

30 Arab Insurgents Killed in Foreign Air Strike

SHARAN - At least 30 Arab insurgents were killed in a foreign forces air strike in Paktika province, the official provincial media office said in a statement on Thursday. According to the statement 30 Arab mine makers were killed in an air strike in Khoshmand district of Paktika. In a separate foreign air strike in Yusuf Khel district of the province at least another two insurgents were killed, the statement said. No information on civilian casualties from the air strikes was released. The Taliban have yet to comment on the air strikes. (Tolnews)



Poppy Workers Contrive Nifty Way to Boost Income

ZARANJ - Some workers in Nimroz province have contrived a new method of collecting opium poppy sap to see their wages shoot up. At times, the amount of sap extracted does not suffice to meet their wages. While lancing the poppies, they put on black clothing on which the clever labourers rub part of the extract collected in a vessel - mostly an earthen pot. The workers intelligently paste on



their clothes the paste left in the pot. After collecting the harvest, they dip their clothes

into boiling water. The sap coming to the surface is collected again with a spoon. Once the liquid dries up, it becomes opium, according to those employing the trick. A large number of workers converge on Nimroz, a hot province that is suitable for poppy cultivation, in summers to pierce poppy bulbs and gather the sap. The illicit crop is grown in Khashrod, Dilaram and ... (More on P4)... (17)

Survey Lists 37 Most Popular Lawmakers

KABUL - An opinion poll released on Thursday showed 37 lawmakers to be enjoying great popularity among the masses for their good performance and reputation. The online survey has been conducted by Nawasht website in two months, asking viewers to vote for lawmakers they like. Sanaullah Mukhlis, the online news webpage director, said the voting



process was organised in a way that one person could not vote for more than one time. A total of 52,300 individuals took part in the process... (More on P4)... (18)

Uruzgan Jail Communication Operator Killed

TRINKOT - Chief communication operator of central jail in central Uruzgan province was killed in an ambush, an official said on Thursday. Maj Wahidullah, criminal investigation chief of police, told Pajhwok Afghan News the gunmen killed Col Mohammadzai, communication chief operator, in an ambush early Thursday morning. Wahidullah condemned the killing of Mohammadzai, calling him a dedicated employee. The police had started investigations in the locality, he added. No group has claimed responsibility for the attack so far. (Pajhwok)

Abdullah Condemns Attack on Pajhwok Bureau

KABUL - Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Abdullah Abdullah on Thursday strongly condemned a bomb blast that tore through Pajhwok Afghan News bureau office in the capital of eastern Nangarhar province. The magnetic bomb attached to the Pajhwok office's entrance gate went off



in Jalalabad city on Wednesday night, destroying office equipment. Pajhwok reporters were not present in the office at the time of the explosion. Local officials said four guests at the nearby Voice of America office were injured in the blast. "I strongly condemn the attack on Pajhwok Afghan News which is a developed media ... (More on P4)... (19)

Blast at Pajhwok Jalalabad Office Widely Condemned

KABUL - Wednesday night's bomb blast at Pajhwok Afghan News bureau office in the capital of eastern Nangarhar province was widely condemned on Thursday.

The blast took place shortly after 8pm at the entrance to the bureau office, injuring at least four guests at the nearby office of the American broadcaster Voice of America in the Ghalji plaza in Jalalabad city. The blast also damaged office equipment and fortunately the staff members were not present at the bureau at the time of the blast caused by a magnet bomb. Representatives of various media outlets, media advocacy groups, including NAI, members of the national union of journalists, civil society activists and journalists in the eastern zone visited the Pajhwok Afghan News bureau to express solidarity. The visitors held a gathering in front of the Pajhwok office and strongly denounced the incident, with journalists issuing a three-article resolution. NAI representative Abbas Sadat read out the resolution that condemned in ... (More on P4)... (20)

1 of 4 Kidnapped Labourers Found Dead in Zabul

QALAT - Gunmen kidnapped four civilians and killed one of them in the Shinkai district of southern Zabul province, an official said on Thursday. Provincial police spokesman Ahmad Fawad Askar told Pajhwok Afghan News the four civilians were kidnapped from a car in Mirakot area of the district on Wednesday night. The victims, all labourers, belonged to southern Kandahar province and they were kidnapped on their way to Shinkai district from the province, he said. A second abducted person had managed to escape from his kidnappers, Askar said, adding the body of the slain person was found dumped on the side of a road in the area. However, two civilians remained in captivity ... (More on P4)... (21)

Construction Work on Key Bridge Begins in Farah

FARAH CITY - Construction process of a key bridge connecting three districts with the capital of western Farah province has kicked off, an official said on Thursday. The construction of the bridge - 200 metres long and 18 metres wide - begun in Rigi locality of the provincial capital on Wednesday, provincial economic director Zahir Shah Khadim told Pajhwok Afghan News. He said the project worth of 71.4 million Afghans was sponsored by the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) and would take 15 months to complete. A two kilometers road connecting to the bridge would be also be asphalted during the completion of the project, he added. ... (More on P4)... (22)

Faryab's Chief District Attorney Killed in Blast

MAIMANA - The Chief District Attorney in Faryab province Hamidullah Shirin Tagab was killed in a blast early Thursday morning, local officials said. According to officials, four others were wounded in the attack. Baryalai Basharyar, Head of Faryab Security Police Headquarters, confirmed the incident



and told TOLNews that the blast occurred at around 08:00 am local time when a magnetic mine was placed at the back of the district attorney's vehicle. No group including the Taliban has yet claimed responsibility for the blast. (Tolnews)

5 Civilians Killed in Helmand Blast

LASHKARGAH - 3 women and 2 girls were killed and 8 others, mostly females, were wounded when their vehicle struck a roadside bomb in southern Helmand province, officials said on Friday. The homemade bomb ripped through a vehicle carrying women and children as part of a wedding procession in the Marja district on Thurs-

day, the governor's spokesman said. Omar Zwak added those killed and wounded were mostly women and children. The dead included three women and two girls and another five women and two girls and the driver were among the injured, he said. Helmand police chief Brig Gen Nabijan Mulakhel confirmed the incident but did

not give the exact figures. The blast took place about 35 kilometers from Lashkargah, the provincial capital, in a Taliban-controlled area, the police chief said. Public health officials said two dead bodies and 11 wounded persons had been delivered to the provincial civil hospital. No group has accepted the responsibility. (Pajhwok)

Schoolteacher Shot Dead in Logar

PUL-I-ALAM - Unidentified gunmen on Thursday shot dead a schoolteacher in the capital of central Logar province, an official said. Mohammad Shahpur Arab, the education director, told Pajhwok Afghan News the incident took place in Sarpi Kalan locality of Pul-i-Alam. The teacher was on his way to school when attacked at

8:00am. Arab identified the slain primary school teacher as Mohammad Hamid, a resident of Haron Khel area of Pul-i-Alam. The 35-year-old had been teaching at Shaghasi primary school for the last three years. The education director said security officials had launched an investigation into the murder. (Pajhwok)

Another District Prosecutor Gunned Down

KANDAHAR CITY - Gunmen killed the attorney for Zheri district of southern Kandahar province in an overnight gun attack in the provincial capital, an official said on Friday, the second prosecutor to be killed within hours. Hasham Khan, the Zheri district attorney, was shot and injured near a marketplace, Haji Akbar market, on Thursday night and

later died in hospital, said the governor's spokesman, Samim Khpalwak. Also on Thursday, the attorney in Sherin Tagab district of northern Faryab province was killed by a sticky bomb attached to his car. Hamidullah Khan was on his way to work when the bomb went off. Hit-and-run attacks have lately increased in Kandahar province. (Pajhwok)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

You are dangerously close to reaching your boiling point today and may struggle to keep a lid on your volatile emotions. Militant Mars is your ruling planet, tuning you into trouble before it even happens. Although the warrior planet is combining forces with the willful Sun, you can consciously use this energy for a positive cause instead of succumbing to its negativity.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

You may not be comfortable expressing your anger, but you can still be a formidable opponent if people push you too far. Although someone could challenge your motives, you're able to exhibit a great deal of patience. Keeping your emotions in check seems like your best option now, but you might not stifle your annoyance for long if your values are called into question.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You might be more argumentative than usual today and your clever wit can't seem to save you from yourself. Feisty Mars is traveling hand-in-hand with the Sun in your sign, and whatever you do now appears to fan the flames of conflict as the friction grows. Nevertheless, the outcome of the current situation is still within your control. You could waste precious energy in a fight that won't likely matter in the long run.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

It's easy for you to intuit what's going on behind the scenes, but sharing your feelings with your friends is more complicated than simply observing them. Your greatest challenge now is to express the truth exactly as you see it, while knowing that you may have to actively defend your beliefs. If you decide to speak your opinion today, avoid getting mired down in the details.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

Making a dramatic gesture may be your unconscious way of showing resistance because you're not interested in participating in a plan that's against your dreams. If you don't want to make too many waves about your difference of opinion, engaging in physical activity will help you to let off some steam. However, there's a good chance that your plans will backfire if you don't express yourself.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

You're motivated to take on the world with the superhero Sun-Mars conjunction activating your 10th House of Responsibility. But it's difficult now to follow one task till the end. Thankfully, you can reach into your metaphysical toolbox and pull out a dose of practicality to counteract the scattered energy. Picking one project and sticking with it leads to a higher level of satisfaction than running around in circles in vain.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

You often excel at playing the diplomat, but peacekeeping isn't your primary motivating force today. You're not as quick to acquiesce to the demands of others while warrior Mars hooks up with the willful Sun in your 9th House of Adventure. You want to make something monumental happen in your life and won't let anyone stand in your way now.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

You are quite a force of nature while the Sun illuminates your key planet Mars with its radiance. It's not easy to act in moderation now, especially if you currently lack a healthy perspective. You might not even stop to think about your long-term trajectory; you just push toward your immediate goal and overpower anyone who resists your efforts.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

You could inadvertently overwhelm people with your lofty intentions, yet you might have a crisis of confidence if you don't have a strong support system in place. The combative Sun-Mars conjunction falls in your 7th House of Others, flooding your system with so much adrenaline now that you might project your own anger onto anyone who crosses your path. Strong convictions are useful to accomplish your goals.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

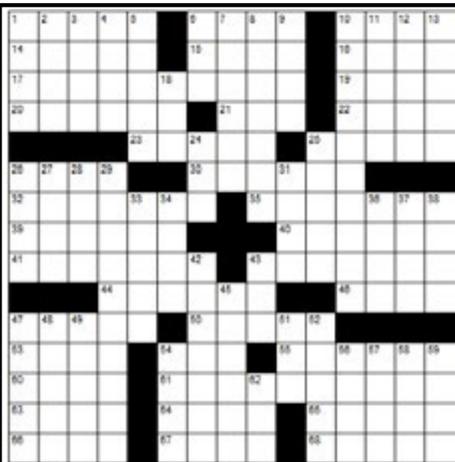
You're typically quite proficient at taming the contentious energy of hot-under-the-collar Mars. However, you're tempted to ride roughshod over other people's needs now in order to stick to your regular routine. Fortunately, a friendly Taurus Moon reminds you that taking a simpler and kinder path is the wiser choice today. Believe it or not, it's not mandatory to have every little thing go your way.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

You might be so excited about a project now that you ignore your friends as you pursue your ambitions. It's all too easy to forget about what anyone else thinks as the Sun-Mars conjunction fires up your 5th House of Self-Expression. However, the support you receive could make all the difference in the world, so slow down and explain your intentions.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

There could be so many things going on at home that you don't know where to jump in. The action-packed Sun-Mars conjunction falls in your 4th House of Domestic Conditions, emphasizing your personal life. However, it's not time to simply close down and get out of sight. You can create a communication whirlwind if you pick up your phone, get online or directly engage those who are in your immediate environment.



Across

- 1. Storehouse, 6. Contributes, 10. Gown, 14. Pueblo brick, 15. Novice, 16. God of love, 17. Disarrayed, 19. Not amateurs, 20. Goddess of wisdom, 22. Ascend, 23. Synchronizes, 25. Exams, 26. Smack, 30. Womb, 32. Ceremony, 35. German measles, 39. Come forth, 40. A small handbook, 41. After dinner treat, 43. Steal the show, 44. Within a building, 46. Figure (out), 47. A long rod or pole, 50. Giver, 53. A basic knitting stitch, 54. Tot, 55. Shackle, 60. Aquatic plant, 61. Unable to read, 63. Blockage, 64. Bambi was one, 65. Like the flu, 66. Feudal worker, 67. Being, 68. Not full

Down

- 1. Early 20th-century art movement, 2. Modify, 3. Ritzy, 4. Double-reed woodwind, 5. Small slender gulls, 6. Consumed food, 7. Not circuitous, 8. Chest of drawers, 9. Mats of grass, 10. Acts as an agent, 11. German iris, 12. Promote, 18. 24 hours, 24. Cashew or almond, 25. Bass horns, 26. Hurried, 27. Disabled, 28. How old we are, 29. Light teasing, 31. Backside, 33. GMan, 34. Egghead, 36. Hawaiian feast, 37. Falls behind, 38. Beers, 42. Walks unsteadily, 43. A large vase, 45. Large indefinite amount, 47. "The Final Frontier", 48. Bodies of ships, 49. A noble gas, 51. Frequently, in poetry, 52. Late actor Christopher, 54. Assistant, 56. Snip, 57. Canvas, 58. French for "State", 59. Depend, 62. Fury,

Yesterday's Solution



ahead, alien, armor, baking, beauty, bits, break, brooks, bruise, cubs, envelop, feisty, field, flout, foxes, fuss, house, illness, invasion, muffles, pest, program, queen, robber, sate, seize, sell, shiny, skull, sleek, soar, space, submission, telephone, tense, touch, water, weird.

