagram of "Sees", 51. Dwarf buffalo, 53. Blind (poker), 56. Charge, 57. Flee,

**Yesterday's Solution**  
ACROSS: 1. ABHOR, 2. WITPE, 3. POEM, 4. URINE, 5. PINES, 6. EPEE, 7. TANTAMOUNT, 8. DEFRAUD, 9. ORIFICE, 10. GYM, 11. PLASTER, 12. SCORPION, 13. HAREM, 14. BOP, 15. KILT, 16. NODS, 17. BOMA, 18. ELLI, 19. TENET, 20. DIAZES, 21. STONEMASONS, 22. AIRRA, 23. COLE, 24. CAMERAS, 25. SLOBBER, 26. IMPASSIBLE, 27. ALAAE, 28. DITL, 29. TLEUS, 30. LURE, 31. SEEM, 32. ALERT, 33. FLEND  
abuse, ballot, banter, bard, berth, bowler, bulge, cardigan, comrade, container, create cushion, dell, drive, drop, dwell, fence, field, flounder, hutch, letter, missive, order, plain, railway, ripple

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