

Armed Insurgents Suffer Heavy Casualties in 24 Hours

KABUL - At least 63 insurgents were killed in the past 24 hours in a joint operation between Afghan National Police, the Afghan National Army and NDS. The operations were conducted in Kunar, Parwan, Kunduz, Fary-



ab, Badakhshan, Sar-e-Pul, Kandahar, Zabol, Uruzgan, Ghazni, Badghis and Helmand provinces. As a result 63 armed insurgents were killed, 45 wounded and five others were arrested by Afghan National security Forces. Also, during these operations, Afghan National Police discovered and confiscated light and heavy rounds of ammunition.

During the same 24 hour period, Afghan National Police discovered... (More on P4)... (21)

Security Forces Kill at Least 14 Insurgents

FARAH CITY - Afghan security forces have reportedly neutralized a large scale attack by Taliban insurgents in Farah city, said officials Wednesday. According to provincial governor Mohammad Asif Nang the insurgents tried to take control of the city but security forces managed to oust the militants. Taliban casualty figures were however high and among the dead included the two commanders, he said. "We were able to push them back. We have the determination and we are proud and will resist and push back the enemy," said Nang. Meanwhile an army commander in the area said that Afghan air support had carried out airstrikes... (More on P4)... (22)

Herat to Get 59 Uplift Projects this Year

KABUL/FIROZKOH - Officials in western Herat province on Wednesday said a total of \$100 million would be spent to implement 59 development projects in the province this year.

Abdul Naser Aswadi, an official of economic affairs department, said the projects included asphaltting of the city's ring road, connecting Herat districts with the provincial capital and building a power system in the districts and provincial airport. The budget has been approved by the government, he said, adding that 22 other projects



would be launched in the province funded by the government of Italy. The residents welcomed allocating of \$100 million for uplift projects and urged provincial authorities to prioritize important projects and execute the schemes in less developed areas. Atiqullah, a resident of the province, told Pajhwok Afghan News: "Payan Aab area of Herat city is the less developed part.

We demand the government to implement some of these projects in our area to facilitate a large number of families..." (More on P4)... (15)

District Chief in Paktia Wounded in Rebels' Attack



GARDEZ - The Sayed Karam district chief in southeastern Paktia wounded along with his driver and two bodyguards when militants attacked his vehicle on Wednesday, director of a civil hospital said. Dr. Haya Gul Paktin told Pajhwok Afghan News that the district chief, his driver and two security guards were brought in to the hospital. He said all the injured were in stable condition. Police official requesting anonymity said that militants wanted to kidnap the district chief but his security guards offered stout resistance. Zabihullah Mujahid, Taliban spokesman, claimed credit for the attack and confirmed four persons had been wounded in the incident. It is the area where Mohammad Hanif, director of border and tribal affairs, was kidnapped last week. (Pajhwok)

Afghan Investors Given Deadline to Leave UAE



KABUL - United Arab Emirate (UAE) has reportedly cancelled the work permits and visas of about 600 Afghan investors and issued them notices to close their businesses and leave the country within two weeks.

Afghan government confirms the mass-expulsion issue of the Afghan investors from the UAE. Ahmad Shakib Mustaghni, spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs says that government has acknowledged that a large number of Afghan investor are being told to wind up their businesses and leave UAE. He said government is working on the issue to try to find out resolve the issue with UAE officials. Mustaghni added that for this purpose a government delegation is scheduled to visit UAE to discuss the matter and find solution for it. (KP)

Kandahar Ulama Announce Support for Security Forces

KANDAHAR CITY - Hundreds of religious scholars on Wednesday announced support for security forces, urging insurgents to join peace process in larger national interest.

A big gathering was held, which was attended by hundreds of religious leaders,

provincial council members and representatives of High Peace Council (HPC).

Maulvi Obaidullah Faizani, Kandahar Ulama Council head, said many innocent people and security forces personnel were being killed daily in the nook and corner of the country.

He pledged religious scholars would stand behind security forces at a time when majority of foreign troops had left and thus insurgents had no reason to continue fighting.

Haji Ata Mohammad Ahmadi, Kandahar HPC head, lauded... (More on P4)... (16)

EUPOL Closes Field Office



HERAT - The European Union Police (EUPOL) mission in Afghanistan on Wednesday announced closing down its field office in western Herat at the end of May after seven years of support to Afghan counterparts. "The closure of the EUPOL field office in Herat is a sign of the joint achievements and partnership between EUPOL and our Afghan partners. The closure also reflects the progress that we have made with our Afghan partners who are now in the lead for security and justice," said EUPOL head of mission Pia

Stjernvall at a ceremony in Herat.

A statement by the mission said, the field office in Herat has had good results especially in fostering community policing principles and methods as well as enhancing the cooperation between police, prosecutors and defence lawyers. "The field office in Herat had an essential role in building the civilian police service in the province and at the same time, it improved the understanding of the implementation of the policies of the Afghan Government in the area", said Stjernvall... (More on P4)... (18)

Rampant Corruption in Bamyan Health Dept. Flayed

BAMYAN CITY - A number of civil society organizations of central Bamyan province on Wednesday accused public health director of large scale corruption and poor performance.

However, Public Health Director Dr. Raihan Haidari rejected the allegations and asked civil society activists to present evidence in support of their claims.

He said as many as 98 health centres had been established in Bamyan



and every single centre provided the best available health services to patients. The official said he had respect for civil society organizations but they should have supported documents of their claims... (More on P4)... (17)

35 Insurgents Eliminated in Zabul Offensive

QALAT/MAIDAN SHAHR - At least 35 insurgents have been killed and 25 others wounded during clashes in the Shajoi district and areas of Qalat, the provincial capital of southern Zabul province, an official said Wednesday. Acting Governor Ashraf Nasari said security forces conducted clearing operations



in several parts of the province to release 31 abducted Hazara men. Among the dead rebels, 18 belonged to Waziristan and

six others were local militants' commanders, he said, adding that security forces remained unhurt in the firefight. Elsewhere, security officials detained four individuals on charges of planting landmines in a Mosque in central Maidan Wardak province, the governor spokesman said... (More on P4)... (19)

2 Dead, 4 Wounded in Ghazni Blast

GHAZNI CITY - Two children were killed and four civilians wounded in a mine blast in Deh Yak district of southern Ghazni province on Wednesday, an official said. Shafiq Nang, the spokesman for acting governor, told Pajhwok Afghan News the explosion took place at 7:30 a.m. Karimullah Toolwak, the town administrative chief, said the mine detonated in a van travelling to Ghazni City, the provincial capital, from Deh Yak... (More on P4)... (20)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



You aren't happy with your busy schedule today, but you're resigned to take the more responsible path anyway. Nevertheless, you must confront your irrepressible temptation to procrastinate; nothing will be gained by distracting yourself from your current obligations. Thankfully, once you commit to wholeheartedly focusing your intentions, you gain the power to harness your unrealized potential.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



You are all set to put the finishing touches on a project today, but unless you are very persistent, things might not go according to your plan. There's a lot of mental interference in the atmosphere now and the noise could tempt you to ignore your agenda and follow a fleeting whim. Hopefully, you can override your need to escape by practicing a little common sense.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



You may appear quite busy today, but others can't figure out why you're getting so little done. Oddly enough, you don't even notice that you're wasting energy running in circles. Fortunately, you can regain control of your day by consciously slowing down. Analyzing the consequences of your behavior prior to initiating action is much more effective than flying off the handle in every direction.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



Although you can be quite cautious when it comes to revealing your feelings, it's refreshing to skip the never-ending analysis today. Normally, you prefer to contemplate all your options before doing anything. However, making every little decision as if you're playing a game of chess takes the excitement out of life. Give yourself permission now to react without concern for what happens next.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



You might have committed to so many activities today that you don't know how you're going to manage your time. Your responsibilities grow more demanding throughout the day and your schedule becomes less forgiving as the afternoon unfolds. Nevertheless, avoid getting so caught up in your own agenda that you can't see a solution that's right in front of your nose.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



Your resolve grows stronger throughout the day, raising your confidence about a current project at work. Unfortunately, being productive isn't your only consideration today; you also want to enjoy yourself in the process. Be careful; don't use your personal desires to justify sabotaging your efforts if you're not having a good time. Stay on course and demonstrate your expertise.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



You're determined to complete your work but no matter how practical your approach, you still can see beyond the castle walls. Your perspective on life won't fit into a neat and tidy package now. In fact, you might even recognize how your current efforts merge with your future plans in a way you haven't yet grasped. You will do your best work in the long run by finishing on your own timetable, not someone else's.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



You may grow agitated as you strive for perfection, especially if you find it hard to concentrate now. If you are tired from working so many hours on a project, take stock of what you have already accomplished and pat yourself on the back. Simply letting others know what you still have left to do alleviates the immediate pressure. Don't waste energy on self-judgment.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



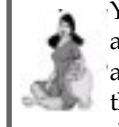
If you have been lax at work recently, it's time to reassess your priorities before continuing in your old ways. Although you want to put your life back in order, you could overcompensate and take on too much in order to prove your good intentions. However, the ambitious Capricorn Moon helps you plan your schedule with efficiency in mind. Make your energy last longer by taking a more methodical approach.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



Your friends may be surprised with your uncharacteristic emotional intensity today. They might back off from a conversation to avoid conflict even if they think that you are wrong. Thankfully, the Moon's monthly return to your sign empowers you to express your vulnerable side without losing track of your goals. Nevertheless, do yourself a big favor and tone down your fervor.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)



You could be drawn into a complex drama today and there might not be a straightforward way to avoid it. You may sink into your emotions and the more you struggle to be somewhere else, the deeper it gets. There's no need to panic; your smartest strategy is to stop resisting. Listen to what others have to say and don't put up unnecessary walls. Your gift is to be a sounding board now for those who need it most.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



Your obsession with one particular version of the future can impede your progress today. Or, you might grow afraid of being stuck on your current path, especially if you don't like where it's heading. In both scenarios, your attachment or avoidance intensifies the situation and makes it more challenging to navigate through the circumstances. Relaxing your expectations allows you to explore more options and regain a healthier per-

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers indicating starting positions for clues.

Across and Down crossword clues. Across: 1. Where a bird lives, 5. Angry, 10. Whimper, 14. Within, 15. What we are called, 16. Pinnacle, 17. Tending to vanish like vapor, 19. You (archaic), 20. Small portable bed, 21. Property claims, 22. Thresholds, 23. Anagram of "Seedily", 25. Electronic letters, 27. Citrus drink, 28. Laminated metamorphic rocks, 31. Trim, 34. Verse writers, 35. Letter after sigma, 36. Roman moon goddess, 37. Gander, 38. Small slender gull, 39. Altitude (abbrev.), 40. Long times, 41. Alerts, 42. In a compliant manner, 44. 59 in Roman numerals, 45. Luxurious, 46. Emit, 50. Defects, 52. Decrease, 54. Band booking, 55. Greek letter, 56. Nutritious, 58. Sore, 59. Killed, 60. At the peak of, 61. Playthings, 62. Something of value, 63. Exam. Down: 1. Daughter of a sibling, 2. Emissary, 3. Condition, 2,000 4 pounds, 5. Not outside, 6. Contests of speed, 7. So be it, 8. Tautness, 9. Eastern Standard Time, 10. Jargon, 11. Re-cover furniture, 12. Lascivious look, 13. X X X X18. Leave, out, 22. Speaker's platform, 24. Magma, 26. Distribute, 28. Black-footed, albatross, 29. Acquire deservedly, 30. Stars, 31. Smack, 32. Body of a ship, 33. Aversion, 34. Billiard parlors, 37. Obtains, 38. Cab, 40. Rectum, 41. Broaden, 43. Invariably, 44. Potential, 46. Bog hemp, 47. Marble, 48. Novices, 49. Country of the Nile, 50. Decree, 51. Mentally irregular (slang), 53. Partiality, 56. An Old Testament king, 57. Make lace.

Yesterday's Solution crossword puzzle grid with the solution filled in.

Word search puzzle grid with the words: RESCUE, BUDGET, HEALTH, ABOVE, TBSP, ZASORRY, TRUWAXTSPOILR, EIOABISCLOSER, RDLABORFHIBAF, FEBURSTBRMPRZ, DUNCPEIXEOFIL, YPAPVPOMTHZLD, CLINICELCHIEF, JPYEARSaihong, ABOUTQGQCRCR, REDEEMASLEPE.