

Quote of the Day

Our bodies are our gardens to which our wills are gardeners.

William Shakespeare

Constitution

Municipalities shall be set up in order to administer city affairs.

Article 141

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Ministry of Defense

40 to 50 Districts in Afghanistan Face Threats

KABUL - Officials at the Ministry of Defense (MoD) reported ongoing counter-insurgency operations in 14 provinces this week, estimating the total number of districts facing security threats nationwide to range between 40 and 50.

According to the Defense Ministry, insurgent groups have focused their attacks mostly on the border regions with Pakistan, attempting to gain ground through coordinated offensives. But officials denied militant groups had made much progress in their attempts.

"We don't deny the high amount of threats by anti-government armed forces in many districts," MoD dep-



uty spokesman Dawlat Waziri said on Sunday. "In general, anti-government groups are trying to target border districts with their activities. These efforts can be felt at Kunar, Kandahar, Nuristan, Badakhshan and Helmand provinces."

The Ministry of Interior (MoI) has said militant activities have been enabled in part because the groups have coalesced in remote areas with little-to-no presence of the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF). "There are major security threats by anti-government groups in a few districts, but I cannot give a number," MoI spokesman Sediq Sediqqi said. "These threats are mostly in areas and parts ... (More on P4)...(1)

UN Envoy

Number of Injured Afghan Civilians Rises by 50% in 2015

UN's humanitarian coordinator in Afghanistan said that almost 2,000 civilians were injured in conflict-torn Afghanistan between January and April 2015.



MOSCOW - Almost 2,000 civilians were injured in conflict-torn Afghanistan between January and April 2015, which is a 50-percent increase comparing to the same period in 2014, UN's humanitarian coordinator in Afghanistan said Sunday.

As of the end of April, at least 1,989 civilians were injured in the country, Mark Bowden, the deputy head of the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), said. "The doctors there [in Afghanistan] told me that they ... (More on P4)...(2)

Michael McKinley

US-Afghan Ties Not Confined to Security



KABUL - US Ambassador Michael McKinley on Monday said Afghanistan faced many challenges and his country stood by the war-torn country to work for its security and stability.

The US envoy was speaking at a

ceremony marking the 239th Independence Day of the United States of America in Kabul.

He said all military responsibilities had shifted from the US and NATO forces to Afghan forces and the US had y ... (More on P4)...(3)

Abdullah, Tajik Leaders Discuss Ties, Regional Projects

KABUL - Chief Executive Officer Abdullah Abdullah on Monday held talks with Tajikistan President Emomali Rahmon on bilateral cooperation, the Tajikistan Presidency reported.

It quoted Rahmon as saying Tajikistan had always supported and would support its relations with the friendly and brotherly country Afghanistan.

He said relations between the two countries were of special importance in the region.

For his part, Abdullah said Tajik-



istan was a priority of Afghanistan's foreign policy, saying it was his first foreign trip after taking office in late September. The two leaders noted cooperation ... (More on P4)...(4)

Hikmat Khalil

Afghan-US Partnership Vital for World Peace

KABUL - Deputy foreign minister Hikmat Khalil Karzai on Monday said strong bilateral relations between Afghanistan and the United States were vital for regional and international peace, security and stability.

He was speaking at a ceremony marking the 239th Independent Day of the USA on behalf of the Afghanistan government.

Khalil Karzai congratulated the American people and said the fourth of July was a day of celebrations and jubilation for the American people to commemorate their achievements and ... (More on P4)...(5)

Turkey's New Parliament Features 4 Key Parties

ANKARA, Turkey - Four parties will dominate Turkey's 550-seat parliament following Sunday's elections. Here is a sketch of each political force.

Conservative and Islamic. Has governed Turkey since 2002. Founded the previous year by Recep Tayyip Erdogan, long an increasingly autocratic prime minister and now, since 2014, Turkey's president.

A "big tent" party that seeks support from liberals, Islamists and nationalists. Has cur-



tailed influence of the traditionally powerful military, overseen economic growth at times, and put the country on the path to possible European Union membership.

Has lost liberal support and EU membership momentum as Erdogan used police to suppress protests, curbed free speech, sought controls on Internet communications, Islamized schools.

Erdogan has maintained de-facto control of the party and y ... (More on P4)...(7)

Ghani Accepts Credentials of Azerbaijani Ambassador

BAKU - President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani accepted the diplomatic credentials of Vahdat Sultanzade, the new non-resident ambassador of Azerbaijan to Afghanistan, Afghan presidency said Monday.

After the ceremony, President

Ghani discussed with the new non-resident ambassador of Azerbaijan the ways to enhance relations and cooperation between the two countries. The newly appointed ambassador said that Afghanistan and Azerbaijan are two brotherly countries, ... (More on P4)...(6)

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