

# A Dozen Militants Killed in Zazi Maidan Clash

KHOST CITY - A dozen Taliban militants were killed during an early morning clash with security forces and residents in the Zazi-Maidan district of southeastern Khost province on Tuesday, police said. ZaziMaidan district police chief General Azizullah told Pajhwok Afghan News armed Taliban militants stormed people's homes in DeraMela area of the district at about 5am and 12 attackers were killed when residents and police jointly retaliated. He said the clash was still ongoing



and a local uprising member was killed and two others wounded. He said the insurgents were firing rockets from across the border, targeting people's homes. Azizullah said police targeted a vehicle carrying insurgents and killed all onboard. He said all points had been captured by security from insurgents in the district except one which would be captured soon. The insurgents had previously also launched similar attacks on border villages in ZaziMaidan district. In those ...*(More on P4)...(14)*

## 7 Terrorists Killed in an Airstrike in Ghazni Province:MoD



KABUL - The Ministry of Defense (MoD) said Wednesday at least 7 terrorists were killed in an airstrike in the restive Ghazni province of Afghanistan. According to MoD, the airstrike was carried out in the vicinity of Geru district and at least six motorcycles belonging to the terrorists were also destroyed. In a separate operation in Moqor district, at least five suspected militants were arrested by the Afghan National Army (ANA) soldiers. The anti-government armed militant groups have not commented regarding the report so far. Ghazni...*(More on P4)...(15)*

## 7 Kidnapped Passengers Rescued, Claims Kunduz Governor

KUNDUZ CITY - Seven of the 47 bus passengers kidnapped by the Taliban in northern Kunduz province were rescued by Afghan security forces, officials said on Wednesday. Local authorities said the militants kidnapped the passengers from a 404-model bus in the Bagh-i-Amir area of Kunduz province at 7:30am. The bus, heading to Takhar, was stopped by the rebels. Kunduz Governor Asadullah Omarkhel told reporters seven of the hostages were rescued by security forces. He said all-out efforts were underway to free all the passengers. The government had taken special



measures for preventing such incidents in the future, he added. Omarkhel called for residents to cooperate with security forces in the rescue operation. The Taliban have not yet commented on the incident. Last week, 200 people were kidnapped and a dozen of them killed later on. Many have already been released as a result of intervention from tribal elders. But eight are still in Taliban's captivity. *(Pajhwok)*

## Blanket Pay Raise for Police, Army Personnel from June 21

KABUL - Security officials said on Wednesday salaries of security personnel of defense and interior ministries have been increased with effect from June 21.

A source in the Ministry of Defense (MoD), wishing not to be named, told Pajhwok Afghan News monthly salaries of all security personnel -- from a soldier to a general -- had been increased by 3,500 afghanis.

"MoD employees receive their salaries based on ranks; salaries of security forces different in stable and restive areas. But the salary increase is applicable to all security personnel," the source added. Interior Ministry spokesman Seddiq Sed-



diqi said the pay raise for MoD staffers was also applicable to MoI workers. Around 350,000 security personnel are working under MoD and MoI. *(Pajhwok)*

## Taliban Commander, Al-Qaeda Affiliates Killed in Wardakand Paktika Airstrikes

MAIDAN WARDAK - A Commander Of The Taliban Group was killed in an airstrike in central Maidan Wardak province of Afghanistan, the defense officials said Wednesday. The airstrike was carried out by the Afghan Air Force in the vicinity of Shashgaw area targeting the Taliban militants. Dawlat Waziri, spokesman for the Ministry of Defense, confirmed that the Taliban commander was identified as Mansoor who was killed in the air raid. He said a least 5 al-Qaeda affiliates were also killed during a separate airstrike conducted in the southeastern Paktika province. Waziri further added that a vehicle ...*(More on P4)...(16)*

## Insurgents Attack Jalalabad Radio Station

JALALABAD - Unknown gunmen on Wednesday launched a grenade attack against a local radio station in Jalalabad in Nangarhar, officials confirmed. Engineer Zalmay, head of Enikas Radio in Jalalabad, confirmed the incident and said it happened on Wednesday morning but that no one had been wounded in the attack. This comes just three days after two journalists were killed in Helmand after the convoy they were traveling in came under Taliban fire. Afghan journalist Zabihul-



lah Tamanna and David Gilkey, an American photojournalist, were both killed while embedded with Afghan security forces. Afghanistan is considered one of the most dangerous countries in the world for media. In the past six months, at least 10 media workers, including journalists, have died in the country. *(Tolonews)*

## Taliban Execute 11 Hostages in Ghazni

ANDAR - Ghazni local officials said on Wednesday that 11 bus passengers, kidnapped on Saturday in Ghazni, were killed by the Taliban on Tuesday evening. Officials said they were still trying to identify all those

killed. However, reports have emerged that the victims were all Afghan National Security Force members. The Provincial Governor for Ghazni, Mohammad Aman-Hamini would not confirm this but said the kidnapping took place on Saturday in the Andar district of the province. "Last night 11 persons were killed by the oppressors in Kamal Khail area," said Hamini. Insecurity along the highway has now however become a huge ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

## Kabul University Students Rally for Ramadan Vacation

KABUL - Reacting to a protest demonstration by Kabul University students, the Ministry of Higher Education on Wednesday said the authority to grant vacation during Ramadan rested with the president. The Kabul University students on Wednesday took to the streets in jurisdiction of 3rd municipality district and reached the Higher Education Ministry building in Kart-e-Sey area. The students chanted slogans like "We don't want beans and potatoes," "we just want Ramadan recess." "We want protection of Islamic values, Abaya must be worn in Ramadan and we don't want forced education." Mohammad Asif Barnay, one of the protestors, told Pajhwok Afghan News the holy month of Ramadan had arrived but they didn't have proper living place in the university's hostel. He said they were improper food and homes ...*(More on P4)...(19)*

## 3 of a Family Killed in Herat Gas Cylinder Explosion

HERAT CITY - Three members of a family were killed in a gas cylinder explosion in western Herat province, an official said on Wednesday. Jilani Farhad, the gov-

ernor's spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News the gas cylinder exploded in a house in the Ishaqabad village of Injil district on Tuesday evening. He said a 30 years old woman, a girl and a boy aged between five and seven were killed in the incident. Abdur-Rahman Jami, a doctor in the emergency department of Herat ...*(More on P4)...(18)*

### Outlook Horoscope

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

You may feel as if you're personally under attack when someone criticizes your beliefs. But verbally aggressive behavior doesn't sit right with you and you could be quick to strike back. Unfortunately, it's possible that your entire premise is wrong now; others might actually be more supportive than you think. They are likely motivated by the desire to help you rather than bring you down, but you must let them.

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

You are quite direct when sharing what's on your mind today. Your thoughts are grounded in the truth but your unrelenting insistence could put others off. You may be surprised when your words run into a roadblock rather than an open highway if you rub someone the wrong way. Bring it down a notch before you are accused of overselling your agenda.

#### Gemini (May 21-June 20)

There are differing schools of thought at work today and they all sound overly complicated in their various approaches. Although you truly believe your way is the most straightforward, you might still need to acquiesce in the name of cooperation now. You will be your own worst enemy as long as you remain self-righteous about your path. Act wisely and compromise for the best results.

#### Cancer (June 21-July 20)

Your friends appreciate your ability to express your thoughts today, but you may get lost in your own ideas if they're not built on a solid foundation. Nevertheless, you could put on such a dramatic show that everyone thinks you did a great job. However, you know where you fell short of your well-rehearsed presentation. Don't cry over spilled milk; just clean it up as quickly as you can and jump back into the fray while the odds are in your favor.

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

The bigger your soapbox is today, the less people will pay attention to your words. The taller the mountaintop from which you are preaching, the more your declaration will fall onto deaf ears. Don't overestimate the importance of communication now, even if it's one of the most important tools in your toolbox. Nevertheless, without decisive action to reinforce your message, your ideas won't materialize into anything tangible.

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

People aren't sure what you're really trying to say today, even if you think you're being crystal clear. Part of the problem is that your priorities are changing and you're already moving far into the future in your mind. It's frustrating because finding the right words to bring someone into your new frame of reference seems nearly impossible. Don't waste your energy stressing about the gulf between you and others.

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

You are defying everyone's primary assumption about the ambiguous nature of your sign by stepping up to the plate today and making brave decisions regarding your future. Your mind is like a virtual reality generator now; whatever you think actually manifests right before your eyes. But acting too impulsively will come back to haunt you, so avoid any spur-of-the-moment choices that could jeopardize your previous achievements.

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

Feeling as if you're being pulled into someone's tractor beam is disturbing, especially if you have an agenda of your own. However, you might be sucked into a conversation that doesn't even concern you -- and your lack of boundaries could prevent you from reaching your own goals. You may be so emotional today that you cry for absolutely no obvious reason at all. Don't hold back your tears since they can wash away the cares of your soul.

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

You're operating with a hidden agenda today and you don't want others to know what you're up to yet. But once you start talking, you become so excited with your work that you might forget your secret is worth defending. In fact, you could blurt out your theory before you can support your conclusion. Remember, you only get to make a first impression once, so keep things under wraps until you're ready to take center stage.

#### Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

You want to approach a job in a very creative manner today, but others don't know what to make of your unusual behavior. They might even attempt to prevent you from carrying out your tasks in such a radical style. But moderating your position now won't help you in the long run. It's been said that a compromise is an agreement where both parties get what neither of them wanted.

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

You're not making as much progress at work as you expected and this realization could hit you hard today. You had big plans and high hopes, yet you must face the facts now and consider adjusting your overall trajectory. But reacting too quickly can make matters worse. Don't change direction; just accept that the cosmos is operating on its own time schedule and not yours. There are many detours on the road to success.

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

You can talk about your plans for the day in such a manner that it sounds like you're fully informed about all the contingencies. However, upon closer analysis, it's apparent that there are viable possibilities that you have not considered at all. Luckily, time is on your side because a final decision isn't necessary for a while yet. In the meantime, don't let your emotions run amok just because everything you want is on the other side of fear.



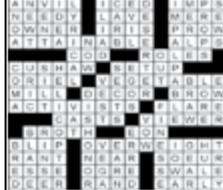
#### Across

- 1. Male deer, 5. Craves, 10. Breezed through, 14. Rate, 15. Open, as a bottle, 16. Back of the neck, 17. Nutritious, 19. Nile bird, 20. Clunker, 21. Nigerian monetary unit, 22. Kiss lightly, 23. Gist, 25. Area of South Africa, 27. Chap,, 28. Baby carriage, 31. 23 in Roman numerals, 34. Cluster, 35. French for "Summer", 36. Edges, 37. Genuinely, 38. Not false, 39. Ambition, 40. Drome, 41. Grill, 42. Conceding, 44. 52 in Roman numerals, 45. Avoid, 46. Prolongation of a musical note, 50. Operatic solos, 52. Not the most, 54. Tavern, 55. Unit of bread, 56. Flashiness, 58. Speechless, 59. Redress, 60. Countertenor, 61. Clairvoyant, 62. "Beau \_\_\_", 63. Existed.

#### Down

- 2. Anklebone, 3. Corrosives, 4. Precious stone, 5. Craziest, 6. Loosen, as laces, 7. Stigma, 8. European wolf spider,, 9. Operative, 10. Creature, 11. A knight, 12. Sweeping story, 13. Writing table 18. Boredom, 22. "Cut that out!", 24. Auspices, 26. Ground forces, 28. Catapulted, 29. Decorative case, 30. Bobbin, 31. Roentgen ray, 32. 13 in Roman numerals, 33. Straightaway, 34. Supply with battlements, 37. Trigonometry (abbrev.), 38. Snip, 40. Contributes, 41. Nascence, 43. Layabout, 44. Renter, 46. Lose consciousness, 47. Poplar tree, 48. Flavor, 49. Malicious burning, 50. Charity, 51. Debauchee, 53. God of love, 56. Muzzle, 57. Apprehend.

#### Yesterday's Solution



amnesty, artist, condones, cost, doom, exchange, express, feat, gait, general, indulge, jacket, leek, leper, little, people, poison, reek, rival, rivers, skirt, skive, slip, source, spare, station, still, structure, today, toward, treat, tremor, venial, wager, weakness, weapon,

