

Over 200 Militants Killed, Wounded in Military Operations

KABUL - Over 200 militants killed and wounded during the newest military operations across the country, Ministry of Defense announced on Tuesday.

A statement issued by General Zahir Azimi, spokesman for the Ministry of Defense states that 109 militants were killed and 96 others wounded during military operations in 12 provinces in past 24 hours. The statement issued on his twitter account states that



security forces also seized weapons and ammunition but it does not specify the number.

General Azimi adds that a soldier of Afghan National Army embraced martyrdom during these operations.

Afghan National Security Forces began large-scale operations against militants after taking full responsibility of security from NATO forces at the beginning of this year. (KP)

Pakistan Troops Cross Border to Rescue Wounded Afghan Soldier

ISLAMABAD - In a demonstration of increased security cooperation, Pakistan's military says its troops crossed the border Tuesday and went 600 meters inside Afghanistan to rescue an Afghan soldier who was critically wounded in a firefight with "terrorists".

The Pakistan military's media wing says "Afghan authorities requested for evacuation and treatment of [a] soldier, Pakistani troops quickly responding to [the] Afghan request evacuated injured soldier to a hospital" on the Pakistani side of the border.

The cross-border action took

place in eastern Afghanistan opposite to the Pakistan tribal territory of Bajur and the Afghan soldier is under treatment in hospital in Khar, the region's administrative center, the statement says.

Afghan authorities have not yet commented on the incident.

Taliban insurgents have recently increased attacks on Afghan security forces.

Pakistan and Afghanistan have increased border security cooperation in recent months while political relations have expanded. The two countries share 2400-kilometer mostly porous border. (VoA)

Gunmen Abduct Singers in Ghazni

GHAZNI CITY - Unidentified armed rebels kidnapped two singers from the Qarabagh district in southern Ghazni province on Tuesday, an official said.

Shafiq Nang, the governor's spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News the singers belonged to Jaghori and Qarabagh districts. He said police had started investigations to identify who were behind the abduction. Mohammad Husain, a resident of Jaghori district, insurgents forced both the singers out both the singers of a vehicle when they were on their way to Jaghori. Separately, a woman burned herself to death in Pirzadi area. The governor spokesman said she was a maid who might have burnt herself because of her poverty. The woman was shifted to a hospital but she was stated to be in stable condition, he added. Dr. Noorullah, a health director, said the woman was shifted to a hospital with 20 percent burn injuries on her body but she was out of danger. (Pajhwok)

Taliban Shadow Governor Killed in Badakhshan Airstrike



FAIZABAD - A Taliban shadow governor for north-eastern Badakhshan province was killed in an Afghan military airstrike on Monday night in the province, local officials said on Tuesday.

The shadow governor, Mawlawi Imamuddin, was killed with ten other insurgents in an airstrike in Jurm district of the province, local military officials said.

The officials said that about 40 Taliban have been killed in the past ten days in Jurm. However, the Taliban have not yet commented on the incident. This is the second Taliban shadow governor to be killed in less than... (More on P4)...(20)

Analysts View Daesh Emergence a Threat to Taliban

KABUL - The growing Islamic State (IS) or Daesh strength has challenged Taliban's legitimacy, which forced the latter to write a letter to Daesh leader, analysts said on Tuesday. Mullah Akhtar Mansoor, acting head of Taliban militants, had written a letter to Daesh leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. The letter had nine points asking IS not to interfere in each other activities, working under same flag and focusing on

unity and solidarity.

Taliban at the end had also mentioned that they would show their stern reaction if their achievements were threatened and challenged.

Fazi Mohammad Zaland, a political analyst, said: "Taliban are fighting for establishment of Islamic Emirates and they are against presence of foreign troops whereas Daesh claimed for Islamic caliphate and plans to estab-

lish a state with the name of Khurasan."

In short, Taliban had been confined to Afghanistan alone while Daesh considered Pakistan, India, Iran and central Asian states as parts of Khurasan.

Zaland added that using message of Islam is the sole similarity between the two groups which Taliban had noticed a huge threat in using the... (More on P4)...(17)

Taliban Commander Including Four Detained in Kandahar

KANDAHAR - The National Directorate of Security (NDS) - Afghanistan's intelligence agency - has arrested four Taliban militants in southern Kandahar province. A statement issued by the NDS on Tuesday states that Taliban local commander Mohammad Ala alias Ghafar is among the four insurgents



apprehended during a special operation.

The other three militants are identified as Abdul Rahman S/O Jan Mohammad, Hikmatullah alias Ezatullah S/O Sayed Ahmad and Rafiullah S/O Mohammad.

NDS statement adds that the group had planned to terror tribal... (More on P4)...(18)

USAID Launches \$13.3 Million Investment Climate Reform Program

KABUL - The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) announced a new \$13.3 million program to make it easier for private sector firms to do business in Afghanistan. The four-year Afghanistan Investment Climate Reform Program will be implemented by the Inter-



national Finance Corporation (IFC), a member of the World Bank Group. The program will work at the national and provincial levels to stimulate economic growth and enhance the country's competitiveness. In addition to Kabul, the program focuses on major economic centers throughout the country, including Mazar, Herat, Kandahar, and Jalalabad... (More on P4)...(19)

Powerful Symbols of Afghan Mission Rolling out Across Canada



TORONTO - Canadian Company and its partners received recognition from Veterans Affairs Minister Erin O'Toole, for their work to erect replica Light Armoured Vehicle monuments (LAVIII) to com-

memorate the service of the veterans of Canada's Afghan mission. Chaired by Tom Jenkins, the LAVIII Monument Program is the work of a volunteer group passionate about paying tribute to the 40,000 members of the Canadian Armed Forces who served in the Afghan war. Today at Corus Quay in Toronto,

the LAVIII Monument is on display. Over the coming months, these monuments will be installed in towns and cities across Canada.

"Canadian Veterans have dedicated their lives to protecting our values across the globe. The LAV III Monument Program allows communities across Canada to honour their extraordinary service. I commend the Canada Company and the corporate partners that

came together to make this project a reality," said Minister O'Toole. "The Government of Canada is pleased to support this program as it rolls out from coast to coast."

"The LAVIII is a powerful and enduring symbol of the Afghan mission. Veterans of that war are with us still, and we believe that these monuments will keep their service at the forefront of Canadian consciousness," said Canada Company founder Blake Goldring, CEO and Chairman of AGF Management Limited. "Communities across the country who want to recognize the contribution of our veterans now have an opportunity to do so, and we are thrilled to begin the process of rolling the LAVIII monuments out to locations across the country."

"This project has been a labour of love for many of us who have come together to ensure the veterans of the Afghan War are publicly... (More on P4)...(21)

Uruzgan Blast Leaves 3 Civilians Dead, 16 Wounded

TRINKOT - A mine blast killed three civilians and wounded 16 others on Tuesday in Deh Raud district in central Uruzgan province, an official said. Brig. Gen. Torayal Abdyani, provincial police chief, told Pajhwok Afghan News a vehicle hit a landmine, which went off and caused casualties. The police chief blamed Taliban for planting roadside bombs, which caused casualties among civilians.

However, militants have not commented on the incident. Aminullah Khalqi, the district chief, confirmed the incident and said the vehicle was on its way to Kajran district. Women and children were among the fatalities, he added.

The wounded, he said were instantly shifted to provincial hospital while the most serious were transferred to district hospital. (Pajhwok)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

Remaining quiet might seem like a sensible strategy, but you can't avoid conflict by relying on defensive maneuvers. Even if you try to keep your feelings to yourself, unexpressed emotions will find a way of leaking into interactions and hijacking your day. Don't lose your temper, so get your concerns out into the open now instead of naively assuming that things will improve on their own.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

Interactions with others flow so smoothly that you may think you're missing something. The truth is you're probably glossing over a critical fact or conveniently forgetting what you were told earlier. Fortunately, you can choose to focus on the details of your conversations. The simple act of bringing your awareness to the present moment helps to prevent an unnecessary misunderstanding.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Your nervous system is on high alert these days, but you really don't want others to know how fast your mind is buzzing. Your calm exterior is your secret weapon against being swept up in another distraction today. Paradoxically, it's not your desire for peace and quiet that drives your caution when communicating now. Instead, you need some space because you don't want to slow down your current thinking process.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

You wish you could talk about your feelings now but you might be feeling too shy. You don't want to make anyone uncomfortable, so you won't likely bring up a sensitive topic that could provoke someone to withdraw. However, it's easier to acknowledge your intense emotions once you understand that your abandonment issues can precipitate exactly what you're trying to avoid.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

Don't blindly trust anyone who promises you the world because they're not telling you the entire story now while the Moon is playing hide and seek in your 12th House of Secrets. Take care of important business as if you are riding solo, even if others offer to help you. It's fine to listen to those who are supportive of your cause, but don't expect them to have the answers you seek.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

You will likely play your hand close to the chest because you don't want to upset your friends. Unfortunately, it may be impossible to avoid a confrontation if someone attempts to manipulate your feelings. The nurturing Cancer Moon is highlighting your 11th House of Social Networks, encouraging you to protect those you love. Do whatever is necessary to defend your home territory as long as you don't intentionally hurt anyone else.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

Your need to help others at work can make you feel indispensable today while the Moon is waxing in your 10th House of Public Responsibility. Unfortunately, uninvited meddling in people's affairs could also create a real mess, especially if you go too far. Don't fall into the trap of over-inflated self-importance. Your coworkers might actually get along just fine without your assistance now.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

You may tenaciously latch onto a fascinating idea and run with it today, even if it's not a very practical one. You might not have time to seriously develop your strategy, but you still can derive pleasure from just playing out all the possibilities in your mind. However, you could turn a rather simple desire into such a big deal that the original thought is lost in the noise.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

Sometimes keeping your most amazing ideas under wraps is the best path to making your dreams come true. You are continuing to ride several days of exciting cosmic waves, yet you could spoil your chances for success if you reveal too much about your plans. Instead of talking about your ideas with anyone who will listen, focus on putting the details into place first.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

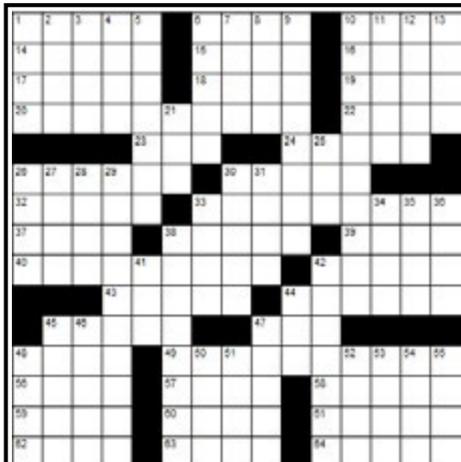
You are usually wise enough to be the self-restrained one in your group, but all bets are off today. It's not that your emotions are out of control now; it's just that being aligned with a higher purpose adds intensity to everything you do. Luckily, your friends and coworkers trust you enough to listen with an open mind as you unfold your strategy.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

You're not all that comfortable with so many images and ideas swirling around in your brain now, leaving you unsure of how to manage the chaos. But instead of disengaging from the real world to dream about your future today, concentrate on a single destination and maintain your focus until you make measurable progress.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

Although people see you as quietly confident, you might not have that much to say yet because you secretly lack certainty about your direction. You're on a creative surge but the real action is taking place within your imagination and out of sight from anyone's watchful gaze. Don't feel obliged to demonstrate your brilliance now; just gently express what's most important to you once you're satisfied with the results.



Across

- Stagger, 6. Seedcases, 10. Russian parliament, 14. A drama set to music, 15. Test, 16. Colored part of an eye, 17. Type of retinal cells, 18. Start over, 19. Furry mammal, 20. Enteric, 22. Terminates, 23. Petroleum, 24. Units of force, 26. Fundamentals, 30. Territories, 32. By surprise, 33. Most insincere, 37. Roman emperor, 38. Intends, 39. Pledge, 40. Most seductive (dress), 42. Follow as a result, 43. Pig sounds, 44. Ancient ascetic, 45. Sensitivities, 47. Frequently, in poetry, 48. A small wooded hollow, 49. Excessively dramatic, 56. Murres, 57. A musical pause, 58. Maxim, 59. Historical periods, 60. Sea eagle, 61. Unveiling, 62. Not first, 63. Lascivious look, 64. Relieves.

Down

- Hubs, 2. Atop, 3. Lease, 4. Algonquian Indian, 5. Ottoman, 6. Risk, 7. Beasts of burden, 8. Early 20th-century art movement, 9. Burns slowly, 10. Proportions, 11. Pee, 12. Attends to, 13. Requests, 21. It is (poetic), 25. Sweet potato, 26. Prohibits, 27. Cain's brother, 28. Indian dress, 29. Image breaker, 30. Accumulate, 31. Deliver a tirade, 33. Search, 34. Alleviate, 35. Render unconscious, 36. You (archaic), 38. Troubadour, 41. Paraphernalia, 42. A dais, 44. Eastern newt, 45. Latin name for our planet, 46. Assumed name, 47. Cowboy movie, 48. Affaire d'honneur, 50. Not there, 51. Feudal worker, 52. Notion, 53. Taxis, 54. Chills and fever, 55. Permits.

Yesterday's Solution



about, apple, berate, camel, cancel, chose, commitment, confer, confuse, crack, difficulty, door, drift, effect, experience, fiction, grate, harden, joist, mite, mouth, musical, punch, saunas, serial, store, strong, suet, towel, turnip, waist, windy, writ.

