

# 19 Taliban Insurgents Killed in Separate Clashes

LASHKARGAH - At least 19 Taliban insurgents were killed in separate clashes in the restive Helmand province in southern Afghanistan. The Ministry of Defense (MoD) said at least 10 insurgents were killed in an operation in Greshk district which was conducted with the support of the Afghan National Police (ANP) forces. MoD further added that 9 militants were killed in a separate operation in Khanshin district during an operation which was launched in response to Taliban fire on Afghan army. At



least 11 Taliban insurgents were also wounded during the same operation, MoD said, adding that the security personnel and local residents did not suffer any casualties. The Taliban militants group has not commented regarding the report so far. Helmand is among the volatile provinces in southern Afghanistan where anti-government armed militants are openly operating in its various districts and frequently carry out insurgency activities. The Afghan armed forces were forced to ...*(More on P4)...(16)*

## NDS Prevents Suicide Attack in Takhar, 8 Terrorists Arrested

TALIQUAN - The National Directorate of Security (NDS) - Afghanistan's national intelligence agency has prevented a suicide attack in north-eastern Takhar province. A statement released by NDS on Saturday states that Mohammad Farouq alias Usman was made ready for suicide bombing by the so-called governor of Taliban for Takhar province Mawlawi Taib. The statement adds that Farouq was arrested during a special operation along with seven other militants Najibullah S/O Abdul

Ghafoor, Khadimullah S/O Mohammad Ali, Zayedullah S/O Habibullah, Hajatullah S/O Mohammad Zahir, Muhibullah S/O Abdul Bari, Qari Niamatullah S/O Mohammad Zarif, Niamatullah S/O Abdul Munir in the provincial capital Taloqan. According to the statement, after receiving consecutive defeats in northern provinces, terrorists have been trying to carry out suicide bombings to spread fear. But they won't be allowed to reach to their evil aims, the statement adds. (KP)

## Senior Taliban Commander among 10 Killed in Police Operations

TAQLIQAN - At least ten militants including a senior militant commander were killed in latest clearance operations by the Afghan National Police (ANP) forces, the Ministry of Interior (MoI) said. A statement by MoI said the operations were conducted in Balkh, Takhar and Kapisa provinces of the country in the past 24 hours. The statement further added that a militant was also injured and seven others were arrested and some weapons were seized by the security forces. Two Taliban insurgents were killed during an operation in Kishindih district of Balkh, MoI said, adding that 7 others were arrested and 2 AK-47 rifles along 5,000 rounds of



PK machine gun ammunition were confiscated. In a separate operation in Darqad district of Takhar province, seven militants were killed and 2 rocket launchers and an AK-47 rifle was confiscated, MoI added. A senior Taliban commander

identified as Musafir was killed and one of his companions was injured, MoI said, adding that the police forces did not suffer any casualties during the operations. The Taliban militants group has not commented regarding the operations so far. (KP)

## Young Couple Killed in Faryab

MAIMANA - A man and woman have been killed by unknown gunmen in Khwaja Sabzposh district of northern Faryab province, an official said on Saturday. Abdullah Masoomi, the Khwaja Sabzposh district chief, told Pajhwok Afghan News the slain couple had been a relationship and they were killed while sleeping together in a bed. Masoomi identified the man as Azizullah aged 23, but did not name the 21-year-old woman. The official said the woman had been missing for two weeks and therefore her husband had divorced her. The two might have been killed by the woman's relatives, he suspected. Police in Faryab refused giving details of the incident but said they had launched an investigation and the result would be shared with the media. (Pajhwok)

## 11 Kidnapped Passengers Freed in Sar-I-Pul; Says Official



SAR-I-PUL - Nearly a dozen kidnapped individuals have been released in northern Sar-i-Pul province, an official said on Saturday. Zabihullah Amani, the governor's spokesman, said the men had been freed without any deal and reunited with their families. He didn't pro-

vide further details. Mohammad Ali Hakimi, a member of the provincial council, had told Pajhwok Afghan News on Wednesday the kidnap victims belonged to Mirza Aw Lang area of Sayyad district. He said the Taliban attacked a ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

## From Turkey, Bodies of 20 Afghans Flown to Kabul

KABUL - The bodies of 20 Afghans, who had drowned in Turkey on their way to Europe, arrived in Kabul on Saturday, an official said. The bodies of the migrants, airlifted by the Turkish government, were handed over to relatives at the Hamid Karzai International Airport. A tearful Sher Mohammad, 45, told Pajhwok Afghan News: "Ten members of my family drowned in front of my eyes, but I could not do anything to rescue them." He urged the countrymen seeking migration to European countries to give up their dreams, given the serious risks involved in the dangerous journey. "I sold all my belongings to travel to Europe. But now I deeply regret what I have done. I have lost my family members and valuable," he remarked. Hamid, a relative of Sher Mohammad, alleged the Afghan government even did not help bring the bodies to the country. He said Mohammad had paid \$30,000 to the Turkish pilots for flying the bodies to Kabul. Four other victims of the incident included a mother, her two daughters and a son. A relative of the victims said that only a 14-year-old boy ...*(More on P4)...(21)*

## Militant Commander, Woman Dead in Kapisa Operation

MAHMOOD RAQI - A woman and a Taliban commander have killed and nine others wounded during an ongoing offensive in the Nijrab district of central Kapisa province, an official said on Saturday. Qais Qadari, the governor's spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News the operation had been underway for three days. The fresh casualties were inflicted on the insurgents late on Friday. A notorious Taliban commander, identified as Farhad, was among the dead. Three other militants and as many Afghan Local Police (ALP) personnel were wounded, he added. One woman was killed ...*(More on P4)...(18)*

## Taliban Militants Block Several Roads in Ghazni

GHAZNI CITY - Local security officials on Saturday said Taliban militants had blocked roads connecting several districts with the capital of southern Ghazni province. Local residents also complained they faced many problems after the roads had been blocked. Mohammad Amin, a resident of Zakor area, told Pajhwok Afghan News he spent three days in his shop in Ghazni City, the provincial capital, and could not go home due to the road blockade by militants. "We don't know why the militants have blocked these roads, but people are suffering from

several problems," he said. He said militants had planted bombs on local roads and insurgents guarding some roads did not allow people to use them. Ghazni provincial council members also said militants have blocked roads to Andar district over the past several days. A provincial council member, Abdul Jamay Jamay, said most of roads were blocked in areas where Afghan Local Police (ALP) forces had been previously active. Jamay said bombs planted on roads by militants might cause civilian casualties if not cleared. Amanullah Kamrani, ...*(More on P4)...(19)*

## Police Foil Rocket Attack on Kabul City, Seize 5 Bm1 Rockets

KABUL - The Afghan police forces have foiled a coordinated rocket attack plot by the anti-government armed militants on Kabul city by seizing 5 BM1 rockets. Kabul police chief Gen. Ab-

dul Rahman Rahimi said the rockets were seized and defused from Bagrami and Mosahi districts of Kabul before the anti-government armed militant use them for terrorist attacks. The

anti-government armed militant groups including the Taliban insurgents have not commented regarding the report so far. No further details were ...*(More on P4)...(20)*

## 3 Daesh Insurgent Blown up by Own Explosives in Achin

JALALABAD - Three Islamic State (IS) insurgents were killed two other wounded by the landmine they were planting in the Achin district of

eastern Nangarhar province, an official said on Saturday. Police spokesman Lt. Col. Hazrat Hussain Mashraqiwal, told Pajhwok Af-

ghan News the incident took place in Manzdaki area late on Friday. The militants have not yet commented about the incident. (Pajhwok)

### Outlook Horoscope

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

Pay attention to personal matters today, including issues that affect your overall well-being, and everything else should fall into place. Conflicts that surface now represent opportunities to focus on utilizing your common sense. Forget about lofty ideas of philosophy and metaphysics; instead, work around your home or at your desk, but don't waste your time on anything that's not useful.

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

You know exactly what you need to do in order to find happiness. Fortunately, the planets are on your side today, enabling you to establish concrete goals and work steadily to achieve them. However, you might have to overcome someone's objections to your plans before you can proceed. Be as clear as possible when stating your intentions and don't waste too much time justifying your position.

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

You could easily spend the entire day lost in daydreams about what you want to do with your life. Meanwhile, your family history -- both the good and the bad -- is flooding into your awareness now. Your imagination is communicating a message to your conscious mind, and it's crucial to keep your rational perspective out of the way. Allow the images to wash over you without seeking logical explanation today.

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

A spontaneous healing can be quite unexpected today. Although you may have unintentionally hurt someone in the past, your insecurities about your feelings might stir up the most pain. Talking about your emotional process is the most beneficial thing you can do now. But it still makes sense to take care of your needs first so you're better equipped to nurture others.

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

Open up your heart and express yourself today, but avoid creating unnecessary drama in the process of self-disclosure. Although you could be at odds with your own feelings, observing your fluctuating moods as they change can bring much-needed perspective on a practical matter. The truth is you don't have all the answers yet. Make sure to give others a chance to share their opinions on the subject.

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

You might want to reconsider a decision now and put it back on the table for open discussion. There's no time like the present to sort through all the possibilities. But it's not enough that your practical experience is growing by leaps and bounds; you must put your skills to use as soon as possible. Obviously, you can't reap the rewards if you don't take initiative and stretch outside of your comfort zone today.

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

Although you may be the one who usually tries to make everyone feel comfortable, you might assume that others are doing better than they actually are today. Unfortunately, someone could take your apparent lack of interest personally, jumping to the conclusion that you're ignoring them when they need you. Luckily, you can minimize potentially hurt feelings now by going the extra mile and keeping communication channels open.

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

Your emotions are heightened with five planets now drifting through sensitive Pisces. However, you're still able to establish steady rhythms in your life so that your relationships at home and at work stabilize over the days ahead. Unfortunately, you might believe you need to juggle everything all by yourself. Nevertheless, you must collaborate with others.

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

You might not be able to stop thinking about all the chores you must do today, especially if you recently made a commitment that you want to keep. Luckily, your energy is externally focused, making it easier to plan your next move. Plotting a strategic course could feel like a game, but it's not; you must be ready for the serious changes that are on the horizon. Prepare for the future by attending to as many details as you can now, rather than later.

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

Exercising your creative muscles comes naturally today because visionary ideas seem to flow so easily. Luckily, you receive positive encouragement from the Grand Earth Trine that includes the sensual Taurus Moon shining in your 5th House of Self-Expression. But this cosmic energy doesn't just highlight your performance; it's also excellent for exploring how to best work with your current resources.

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

Undeniable feelings push you to make concrete choices today, even if you can't fully resolve the differences between your head and your heart. You might believe you must neglect some part of yourself either way, but this gulf between your wishes and reality is just a temporary illusion. Go ahead and make the best decision by following your instincts.

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

Your feet land firmly back on the ground today, empowering you to create a master plan for success and then boldly put it into motion. Although you might experience a bit of confusion early in the day, you should be able to convince everyone that your strategy makes the most sense. But there's no need to waste time engaging in arguments that lead nowhere. Ultimately, your actions will state your case better than anything you can say.

**Across**

- Scrawny one, 6. Helps, 10. Unusual, 14. Pee, 15. Hissy fit, 16. Female sheep (plural), 17. Milkshakes, 18. You (archaic), 19. Geographic illustrations, 20. Destroy completely, 22. District, 23. Untidy one, 24. Haughty, 26. Historical periods, 30. Anagram of "Ail", 31. Long-haired wild ox, 32. Part of a skeleton, 33. Infants, 35. Bog hemp, 39. Contraband, 41. Spouse, 43. Hockey footwear, 44. Not nays, 46. Bloodsucking insects, 47. 52 in Roman numerals, 49. French for "Friend", 50. Dash, 51. Turmoil, 54. Canvas dwelling, 56. Disable, 57. Combine together, 63. A hollow cylindrical shape, 64. Lubricate, 65. Of lesser importance, 66. Not odd, 67. Ailments, 68. Go in, 69. Fender blemish, 70. C C C C.

**Down**

- Japanese wrestling, 2. 4th sign of the zodiac, 3. Small brook, 4. Against, 5. Exploits, 6. Celestial fortune telling, 7. Dwell, 8. Weight loss plan, 9. Unbending, 10. Noteworthy, 11. Honor, 12. Fend off, 13. An analytic literary composition, 21. Gladden, 25. Paddles, 26. Wanes, 27. A chess piece, 28. Dwarf buffalo, 29. Village, 34. Without disgrace, 36. Letters, etc., 37. Ancient Peruvian, 38. Biblical garden, 40. Wreaths, 42. Utilizing, 45. Palatable, 48. Slanted font, 51. Refereed, 52. Unsophisticated, 53. Mature, 55. Domesticated, 58. Stubborn beast, 59. Not yours, 60. Pot, 61. Pigeon-, 62. Makes a mistake.

**Yesterday's Solution**

adopt, ahead, attract, blouse, boast, bounce, classical, clean, clothe, coax, compilation, control, cream, curtain, effort, embraced, expanse, flunk, forge, gaps, gels, grout, honey, laboratory, phase, poet, private, radio, sack, salute, stock, tuna, urbane.

PHASERFLUNKLN  
YAHEDAUAHONEY  
EMBRACEDWORLD  
ADOPTNPRIVATE  
RBR SALUTE O O B L  
NLABORATORYOK  
FORGELSTOCKUW  
BUKCI GROUTCNA  
ZSQPLOATTRACT  
PEMCFEXPANSET  
SOWFCLASSICAL  
CREAMCONTROLE  
CLOTHECURTAIN