

Over 40 Insurgents Killed in ANA Operations

KABUL - The Afghan interior ministry, in a statement on Sunday, confirmed that at least 43 militant fighters were killed in the army's operations across the country in the last 24 hours.

A statement said that the army operations were conducted in Nooristan, Kunduz, Faryab, Helmand, Oruzgan and Ghazni provinces in past 24 hours. According to the statement 43 militants were killed and 25 others wounded in these op-



erations. Security forces also confiscated heavy and light weapons but the Interior Ministry's statement did not contain a specific number of them.

In the meantime, a statement issued by the Ministry of Defense states that two soldiers of Afghan National Army were killed in past 24 hours. The Afghan army and police are resolved to eradicate insurgency in the country. (FNA)

Militants Kidnap 5 Members of a Family in Ghazni



GHAZNI CITY - Unidentified gunmen kidnaped five members of a family on Sunday afternoon in Gilan district in central Ghazni province, an official said. Mohammad Zafar Sharif, the district chief, told Pajhwok Afghan News the members included two men who were on their way to Ghazni City, the provincial capital, when unidentified

gunmen abducted them. It however, could not be confirmed which group had kidnaped them because foreign militants including and Uzbek and Chechens were also active in the area, he added. Sharif added that government and local elders were striving to ensure early release of the persons. Shafiq Nang, the governor's spokesperson, condemned the kidnapping bid and said militants abducted three drivers who were released later. Taliban have not yet commented on the incident. Kidnappings have been increased in recent days in Ghazni amid demands from people that government should bolster security in the area. (Pajhwok)

Growing Insecurity Haunts Residents of Khanshin District



LASHKARGAH - The residents of Khanshin district in southern Helmand province complained about deteriorating law and order

and lack of reconstruction in the district. The residents expressed their concerns in a meeting attended by Governor Mirza Khan Rahimi. Haji Wali Khan, a local elder, said the district had been neglected for the last 14 years in terms of bolstering security and carrying out more development projects. Construction of bridges, roads, canals, schools, health centers and several other reconstruction projects as well as law and order could not be improved, he complained, adding: "Most of our people are jobless while there is no school where our children get advanced education." Haji Karam Khan who hails from the same area said residents would migrate to Iran and Pakistan if the security situation was not improved. "People live in miserable condition. There are no jobs... (More on P4)...(10)

4 Former Taliban Members Killed in Jawzjan

SHIBERGHAN - Four former Taliban rebels who joined the government-initiated peace process have been killed by insurgents in Qosh Tapa district of northwestern Jawzjan province, an official said Sunday.

Provincial police chief Brig. Gen. Faqir Mohammad Jawzjani told Pajhwok Afghan News the slain rebels were among 220 Taliban members who had joined peace process last year and then started working with the Afghan Local Police (ALP). He said four ALP members were on their way to their security post when they came under attack by two motorcyclists in Gardan village of the district last night. The attackers managed to escape. A Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed responsibility for the attack and said... (More on P4)...(20)

Another Leading Al-Qaeda Member Killed



KABUL - A leading and most senior al-Qaeda member who was believed to be the person who set up training centres for fighters in Afghanistan was killed in missile strike by unmanned aircraft, media reports.

Three days back, the media said the main known as Abdul Azaam Al Subhi aka Mansoor al Harbi and Abu Muslim al-Makki was killed in US airstrike in Afghanistan. However, the media didn't give further details about exact location and time of the missile attack. Saudi Arabia media said the slain... (More on P4)...(21)

2 Policemen Killed in Kandahar Target Killings

KANDAHAR CITY - At least two policemen were killed in a targeted killing incident but in a retaliatory fire police shot dead the attackers on Sunday in southern Kandahar, an eye witness said. Amanullah, an eye witness, told Pajhwok Afghan News: "I was in my shop when a policeman on his duty was shot dead by a gunman who was later shot dead by other policemen." The area is a busy city center and the gunman wanted to escape



when he was gunned down by other policemen, he added. A security official said on condition of anonymity that policemen targeted the attacker after he killed two policemen. (Pajhwok)

7 Commanders Among 22 Rebels Dead in Kandahar Offensive

KANDAHAR CITY - At least 22 Taliban fighters have been killed during an operation in the Maiwand district of southern Kandahar province, an official said on Sunday.

Samim Khpalkwak, the governor's spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News the

military operation had been extended to areas where militants had sway. He confirmed killing 22 insurgents, including seven commanders, during the offensive. Security forces also suffered casualties but exact numbers could not be ascertained. Zia Durrani, provincial po-

6 Taliban Fighters Detained

KABUL - Six Taliban fighters, including Durbaba district shadow chief, have been detained in eastern Nangarhar province, the National Directorate of Security (NDS) said on Sunday.

In a statement, the NDS said the Taliban's-designated district chief Abdul Qahar aka Haqyar and his colleagues Jaliz aka Shinwari,

Akhtar Mohammad, Shafiqullah, Ashaq and Wali Mohammad were among the arrested men. According to the spy network, the group was arrested as a result of special operation. Three Daesh flags, a motorcycle and weapons have also been recovered from the detained persons, the statement said, adding the group had hand in many anti-state activities. (Pajhwok)

13 Militants Dead in Daesh-Taliban Clash in Nangarhar: MoD

KABUL - The Ministry of Defence (MoD) said on Sunday that 12 militants have been killed in a fierce gunbattle between Daesh and Taliban groups in eastern Nangarhar province. A brief statement from the ministry said the day-long firefight erupted between the two insurgent outfits in Khogyani district on Saturday. Qari Mirwais, alias Nusrat, a dreaded commander of Daesh, was killed along with four of his associates and five others were wounded. Seven Taliban fighters were also killed and eight others wounded. However, the Taliban have not commented on the clash till filing of this report. Some days back, the Taliban dispatched a letter to Abu Bakar Al Baghdadi, Daesh group in Iraq, asking him to avoid interference in Afghanistan. (Pajhwok)

US Drone Strike in Nuristan Leaves 5 Rebels Dead

JALALABAD - A US drone strike left five militants, including a dreaded commander, dead in eastern Nuristan province, an official said on Sunday.

Col. Nauman Hatafi, spokesman of the 201st Selab Military Cops, told Pajhwok Afghan News that a missile attack by unmanned aircraft targeted the hide out of Taliban late on Saturday evening. Three insurgents suffered injuries in the assault, he said, adding that three among the slain men were notorious commanders. However, Taliban have not yet commented on the attack. Earlier, Taliban briefly took control of Want Wegal district but they were dislodged and flushed out from the area following Afghan security forces operation. (Pajhwok)

Khak-i-Jabar Being Connected to Azra District Thru Road

KABUL - Construction work on a 52-kilometre road connecting Khak-i-Jabar district of capital Kabul to Azra district of central Logar province has been launched. Officials at the Ministry of Public Works said 22 kilometers of the road would be constructed in three months in a first phase. With con-



struction of this road, distance between the two districts

would reduce by 200 kilometres. Eng. Mahmood Baligh, public works minister, during the inauguration ceremony in Khak-i-Jabar said that the gigantic project was implemented by his ministry and the Ministry of Defence. For the time being, he said, the road would be graveled only... (More on P4)...(19)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

You might not be all that concerned about your future emotional security because your personal relationships appear to be growing stronger. You may be so confident that you think you can have it all. However, it's one thing to indulge in fantasies that carry you into new territory; it's quite a different thing to share all your desires with someone who could feel threatened by them.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

You may naively fix on the belief that everything will turn out wonderfully, prompting you to let some important business slide. You can create a positive impact on your life by knowing that all your dreams will come true. Nevertheless, you still must observe limits or you will face unpleasant consequences. Don't bet your success on faulty assumptions of a brighter future.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

A shift in relationship dynamics might be cause for concern, but your worry fades when you see that the dark clouds actually have silver linings. It's reassuring once you realize that whatever is stuck will finally move on, making room for positive change. Although you can't predict the details of your future, you just know it's a big improvement over what's going on now.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

You're not willing to sacrifice your values just to be accepted by your peers, but you also want to accomplish your goals on time. Fortunately, you can create heartfelt connections with your coworkers today, even if your objectives are different from theirs. You don't have to negate what's most important to you as long as you are appreciative of what others bring to the table.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

You're thrilled with the unlimited potential you see everywhere you look today. However, you can't turn every single contender into a winner, even if sexy Venus is flirting with shocking Uranus. Keep in mind, you won't be able to sustain your current enthusiasm forever, so conserve your resources and work to make an opportunity pay off while the planets are in a playful mood.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

You're buzzing with anticipation today, for you recognize how each individual moment holds precious seeds for fantastic things to come. Unfortunately, events are occurring so rapidly that they might trigger your anxiety, even if the opportunity for growth is very exhilarating. Of course, you prefer to be happy, but you may be scared that the positive vibrations won't last.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

An unexpected opportunity comes as a total surprise today, so put away your previous agenda and be on the lookout for something amazing to happen. Instead of approaching life in your safe and familiar manner, leave the beaten path and try walking on the wild side. Acting spontaneously now could lead to a truly memorable experience that takes you farther than you can imagine.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

An out-of-the-blue event can turn your day upside down. Even if you intended on spending a quiet day at work, a situation could grow out of hand quickly. But a simple twist of fate may be just what the doctor ordered to set you off in an entirely new direction. Don't try to second guess your destiny when the universe is giving you an opportunity to actualize your potential.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

Your whole life seems to be undergoing rapid change. Ironically, you may be elated riding the currents wherever they take you, even if you haven't the slightest notion of where you are going. Your positive attitude is an asset as you head out on this great adventure, but don't assume that you're ready to leave just because the cosmos is giving you the green light.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

You might think that offering no resistance today means you will be required to use your emergency brake later on to avoid a disaster. You may believe that the only way to maintain control of your personal life now is to narrow your focus. Unfortunately, conservative tactics won't likely bring you the stability and might let your fears influence your decisions is a big mistake and could sour a perfect situation.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

You are looking good today and probably feeling even better. Vivacious Venus is harmonizing with your key planet Uranus, conjuring up plenty of excitement. For now, you're the one who's capable of safely navigating the surprising landscape, so others may lean on you for advice and leadership. Don't take the easy way out by giving them the party line.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

You are wired with positive thoughts and raring to charge forward. However, things get tricky because you might not have any clue which direction you are going. You know your destination is not a familiar place, which makes you happy now because you are craving new experiences. Thankfully, your optimism is soaring and you have no doubt you will reach the stars if you could decide on the path you want to take.

Across

- Nothing (British), 5. Nursemaid, 9. Being, 13. Away from the wind, 14. Continuation of the coat collar, 16. A ball of yarn, 17. Existed, 18. An analytic literary composition, 19. Puncture, 20. Soft drinks, 22. Scarves, 24. Was cognizant, 26. Place, 27. Besotted, 30. Rupture in smooth muscle tissue, 33. Throbs, 35. Fate, 37. American Sign Language, 38. Piggens, 41. Thorax protector, 42. Bobbins, 45. Obstruction, 48. Lethargic, 51. Next to the forehead, 52. Jimmies, 54. Decorative case, 55. Sets free from restraint, 59. Reprimand, 62. Roman emperor, 63. Slash, 65. Leg joint, 66. Speaker's platform, 67. Relating to tone, 68. Lean, 69. Unrestrained revelry, 70. Make (one's way), 71. If not.

Down

- Apprehends, 2. Margarine, 3. Herbicide, 4. Renters, 5. Beer, 6. Disguise, 7. Church recesses, 8. Fireplace, 9. Spiny ant eater, 10. Blackthorn, 11. Consciousness, 12. Female sheep (plural), 15. French school, 21. Bristle, 23. "Listen!", 25. Dampens, 27. Box, 28. Pondered, 29. Mesh, 31. Illogical, 32. Girlfriend (Spanish), 34. Bro or sis, 36. Cain's brother, 39. Santa's helper, 40. Achy, 43. Hansen's disease, 44. Indian dress, 46. Camp beds, 47. Joint of a finger, 49. Center, 50. Lemon or canary, 53. A river through Paris, 55. Annul, 56. Close, 57. Naval jail, 58. Glance over, 60. Focusing glass, 61. Apollo astronaut Slayton, 64. A late time of life.

Yesterday's Solution



activity, always, amount, bent, breakfast, cancel, charge, child, circle, clock, date, draft, equal, external, forge, gala, guidance, humidity, infect, insurance, lever, life, loaf, owner, paint, relativity, section, tale, treat, trench, trill, voice, winds, world.

