

8 Insurgents Dead, 15 Wounded in Clashes & Airstrikes

JALALABAD - Eight Taliban, including two notorious commanders, have been killed and 15 others wounded in clashes and air raids in eastern Laghman and Nuristan provinces, officials said on Tuesday.

Col. Sherin Agha Faqiri, spokesman for the 201st Selab Military Corps, said Afghan Air Force helicopters pounded Taliban positions in the Du Aab district of Nuristan Monday night.

He said eight Taliban, including their commanders, were killed and a dozen others wounded in the air raids. However, he



stopped short of naming the insurgent commanders

Col. Faqir added three fighters were wounded in an overnight clash with security forces in the Alingar district of Laghman. The security personnel patrolling the area escaped unhurt in the clash.

The Taliban have not commented on the incident, but the group said in a statement on its website the rebels had a firefight with Afghan Local Police (ALP) in Nuristan. (Pajhwok)

23 Insurgents Killed in Kapisa Operation



KABUL - At least 23 insurgents were killed in a military operation in northeastern Kapisa province in the past 24 hours, 201 Selab Military Corps said in a statement on Tuesday. In addition, 27 others were injured. The operation took place in Nijrab district of the province

and is ongoing, the statement indicated adding that military forces also discovered weapons during the operation. However, the statement did not provide details about any casualties among Afghan security forces during the operation. (Tolonews)

23 Welfare Projects Put Into Service in Herat

HERAT CITY - Around 4,000 families would benefit from 23 welfare projects recently completed in two districts of western Herat province, an official said on Tuesday.

National Solidarity Programme (NSP) spokesman for western zone, Lida Ahmadi, told Pajhwok Afghan News the projects were implemented in Ghorian and Gulran districts.

He said the projects included construction of primary schools, social centers, protective walls, water canals, water reservoirs for irrigation, bridges, streams and extension of



drinking and irrigation water networks, costing 24 million afghanis financed by the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD). Ahmadi added 3,700 families

would benefit from the projects. Residents of the two districts were happy about the development. One of them Fakhria, a ... (More on P4)... (13)

Taliban Execute Three Persons in Jawzjan

SHIBERGHAN - Militants shot dead three persons over what an official said on Tuesday "supporting the government and in connection with a murder" in northern Jawzjan province.

Jawzjan police chief Brig. Gen. Rahmatullah Turkistani told Pajhwok Afghan News that Taliban militants accused Khairullah, a resident of Mangajak district, of supporting the government and killed him on Monday night.

He said the slain man had been part of a local uprising two years ago, but he did not cooperate with government forces at the time of his murder.

Turkistani said a father and his son Ismail, accused of killing Rahmatullah two months ago, were executed on Monday by the Taliban in Kalta Shakh area of Aqcha district. The police chief said the father and ... (More on P4)... (14)

Tajikistan's Missing Road Workers Released in Badakhshan

FIZABAD - Two citizens of Tajikistan, who had been kidnapped and kept in northeastern Badakhshan province, have been released and handed over to the neighbouring country, an official said on Tuesday.

Unknown gunmen attacked a passenger convoy in near the Kwahan-Khitlan border area on Monday. One person was killed and two other were kidnapped by the attackers, who demanded the release of an Afghan prisoner in Tajikistan. The Afghan inmate in Ta-



jikistan has been identified as Azizullah, head of a transport company who was detained for alleged illegal activities.

Ahmad Naveed Frotan, the governor's spokesman, said that the gov-

ernor had issued special orders to the administrative chief of Kwahan district to secure the quick release of the Tajik road workers.

He said the two men ... (More on P4)... (15)

Afghan Army Helicopter Makes Hard-Landing in Kunar

ASADABAD - An Afghan military helicopter has performed an emergency landing in Nari district of eastern Kunar province, the governor said on Tuesday, but the Taliban claimed shooting down the aircraft. Governor Wahidullah Kalimzai told Pajhwok Afghan News the Afghan National Army (ANA)'s helicopter made the emergency landing due to some technical problems in Nari district on Monday. "The helicopter was carrying logistics for security posts and made an emergency landing on a military base after developing some technical fault," the governor said, adding the crew and the helicopter were safe.

But Taliban's spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid told Pajhwok Afghan News the fighters had shot a security forces' helicopter in Ancha Gul area of Nari district. "The helicopter after being hit went down and a dozen commandos onboard were killed," he claimed. (Pajhwok)

Recreational Park Inaugurated in Jalalabad

JALALABAD - A newly-established recreational park was inaugurated on Tuesday in the eastern province of Nangarhar, officials said.

The park costing nearly five million afghanis has been constructed over one acre of land in Babaryan area of the first municipality district of Jalalabad, Governor Salim Khan Kunduzi told the inauguration ceremony.

Kunduzi instructed the officials concerned to pay special attention to maintenance of the park and ask people to help the municipality keep clean the park.

Jalalabad Mayor Hamid Af-



ghan said the park, having a lawn, a volleyball ground and playing equipment for children, cost nearly five million afis and completed in six months. He vowed to properly maintain the park

and sought cooperation from families and residents living nearby areas in this regard. "We are happy over construction of this park," a resident of the area, Azizullah Arab, said. (Pajhwok)

3 Security Personnel Killed by Taliban in Badghis Attacks

QALA-I-NAW - Two Afghan National Army (ANA) troops were killed by the Taliban in the Bala Murghab district of northwestern Badghis province on Tuesday, a police official said.

The soldiers were killed in a Taliban ambush in the Seni locality, said a policeman, who did not want to be named. The militants, meanwhile, claimed snatching weapons from the troops. But Mohammad Mehdi, spokesman for ANA's third brigade in Badghis, rejected the Taliban claim as baseless.



Separately, one ALP official was killed by the fighters in the Sang Aatish area of Maqordistrict. Rahim Dad, ALP commander in the district, said the official was

killed after being caught in a Taliban ambush. Taliban said one ALP member was killed another wounded in an hour-long firefight in the area. (Pajhwok)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



You're itching to rush out of the starting gate, but circumstances delay your progress until you put a concrete plan into place. Thankfully, you can deftly think through the alternative contingencies while under pressure and map out your strategy. But don't let logic limit your options; it's smarter now to combine a rational approach with your visionary ideas.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



Practicing self-discipline is crucial today because you will struggle unnecessarily if you try to overextend your limits. Nevertheless, opportunities abound to finish whatever you start if you establish attainable goals and then focus only on the most essential tasks. Positive thinking is a definite plus as long as you don't assume that your attitude is the only thing that matters.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



Your ability to rationalize is so amplified now that you could be the victim of your own cleverness. Mischievous Mercury is working overtime today, stimulating conversations to smooth over the rough spots in your life. Be careful not to dance around an unpleasant discussion now because denial can backfire and strain the relationship dynamics later on. Believe it or not, running from the truth is a lot tougher than facing it squarely in the eye.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



You excel at communicating your feelings today, but unfortunately, even your closest friends might not fully understand your perspective. The problem is that certain complex emotions don't fit into language; a nuance can be lost in translation unless everyone understands the motivation behind your words. Remember that your behavior also speaks loudly.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



Although your insecurities might not be apparent, you're still concerned with the emotional response of your coworkers today. Unfortunately, your non-disclosure strategy is ineffective if you try to hide your anxiety by being purposefully vague. However, it's healthier to share as much information as possible, even if you must do it in bite-size pieces.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



You could probably get away with sloppy thinking today as long as you don't let the situation grow out of hand. Authoritative Saturn is beaming a stabilizing energy to your key planet Mercury, enabling you to improve your game while maintaining a sense of control. Thankfully, your allies will cut you some slack now if your logic momentarily falters. Remain true to your spirit and let your imagination run wild and free.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



You are adept at minimizing your needs to make a situation more pleasant for someone else. However, you could go overboard today, trying to remedy an emotional problem that's not your responsibility. Nosing around in other people's business rarely helps anyone, but you can still be a true friend by listening and showing your support. Caring for those you love is a gift as long as you remember to maintain.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



Your emotional and spiritual needs are complex, often prompting you to keep them to yourself. However, your aspirations are wildly vivid and wonderfully specific now, and you may be hesitant to reveal your inner process. But there's no reason to close yourself off completely today; confiding in another person can help you process your feelings and

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



You're submerged in a sea of deep thoughts now, but you don't want to go public with your feelings just yet. Nevertheless, you might come across flippantly -- as if your emotions aren't very important -- especially when you talk about them in an off-hand manner. Ironically, you may believe that changes are occurring, even if nothing obvious is happening today. Be courageous and seek your voice. Take a risk

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



Although living up to your responsibilities is nothing new for you, taking care of business quickly fills up your schedule today. In spite of your ambitious agenda, you still might believe that you can pack another activity into your day. Unfortunately, even the time you set aside for exercise or relaxation is rapidly disappearing now. Thankfully, you can prevent your plans from falling apart by making smart choices.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

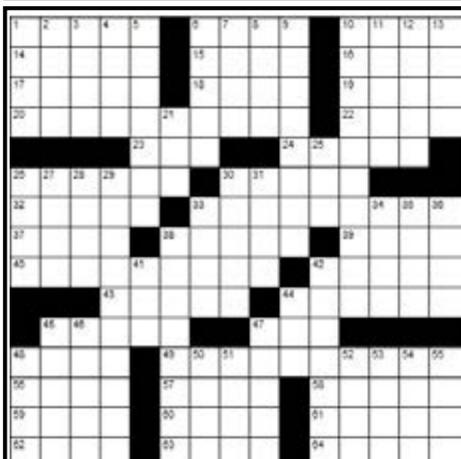


You may feel strange if a casual conversation at work suddenly turns personal today. You might overreact, provoking you to say more than you would normally share and inspiring a real heart-to-heart connection. Although it could feel great at first, the mood likely grows awkward as the discussion continues. Don't be afraid to push past your comfort zone or you can undo the potentially positive consequences.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



It's tempting to slip into an invisible caretaker role today because you are so empathic when it comes to the feelings of those you admire. It may be a real challenge to avoid playing the role of a martyr now, but giving away too much of yourself too quickly could transform compassion into resentment in the blink of an eye. Fortunately, you can truly help those you love if you pay attention to the fine line that separates your heart's desires from theirs.



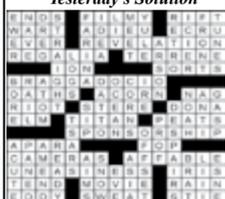
Across

1. Open, as a bottle, 6. Outbuilding, 10. Drill, 14. Hunt illegally, 15. Sort, 16. Ana, gram of "Seek", 17. An Italian woman of rank, 18. Send forth, 19. Apprehends, 20. A formal event, 22. Type of sword, 23. Long-haired wild ox, 24. Quibble, 26. Imperative, 30. Relative magnitudes, 32. Unwind, 33. Impotent, 37. Lascivious look, 38. Vagrant, 39. French for "State", 40. In an incomplete manner, 42. Parental brother, 43. Whiskers, 44. A song of loyalty, 45. Prostitutes (archaic), 47. By means of, 48. Angel's headwear, 49. Unmanly, 56. Winglike, 57. 53 in Roman numerals, 58. Restaurant, 59. Deficiency, 60. Not odd, 61. Go in, 62. Sounds of disapproval, 63. Umpires, 64. Considers.

Down

1. Style of hairdo, 2. Newbie (slang), 3. Tins, 4. Skin disease, 5. Throat, 6. Cut of meat, 7. Song of praise, 8. Sweeping story, 9. Found, 10. Charitable, 11. Relative of a giraffe, 12. Renegade, 13. Being, 21. Big wine holder, 25. What we breathe, 26. Website addresses, 27. Stink, 28. Delight, 29. Bulwarks, 30. Churns, 31. Askew, 33. Twosome, 34. Carve in stone, 35. An exchange involving money, 36. Flower stalk, 38. Defrauder, 41. Knave, 42. Unassisted, 44. Ambition, 45. Anagram of "Basal", 46. Exclamation expressive of regret, 47. Blood vessels, 48. Stop, 50. Half of ten, 51. Feudal estate, 52. 1 less than 10, 53. Initial wager, 54. Swarm, 55. Makes a mistake.

Yesterday's Solution



agony, annoy, bandy, carry, dam, deluge, fling, flood, funnel, gangster, gilt gross, harry, hats, inert, loyalty, party, pitch, poignantsatchel, shake, shell, spate, split, stress, teal, tinge, tong, torment, torpid, torrent, total, trigger, trod, trunk, turbulent.

