

After Wardak, Taliban Set up Customs Check-Point in Ghazni

GHAZNI CITY - The Taliban have set up a check-point in the Deh Yak district of southern Ghazni province, forcing drivers to pay customs duty, both sides confirmed on Thursday. Roohullah, a truck driver plying the Paktia-Ghazni highway, told Pajhwok Afghan News the Taliban had established the check-point in Pailoch locality. "Like traffic police, the fighters stop every truck and give them receipts for the amounts received." He did not have



the bill saying they threw it away fearing the Afghan security forces may find it and would bother them. Baryali, a taxi driver, also claimed the Taliban had created a check-point on the highway. "From dawn to dusk, they stand in the area and receive cash from drivers." He said the Taliban charged 500 to 5,000 rupees per vehicle. The provincial police chief, Brig. Gen. Aminullah Amarkhel, confirmed Pajhwok ...*(More on P4)...(18)*

Community Policing Services to Kick off in Zabul



KABUL - A Community Policing Services Office will be opened under the Ministry of Interior (MoI) in Zabul as part of the central government's efforts to shorten the gap between the state and the people in the southern province, local officials said Friday. Zabul Police Chief Gen. Mirwais Nawrozi said the office will start its services from the provincial capital, Qalat city, and then the services will expand to Zabul's districts. Members of the community will help the people to easily access security agencies and its officials in order to share their problems and seek solutions. "According to President's [Ashraf Ghani] order, every police ...*(More on P4)...(19)*

Parwan PC Member Threatens Pajhwok Staff

KABUL - A member of the Provincial Council (PC) of central Parwan province, Esmatullah Mohammadi, yesterday forced his way into the Pajhwok Afghan News main office in Kabul along with his private armed guards and threatened the staff and administration. Mohammadi is accused of land-grabbing in Bagram district, owning fake school degree and attacking the Kharoti tribe office in Bagram. A Pajhwok reporter contacted Mohammadi to seek his opinion about the allegations against him. But the public representative member talked in an aggressive tone with the reporter who recorded the telephonic conversation with Mohammadi. "I have completed school or not it is none of your business. You are a media person; you have nothing to do with this matter. Don't waste your time," Mohammadi said in his telephonic conversation. Latter Mohammadi talked ...*(More on P4)...(20)*

Police Seize Arms, Ammunition from Vehicle in N. Afghan Province

PUL-E-KHUMRI - The Afghan police have discovered huge quantity of arms and ammunition from a mini-truck in the restive Baghlan province, police spokesman in the northern region Mahfuzullah Akbari said Friday. According to the official, the weapon-laden vehicle which was coming from the eastern Khost province, was apparently taking the contraband to the northern region to



help anti-government militants. The arms and ammunition seized from the vehicle included 35 pieces of AK-47, four rocket-propelled grenades, thousands of rounds of bullets and explosive devices, the official said, adding one person was arrested. Baghlan has been the scene of increasing militancy over the past few years and Taliban militants, who overran the strategically important Tala-o-Barfak district couple of days ago, have been attempting to besiege the provincial capital Pul-e-Khumri. (Xinhua)

Afghan Forces Thwart Militants Nowruz Attacks Plan in Balkh

KABUL - The Afghan security forces have thwarted a plan by the anti-government armed militant groups to carry out a series of attacks in northern Baghlan province, specifically during the Nowruz days. Local security officials in northern Baghlan province said several heavy and light weapons were confiscated as the militants were looking to transfer them to Balkh for the attacks. Provincial counter-narcotics chief General Zamanuddin Zaman told reporters in Baghlan that the weapons were confiscated by the counter-narcotics forces during a search operation on the ...*(More on P4)...(21)*

Iran Honours Senior Afghan Fighters Killed in Syria

KABUL - A ceremony was held in Mashhad city of Iran to honour and pay tribute to two senior Afghan commanders killed in Syria, a report said on Friday. The slain commanders were among the founding members of the Fatemiyoun brigade -- the unit of Afghan militia members said to have been recruited by Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC). The bridge, having 20,000 fighters, has been fighting alongside forces loyal to regional ally



President Bashar al-Assad to counter an armed rebellion that broke out in 2011. The ceremony honouring the slain Afghan fighters was held in the eastern city of Mashhad, about 200 kilometers from the border with Afghanistan. Addressing the event two days ago, chief of ...*(More on P4)...(22)*

Khostis Rally Against Rocket Shelling from Pakistan

KHOST CITY - Periodic rocket and artillery shelling from Pakistan into eastern Kunar and Nangarhar provinces on Thursday sparked a protest demonstration by hundreds of people in southeastern Khost province. The demonstrators chanted slogans "death to Pakistan" and carried banners characterizing Pakistan as 'cancer' of the region. Afghan officials say Pakistani forces have been firing rockets from across the Durand Line into Lalpooora district of Nangarhar and Khas Kunar district of Kunar over the past many days. The shelling had caused casualties, displacement and financial losses to people. The protestors asked the international community, particularly the United States, to discharge their responsibility towards protecting Afghanistan's territory under security agreements with Kabul. Protestor Shah Mohammad said: "We respect our neighbors and we demand mutual respect from them. We don't fire rockets into their soil nor ...*(More on P4)...(23)*

17 Daesh Rebels Killed in Zabul Night Raid

KABUL - Afghan special security forces killed 17 Islamic State or Daesh militants during an overnight operation in the Arghandab district of southern Zabul province, an official said on Friday. The operation was carried out on Thursday night in Malak Khel area, tweeted Defence Ministry spokesman Dawlat Waziri. He said two training facilities and a number of weapons belonging to the Daesh rebels were also destroyed during the raid. One security



personnel was wounded and his condition was stable, Waziri said, adding civilians escaped unharmed during the offensive. The night-time operation against the Islamic States comes amid increasing concerns about the group's presence in various areas of the province. (Pajhwok)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

You're ready to savor some simple comforts that remain timeless in an otherwise busy age. Indulgent foods and luxurious experiences evoke a sense of relaxation when the tactile Taurus Moon settles into your 2nd House of Material Goods. However, a little voice in your head keeps reminding you that spiritual pursuits can be as gratifying as pleasurable ones.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

You may think everything is right as rain, but disagreements with your friends and coworkers pop up seemingly out of the blue today. While daily differences in opinion are nothing new, you might be extra sensitive when the reflective Moon is in your sign. However, this receptivity also allows you to find beauty in even the most unlikely places.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You're facing the choice to participate in an impassioned dialogue or to sit this one out, and your decision is made more difficult now because of your strong feelings. While you care so deeply for a social cause that you feel it in your bones, it's difficult to express the details precisely enough now for your peers to understand. If the endless chatter drains you today, it's perfectly acceptable to bow out early and retreat to your happy place.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

You can hardly wait to get together with friends or family to seek the solace only they provide. Planning for your future seems like too much trouble today, especially when you could gather with your loved ones and reminisce about the good old days instead. Although you can't make your duties magically disappear today.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

Although you're confident you could win almost any argument, you stop just before the words leave your mouth today. Somehow you can tell that it's not worth your time to spar with anyone now. Stick to the facts without offering any personal commentary, especially with the sensible Taurus Moon's presence in your 10th House of Public Responsibility.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

Try as you might to sort out the mysteries of your heart, it could be difficult to discern anything past the fact that something just feels off. The situation becomes more maddening the more you dwell on it, even if you know it won't do you any good. Instead of spinning in circles of doubt, administer a healthy dose of the natural world by taking a long walk outside. Staying physically present is the key to staying mentally serene.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

A companion's impatience may rub off on you even if your intention is to maintain the peace. In fact, you wish you could open up about your feelings today, but it seems as if the moment isn't right. Fortunately, quiet time spent together might be more healing than talking issues over as the sensual Taurus Moon transits your 8th House of Intimacy. When words seem to complicate things, a friendly silence is often the best alternative.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

You covet spending time with a person you love because it seems like the exchange of affection will joyfully overpower all other concerns. You prefer to pursue creature comforts rather than attack your to-do list when capricious Mercury and insistent Mars make a stressful exchange. The longer you procrastinate today.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

You're usually the first one to vote for a day off, but you're able to find a surprising amount of enjoyment in the daily grind today. Finding your groove and seeing measurable progress can be a source of joy, especially if minor contentions at home are aggravating you. Sticking to your agenda gives complex situations a chance to breathe and provides a healthy change of pace. Using work as a distraction is a good idea now as long as you don't avoid the truth.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

Your message is not getting heard by your peers today even when you try to appeal to their best interests. It's as if communication lines are crossed and you long for clear answers, but it's hard to give or receive them. In the end, you want to bypass all the commotion and reestablish your center of gravity. The bucolic Taurus Moon grazes in your 5th House of Play, reminding you that you're not required to work all the time.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

The more errands that demand your time and attention today, the longer you would like to stay in bed. Nothing sounds better now than walking through your door and melting into your couch like a contented cat in a warm beam of sunlight. Normal tasks seem more irritating, but that's probably because your vision of domestic bliss lies in stark contrast.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

It's challenging to not get caught up in your head today. You may wonder what people mean by their words and if they carry any hidden implications about how much you matter to them. However, the stable Taurus Moon illuminates your 3rd House of Information, imploring you to look at the basic facts instead of letting your imagination run wild. Shift your attention to what is real and beautiful today and let all negative assumptions go.

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-66.

Across: 1. ___ in = aware, 6. Nib, 10. Component of urine, 14. Pertaining to the moon, 15. Forearm bone, 16. Egghead, 17. College, 19. Group of two, 20. French for "Boat", 21. Loving murmur, 22. Being, 23. Varnish ingredient, 25. Spawn, 26. Suspend, 30. Phonograph needle, 32. Perform surgery on, 35. Condiment, 39. Ancient ascetic, 40. A small skullcap, 41. The easing of tensions, 43. Decorate, 44. Charisma, 46. Dines, 47. Utilize, 50. Pious, 53. Farm building, 54. Mistake, 55. Boat, 60. Away from the wind, 61. Young unmarried woman (archaic), 63. Male offspring, 64. Not under, 65. Jagged, 66. Historical periods, 67. No more than, 68. Waste conduit.
Down: 1. Association, 2. Roman moon goddess, 3. Module, 4. Overhang, 5. Gloomy, in poetry, 6. Passenger vehicle, 7. Bring out, 8. Opposite word, 9. Knockout, 10. Downplay, 11. Utilize again, 12. Delete, 13. Supplemented, 18. Regret, 24. South southeast, 25. Public transit vehicles, 26. Tilled, 27. Church alcove, 28. Where a bird lives, 29. Excessive desire for wealth, 31. Lubricate, 33. Elide, 34. French for "Head", 36. Dwarf buffalo, 37. Violent disturbance, 38. Lairs, 42. Etc, 43. Nourished, 45. A gabled roof extension, 47. Lower, 48. Heroism, 49. Turf, 51. 56 in Roman numerals, 52. Affirmatives, 54. Biblical kingdom, 56. Arid, 57. Not fast, 58. If not, 59. Lascivious look, 62. Mineral rock.

Yesterday's Solution: LANE, SPIN, UMBRO, LINE, ANON, NERD, TAIL, RICE, PLED, PERCULATOR, REEL, WIKI, GREEDY, WAND, KEA, YAP, OBOE, RELY, PATIJO, OUTPOST, OSTI, IGH, STEAL, SITUN, EDOM, RID, RNA, DENS, MENTOR, OGRE, PATEO, ATOM, ADDE, PATEO, RAVE, WAD, HURRY, SPAN, EDEN, ARENA, HEST, RANG, HAWED.

A W A K E N D O U B L E Q
S I S T E R I E N T I R E
E U S U A L M A L O N E I
V B P H S R P E N E S Y N
E B L O O D L E N G T H S
N F I E L R E C E D A E T
L R T Y A A T L L S N S R
E E E E R W H I C H T T U
M A M G O U U C L O N U C
E K B R E B L K U O A A T
R L R E A G E R M T K R I
G A Y A F T E R P U E Y O
E V O T H E R H I D D E N