

24 Taliban Militants Killed in Kapisa, Ghazni Clashes

MAHMOOD RAQI/GHAZNI CITY - Security officials on Wednesday claimed 24 Taliban fighters, including six commanders, have been killed during operations in central Kapisa and southern Ghazni provinces, but the rebels denied the claim. Brig. Gen. Abdul Karim Fayaq, the provincial police chief, told Pajhwok Afghan News security forces had launched clearing operations a few days ago in Afghanistan and Charkala localities of Nijrab district. So far 12 Taliban insurgents including their three senior commanders



had been killed and another 13 injured, he said. "We launched the operation to ensure security on roads between JabalusSiraj and Sarobi districts where we had some security issues. The operation is underway." At least three Afghan Local Police (ALP) members and three Afghan National Army soldiers were also wounded in the operation, he added. A resident of Charkala area, Khairullah, said clashes between security forces and Taliban had been ... (More on P4)...(11)

4 Suspects Arrested While Planting Bombs in Kabul



KABUL - Four suspected militants have arrested with two magnetic bombs and a car in Kabul, the National Directorate of Security (NDS) said on Wednesday. A statement from the spy service said the men were detained while planting bombs on the outskirts of Kabul, the nation's high-security capital. The detainees had confessed to their plans to carry out attacks during the celebration of new solar year, the intelligence agency said, without providing details of the location. (Pajhwok)

Avalanche in Badakhshan - Claims 4 Lives

FAIZABAD - Four people were killed after being buried under an avalanche in Kofab district of northeastern Badakhshan province on Wednesday, an official said. Three bodies had been recovered while the fourth one remained missing, deputy police chief, Col. Sakhi Dad Haideri, told Pajhwok Afghan News. Syed Abdullah Humayun-Dehqan, head of the Afghanistan Natural Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA), said charitable



organisations had assured them of complete support in emergency situations. Kofab district is situated 160 kilometres north of Faizabad, the provincial capital. It boards Tajikistan. (Pajhwok)

Girl Dead, 8 Hurt in Collision on Kabul-Jalalabad Highway

JALALABAD - An eight-year-old girl was killed and eight others were wounded in a traffic accident in Qarghayee district of eastern Laghman province on Wednesday, an official said. SarhadiZwak, the governor's spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News the incident took place in Kakach locality on the Kabul-Jalalabad highway at 8:00am when one car crashed into another. He said three women and five men, wounded in the collision, were evacuated to a nearby clinic for medical treatment. Some of injured were discharged after being administered first medical aid. ... (More on P4)...(12)

Child Suicide Bomber Surrenders to Nangarhar Police

JALALABAD - A child suicide bomber, trained in a Peshawar-based seminary, surrendered to police before blowing himself up in eastern Nangarhar province, officials said on Wednesday. The 12 years old boy, Abu Zar, is a resident of the Wazirbagh area of Peshawar, the capital of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. The boy said he was trained on suicide bombing for two years. Nangarhar police chief, Maj. Gen. Fazal Ahmad Sherzad, told a news conference the suicide bomber sneaked



through the Torkham border into the province. "This child was trained on terror techniques at a madrasa in Peshawar before being sent here to carry out a suicide attack, but he changed his mind and surrendered to police in Lalpura district," he said. Abu Zar told reporters his ... (More on P4)...(13)

Arakozia Radio Tower Torched by Rebels in Nangarhar



JALALABAD - Broadcasts of Arakozia Radio, owned by the Moby Media Group, have been disrupted across eastern Nangarhar province after militants tortured its transmission tower in Ghanikhel district, an official said on Wednesday. Attaullah Khogyani, the governor's spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News the insurgents de-

stroyed the Arakozia Radio tower late on Tuesday. He did not name the rebel group, but said an investigation was ongoing. Zyarmal, reporter of Tolo News, said at least 12 insurgents beat up tower guards and set alight the facility. Transmissions of the radio station had been halted in the 13 districts of the province, he said. (Pajhwok)

Substandard Pressure Cookers a Threat to Lives: Medics

HEART CITY - Substandard pressure cookers explode and cause burn wounds to at least five people on a daily basis in western Herat province, medics say. Officials at the Noor Hospital in Herat City, the provincial capital, say more than 450 people visited the hospital with burn wounds in their eyes caused by pressure cookers last solar year. Dr. Jamal Akhuzada, director of the hospital, told Pajhwok Afghan News three women lost their eyes to explosion of pressure cookers in Herat last year. He said the main reason why pressure cookers explode was their



low quality manufactured in Afghanistan. The authorities concerned should prevent the production and selling of such dangerous pressure cookers, he said, adding only one percent of the victims of such explosions happened to be men and the rest were women.

Akhuzada suggested that families should use standard pressure cookers and put less food in cookers. Marzia, 20, who lost her one eye and got seriously injured her second eye as a result of a pressure cooker explosion, is being ... (More on P4)...(14)

2 Doctors Killed in Lashkargah Clash with Robbers

NIELI - Two doctors were killed by robbers in Lashkargah, the capital of southern Helmand province, while an accident in central Daikundi province left one person dead and another injured, officials said on Wednesday. Helmand police crime branch chief, Shakoor Khan, told Pajhwok Afghan News that the two doctors were killed in Safian area of the city on Tuesday night. "The doctors were brothers. One of them was ambushed by robbers and the other wanted to rescue him, but both were killed by the outlaws," he

said, adding one suspect had been detained in connection with the incident. NoorulHaq, a resident of Safian area, confirmed the two brothers were killed and a third person wounded in the incident. He gave no further details of the double murder. Elsewhere, one man was killed and another injured when a mini-bus fell off the road into a ditch in central Daikundi province. Mira Moor district chief, Mohammad Hashim, said that the mishap took place last evening. He said the minibus had ... (More on P4)...(15)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



Describing what you see is challenging while communicator Mercury is swallowed by the Libra Lunar Eclipse in your 7th House of Others. Your confidence is high, but others may not be able to meet you halfway on your plan if you come off too arrogantly today. Although you might prefer everyone to follow your agenda, it's not wise to push to get your way.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



Making progress on your long-term goals is a walk in the park when all the details fall into place. Nevertheless, something still seems a bit off as the Libra Full Moon Eclipse rattles your 6th House of Minutiae. Although you understand that it may be prudent to keep your discomfort quiet, you also worry that the opportunity for improvement could fade if you don't speak up right away.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



You're on your best behavior today because you know that your unrestrained shenanigans could interfere with opportunities for pleasure. Nevertheless, the Libra Full Moon Eclipse polarizes your 5th House of Play, encouraging you to get into mischief anyhow. You might believe your friends will cut you some slack now, but tiptoeing around the real issues will only annoy them when they see through your charming antics.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



You might choose to distract your attention from a vulnerable spot by starting a new project around the house. In fact, you could be so effective with this evasive tactic that you alleviate the tension for a while. The strategic Libra Lunar Eclipse occurring in your 4th House of Home and Family triggers familiar issues regarding childhood insecurities.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



You're motivated by your personal need to know everyone's business while the Libra Lunar Eclipse shakes up your 3rd House of Information today. Simultaneously, you may become so preoccupied with an impractical idea that it can turn into an obsession. However, your desire for a bit of adventure leaves you little time to get involved with another person's drama. Distractions are not your friend.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



Balancing your personal desires with your available funds could lead you to the conclusion that you're not in any position to buy something you don't really need. Money issues are emphasized while the Libra Full Moon Eclipse activates your 2nd House of Finances. You might realize that your old values are out of sync with your current aspirations now. There's no hurry, so step slowly into your future.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



Maintaining a peaceful relationship life is highly unlikely while the pleasure-seeking Libra Full Moon encounters several combative planets in the sign of Aries. The emotional drama might be more meaningful if there was someone special with whom you could share your experience. However, you may not have the patience to cultivate open lines of communication today. Don't lose hope when it comes to love.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



You might be quite certain about the intimacy you're currently seeking, but an enticing opportunity could disappear upon closer analysis. The imbalanced Libra Full Moon Eclipse is like an emotional time bomb in your 12th House of Secrets, preventing you from reaching satisfaction. Don't attempt to resolve any decisions too quickly. If you take the time to talk about what you want.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



You could place such inflated expectations on your friends that you just assume they'll come through for you today, although they might not actually meet your idealistic standards. Meanwhile, you're distracted with interpersonal politics while the Libra Full Moon Eclipse in your 11th House of Groups opposes the Sun and Mercury in your 5th House of Creativity. Concentrate your intentions on expressing yourself now instead of worrying about others.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



You know exactly what you must do to come through for the people who depend on you. The Libra Full Moon Eclipse accentuates your 10th House of Public Status, enabling you to focus your mind like a laser light on whatever must be coerced into place to reach your professional objectives. Nevertheless, tread lightly today; if you are overconfident of your position.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)



You enjoy visualizing how you will live in years ahead, but your daydreaming could be rather distracting to everyone else today. However, the energy-balancing Libra Lunar Eclipse falls in your 9th House of Adventure, encouraging you to keep a foot in the future while stabilizing the other one in the here and now. Widening your perspective enables you to maintain your unflinching vision for a better tomorrow.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



Your most pressing dilemma today is how to strike a workable balance between simplicity and complexity. You desire all the creature comforts of being in a relationship, but you might not be eager to pay the emotional price while the Libra Lunar Eclipse shakes up your 8th House of Intimacy. Consider the consequences of unrestrained ambitions to avoid complications later on.



Across

1. Travelled through water, 5. Roamed, 10. Iridescent gem, 14. Carryall, 15. 3-banded armadillo, 16. Forearm bone, 17. Exposition, 19. Makes lace, 20. Born as, 21. Concerning (archaic), 22. Luxurious, 23. Angered, 25. Small islands, 27. What we sleep on, 28. Reconnoitering, 31. Ruffle, 34. Seethes, 35. Alcove, 36. Breezy, 37. Body, 38. Slender, 39. Neither ___, 40. Horde, 41. Experiences, 42. Forever, 44. Caviar, 45. Paces, 46. A hospital common room, 50. Spew, 52. Snivel, 54. 7 in Roman numerals, 55. Dossier, 56. Carnival site, 58. Deception, 59. Overindulge, 60. Varieties, 61. Arid, 62. ___ alia, 63. In order to prevent.

Down

1. Display, 2. Having the paleness of wax, 3. Doorkeeper, 4. Japanese apricot, 5. Showered, 6. Chose, 7. Conceited, 8. Sexual arousal, 9. One of the tribes of Israel, 10. Wall plug, 11. Believable, 12. Picnic insects, 13. Whip, 18. Deli item, 22. Add, 24. With competence, 26. Alone, 28. Apologetic, 29. Found on a finger, 30. School athletic centers, 31. A temple (archaic), 32. Violent disturbance, 33. Insurgent, 34. A petty officer, 37. Blockhead, 38. Clairvoyant, 40. Hissy fit, 41. Vestibule, 43. Flower part, 44. Fire warden, 46. Sad song, 47. Small egg, 48. Pig sounds, 49. Center, 50. F F F F, 51. Anger, 53. Clue, 56. A law enforcement agency, 57. Petroleum.

Yesterday's Solution

beep, between, bloom, bring, cheat, chips, circle, danger, fetish, fraction, gable, haste, heart, hollow, intensify, latex, music, newt, ratio, revoke, rubber, shadow, shiny, sleek, sleep, suspect, there, through, until, wager, wander, whole, wraps.

