

Deh Raud May Fall if Reinforcements Don't Arrive: Official Warns

TIRINKOT - The Deh Raud district of central Uruzgan province may fall to the Taliban if the government failed to send emergency support, an official warned on Tuesday. Aminullah Khaliqi, the town's administrative head, told Pajhwok Afghan News that militants launched coordinated attacks from several sides on the district centre early this morning. He said the insurgents were only a few metres from the district centre, warning Deh Raud would collapse if reinforcements did not arrive in time. The security forces are faced with a shortage of weapons and fuel. Khaliqi asked the officials concerned to send



reinforcements as soon as possible to beat back the attackers. Both sides had suffered casualties, he said without giving specific figures. Amanullah Hotaki, a former provincial council head and resident of the district, confirmed fierce clashes were underway in the embattled town. The militants had entered the district centre and were attacking the office complex, he claimed. Civilians also suffered casualties during the clashes as they were trapped in the main bazaar, Hotaki said, calling the situation fragile and risky. However, the governor's spokesman, ... (More on P4)... (11)

Suicide Bomber Attack on Interior Ministry Foiled

KABUL - Afghan Security Forces shot a suicide bomber before he managed to target the Ministry of Interior (MoI) compound in Kabul. The suicide bomber reportedly was driving a car packed with explosives and was looking to detonate it inside the ministry compound, reports the Khaama Press. The security personnel identified the suicide bomber as he reportedly breached several check points. So far, security officials have not commented regarding the incident. Meanwhile, the Embassy of United States in Kabul has issued a security alert to its citizens. "The U.S. Embassy received reports of attack near MoI in Kabul 9:00 a.m. - Emb. personnel advised to avoid area until further notice," khaama press quoted the U.S. embassy statement as saying. (ANI)

Militants Hamper Anti-Polio Drive

FAIZABAD - Officials in northeastern Badakhshan province on Tuesday said foreign militants fighting alongside Taliban did not allow vaccinators to administer polio drops to children. Public Health Director Dr. Noor Mohammad Khawari said at the launch of a three-day polio campaign that 20 families of foreign militants had settled in the Khastak locality of Jurm district. He said the arrival of foreigner militants from Pakistan in different areas of Jurm and Yamghan



districts had caused more polio cases besides sparking fear of the virus spread. Dr. Syed Farooq Nasar, senior medical official at the department, said the polio vaccination campaign would continue for three days across the province. As many as 255,000 children below five would be administered polio drops by 2,000 volunteers. Due to ... (More on P4)... (12)

Senior Daesh Commander Killed in Kunar Air Strike: MoD

KABUL - Shafiq Abbas, a senior Daesh commander was killed in a foreign troops drone strike in eastern Kunar province on Monday afternoon, the Ministry of Defence (MoD) said in a statement. The airstrike took place in Watapoor district of the province, statement said. However, the statement did not provide more

details about the airstrike. Meanwhile, officials at 201 Selab Military Corps confirmed that the air strike was carried out by U.S. troops but did not provide more details about the attack. In recent months, dozens of Daesh insurgents including their commanders have been killed in foreign and Afghan air strikes. (Tolonews)

Infighting between Taliban Rival Factions Kill 5 Insurgents

HERAT - Infighting between supporters and opponents of Taliban leader Mullah Akhtar Mohammad Mansoor in the western Herat province left five fighters dead early Tuesday, a local official said. "The clash erupted between Mullah Sia Khan, a Taliban commander loyal to Mullah Akhtar Mansoor and his rival com-

mander Mullah Toofan of Mullah Mohammad Rasoul's faction in Niak village of Obe district in the wee hours of today which lasted for hours and left five insurgents dead," district police chief, Shir Agha Alkozai, told Xinhua. All those killed in the fighting belonged to Akhtar Mansoor's faction, the official added. ... (More on P4)... (14)

Sar-i-Pul Residents Say they are Forced Into Fighting

MAZAR-I-SHARIF - Residents living near the Shiberghan-Sar-i-Pul highway on Tuesday said some uprising commanders were forcing them into fighting alongside them against Taliban militants. Dozens of residents of Syedabad area on the out-

skirts of Sar-i-Pul city, the capital of northern Sar-i-Pul province, arrived in Mazar-i-Sharif, the capital of northern Balkh province. They said they were armed as uprising members, but still they were ... (More on P4)... (15)

Over 200 Held in Parwan Wanted to Harvest Opium: Senate Panel

KABUL - A fact-finding commission of the Meshrano Jirga on Tuesday said more than 200 suspects arrested in central Parwan province have confessed to traveling to the northern region of the country for harvesting the illicit poppy crop. On May 7, Parwan officials had announced the arrest of 210 men who planned travelling to the north to prick poppies and collect the sap. But



the senators slammed the local authorities for detaining whom they called poor workers. Some of lawmakers alleged that the men, hail-

District Police Chief Killed in Taliban Ambush Attack

SHARAN - An Afghan district police chief had been killed along with five police personnel following a Taliban ambush attack in the country's eastern province of Paktika, a local police official said on Tuesday. "The police Chief of Khoshamand district, Kahko Shinwari, and five Afghan National Police members died following an armed attack which took place along a main road in the district late on Monday," deputy provincial police Chief Abdul Rauf told Xinhua. Shinwari was travelling from provincial capital Sharan to the district in a two-vehicle convoy before the clash. Five policemen of the convoy were also wounded in the attack in the mountainous province, some 155 km south of Afghan capital, the police chief added. The Taliban-led insurgency has been rampant since early April when the militant group launched its annual rebel offensive ... (More on P4)... (17)

Trafficker Detained with Large Amount of Drugs

DUSHANBE - A joint operation by Tajik border guards and drug control officers has led to the arrest of an Afghan drug trafficker in the Darvoz district of the Gorno Badakhshan Autonomous Region (GBAO). "A 23-year-old national of Afghanistan Abdul Boqi waladi Haji was detained in GBAO's Darvoz district on suspicion of drug trafficking yesterday," Mohammad Ulughkhajayev, a spokesman for the Main Border Guard Directorate at the State Committee for National Security, told Asia-Plus today morning. According to him, several packages of narcotic drugs that tested positive to raw opium weighing 9 kilograms and hashish weighing 9 kilogram were confiscated from him. Criminal proceedings have been instituted against the detained drug trafficker and an investigation is under way. (Asia-Plus)

MSF Urges US to Pay Afghan Hospital Victims

KABUL - A leading medical charity that suffered massive losses when U.S. helicopter gunships mistakenly struck its clinic in the northern Afghan city of Kunduz is criticizing the United States for failing to pay compensation to the wounded and families of the Afghans killed in the assault last October. Doctors Without Borders says Washington should "urgently address" the issue - even as the Afghan government prepares to rebuild the hospital with



millions of dollars donated by the U.S. military. The organization, known by its French initials MSF, has decided - at least for now - not to resume opera-

tions in Kunduz, where it ran the only trauma hospital in an increasingly violent part of the country, said Guilhem Molinje, the ... (More on P4)... (13)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

Maintaining a cool and calm attitude can be a challenge today, especially if you already know what you want. Regardless, your feelings continue to intensify throughout the day, making cooperation with others at work less likely. Although the graceful Libra Moon urges you to establish equilibrium in all your relationships.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

Although you foresee big changes unfolding at work, your smartest strategy is to simply do your job today without getting caught up in uncertain possibilities. The Moon's monthly visit to your 6th House of Daily Routine signals a return to normalcy, but you might be worried that the current peace and quiet won't last. It's impossible to know how everything will play out in the long run.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Conflicting emotions may tug at you until you begin to feel a knot in the pit of your stomach today. On one hand, you can clearly see the positive benefits of pursuing a friendship or a romantic connection with someone you admire. But on the other hand, it's much less complicated to keep your feelings quiet to avoid the possibility of rejection. Instead of getting lost in endless analysis and worrying about your next relationship move.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

It seems like someone is trying to convince you to do something that benefits others more than you. However, your resistance to making concrete plans now might appear selfish to your peers, even if you believe you're pursuing an honorable course of action. Don't be afraid to stand up for your convictions. Even if your choice is an unpopular one.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

Your creative prowess is readily apparent at work today, emboldening you to share your plans. Although your coworkers might make unreasonable demands on your schedule, your personal ambitions require a fair amount of time and effort. However, you aren't required to put on a show for anyone else just to demonstrate that you're capable of doing your job.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

You might think your practical approach to financial matters is a well-balanced one, but you could be easily misled by your own ideals now. Even if clouds are gathering to obscure your vision, you can still visualize a bright blue sky in your mind's eye. Normally, positive thinking works in your favor, but it's crucial to acknowledge reality as it is today and not as you wish it to be. Facing the truth places you in a position of power.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

Although you're fully capable of understanding both sides of a complex disagreement, people might see you as more ambivalent today than you are in reality. You may have an accurate perspective of other people's motives, yet you recognize the practical wisdom in keeping your opinions to yourself until everyone has a chance to speak.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

Your imagination is running wild today, but you seem so pragmatic that no one would ever guess what's going behind your smile. Thankfully, you can hide your fantasies without much effort but keeping your secrets grows more challenging later in the day. Ultimately, your actions reveal your true feelings, especially if you are tired of pretending everything is fine.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

Share your plans with your closest supporters before it becomes too complicated to say anything at all. You know exactly where you want the conversation to go and might manipulate the circumstances at work to push your agenda forward. It's relatively easy to just convey an abstract idea to a friend. However, conflicting intentions become entangled if you are overly attached to your goal.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

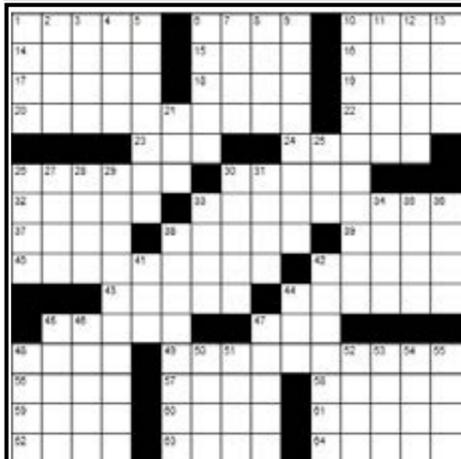
You are highly strategic in your planning because your professional objectives are well-defined and you are prepared to do whatever it takes now to fulfill your destiny. Unfortunately, nothing is as simple as it seems at first glance; you must balance your own needs with the wishes of those you love. Don't just assume that your unspoken dreams are identical to anyone else's. Continue to clarify your ambitions and work steadily toward success.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

You clearly comprehend the measurable benefits of your current plan and the possible pitfalls of a faulty execution. Unfortunately, positive thinking grows elusive as the plot thickens and people realize how important your goals are to you now. Nothing is gained by backing down just because you're worried about what others think. Your unrelenting persistence is the best guarantee of your success.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

Your stellar presentation enables everyone to witness your determination today, yet you have more simmering beneath the surface than meets the eye. Even if a powerful friend accuses you of trying to impress others, the truth is that you're just pushing to accomplish as much as you can while you feel so inspired. Although everything seems quite intense now, you actually have enough time to put your life in order before the current window of opportunity closes.



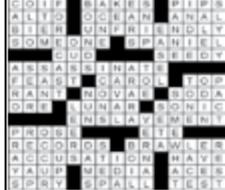
Across

- Russian country house, 6. Sprockets, 10. Broad valley, 14. Blockage of the intestine, 15. Egg-shaped, 16. Angers, 17. Mixes, 18. 6th Greek letter, 19. Half-moon tide, 20. Concomitant, 22. Fleet, 23. A large vase, 24. Overweight, 26. In a dewy manner, 30. Knight's "suit", 32. ___-garde, 33. Pyjamas, 37. Short skirt, 38. Located, 39. Spindle, 40. Being the basic part, 42. Angler's basket, 43. Less friendly, 44. Fancy, 45. Outfit, 47. Cheer, 48. Killer whale, 49. Autocratic, 56. Newbie (slang), 57. Visual organs, 58. Leg bone, 59. Select, 60. Tall woody plant, 61. Sarcasm, 62. Type of sword, 63. Wild Tibetan oxen, 64. Female students.

Down

- Platter, 2. Countertenor, 3. Cover with plaster, 4. Throw, 5. Attack, 6. Deceive, 7. Not under, 8. Nurse shark, 9. Raced on skis, 10. Tableware, 11. Districts, 12. Depart, 13. Catch a glimpse of, 21. Attempt, 25. Hit on the head, 26. British title, 27. Wicked, 28. Diminish, 29. Matchless, 30. Communion table, 31. Bobbin, 33. Location, 34. XXXX, 35. Beers, 36. Depend, 38. Impertinent, 41. Euro forerunner, 42. Of an obscure nature, 44. Water barrier, 45. Throng, 46. French school, 47. Affirmatives, 48. A single time, 50. Tropical American wildcat, 51. Stink, 52. Novice, 53. Double-reed woodwind, 54. Peel, 55. Cheers.

Yesterday's Solution



aloof, anger, appropriate, astir, auspicious, aware, center, chant, coin, continual, crawl, dams, distant, doubt, duet, early, favor, feat, flesh, foolish, install, irate, island, magic, measure, mistress, motion, nabs, native, place, really, seal, slit, spurious, start, stock.

