

Kandahar Offensive Leave 35 Rebels Dead: Durani

KANDAHAR CITY - At least 35 insurgents have been killed and 40 others wounded during an operation in Shorawak district of southern Kandahar province, an official said on Wednesday.

The operation was headed by provincial police chief Brig. Gen. Abdul Raziq after a tip-off about militants' plot to attack the district.

Police spokesman Zia Durani told Pajhwok Afghan News hundreds of rebels had crossed the Durand Line to



Shorawak district and they planned to attack the district center.

An operation led by Abdul Raziq was launched before executed their design, he said, adding that the operation was also backed by the Afghan National Army (ANA) and air force. He said that 35 militants were killed and 40 others wounded as well as three vehicles of the rebels destroyed in the operation. Security forces suffered no casualties... (More on P4)...(17)

Insecurity Forces Protesters to Block Highway

KABUL - A number of angry protesters in Pul-I-Khumri, the capital of northern Baghlan province, on Wednesday blocked Kabul-Shamal Highway, against what they complained growing insecurity. Over 200 people gathered in Pul-I-Khumri City and said there was extraordinary peace and tranquility in the area but now the city was under rocket attacks that disrupted people's life. Some of them said that families stopped sending their children to schools due to insecurity. Nadera Nahrainwal, a civil society activist who participated in the rally, told Pajhwok Afghan News that children and women were facing

problems because of deteriorating law and order. She blamed local officials for paying no attention to ameliorate the situation. A day earlier, two women, three children and a man were wounded when two rockets landed in Pul-I-Khumri City. Two other rockets were also fired into the city last night but caused no casualties. A local elder Naeem Ghafari said insecurity had been increased because of differences among local officials. The militants have reached to the outskirts of the city and the acting governor was unable to improve law and order. He demanded the government to focus on security. (Pajhwok)

30 Rebels Eliminated in Helmand Raid

LASHKARGAH - At least 30 insurgents have been killed and 11 others wounded during security officials attack on Taliban training centre in the Sangin district of southern Helmand province, an official said on Wednesday.

Abdul Wadud Najrabi, commander of the 2nd infantry brigade, told Pajhwok Afghan News security forces raided militants' training centre Tuesday night in the Majid Chock locality and



destroyed their arms and ammunitions depot.

He said Taliban used the facility for training and dispatching fighters to other parts of the country.

Taliban Spokesman Qari Yousuf Ahmadi rejected casualties suffered by Taliban in the overnight fighting and claimed his group killed and wounded scores of security forces personnel in the past four days in Helmand. (Pajhwok)

No Letup in Taliban, Daesh Fight as 5 More Killed

JALALABAD - Clashes between Taliban insurgents and Islamic State (IS) or Daesh fighters in eastern Nangarhar province have left five more fighters dead, an official said on Wednesday.

Nauman Atifi, spokesman of the 201st Selab Military Corps in east, told Pajhwok Afghan news the clashes erupted Tuesday in Batkot district. The slain fighters, he added, were from both sides. Haji Ghaleb, Batkot administrative chief, said

three dead fighters belonged to Daesh, while two others were member of Taliban. The clashes, he said, had occurred in Kozi Chardehi locality. Ghaleb added Maulvi Abbas, a former Taliban commander, who had joined the Daesh ranks was arrested in yesterday's clashes by Taliban. The militants have not commented about the incident so far. Last month also in Achin and Spinghar district, the clashes between the two groups lasted for several days. (Pajhwok)

24 Passengers Wounded in Herat Road Mishap

HERAT CITY - At least 24 passengers were injured as a bus overturned on Herat-Kandahar Highway on Wednesday morning, an official said.

Herat governor's spokesman Ehsanullah Hayat told Pajhwok Afghan News that the accident took place when a 303 Model bus traveling from Herat to Kabul veered off the road in Meer Daud area of Guzra district of the province. He said that 24 people were wounded in the accident with three of the injured were in critical condition.

Hayat said that the accident occurred because of driver's reckless driving. (Pajhwok)

6 Militants Killed in Nangarhar Drone Strike

JALALABAD - Six rebels, including a dreaded commander, were killed in two drone strikes in eastern Kunar and Nuristan provinces, security officials said on Wednesday.

Col. Mohammad Noman Hatifi, spokesman for the 201st Selab Military Corps, told Pajhwok Afghan News a notorious insurgents' commander Maulvi Abdullah was killed by an unmanned drone assault in Wata Por district of eastern Kunar province.

Another missile strike took place in Want Waigal district of eastern Nuristan province, which left five militants, including Mullah Yunus, a leading commander, of the area. However, Taliban have not yet commented on the incidents. (Pajhwok)

Saddiq Al-Abbadi Pleads Guilty in US

WASHINGTON - Yemeni national Saddiq al-Abbadi, 40, who was engaged in a series of terrorist activities in Afghanistan on Tuesday guilty to the charges of conspiring to murder American nationals, the US Department of Justice said.

"He fought in battles against US troops in Iraq and Afghanistan, tried to kill US troops in



Afghanistan by luring them to a compound rigged with explosives, and helped an American citizen gain entry to al-Qaeda," Currie said. According to court filings, al-Abbadi traveled from his home country of Yemen to Iraq where, from approximately late 2005 through early 2007, he fought alongside... (More on P4)...(18)

Vital Bridge Opened for Traffic in Balkh



MAZAR-E-SHARIF - A new bridge has been opened in the village of Khwaja Burhan in Khulm district in northern Balkh province, a statement from the German Cooperation with Afghanistan said on Wednesday.

It said that the construction now connects 16 villages with the district centre and dwellers have now access to healthcare, schools, markets and administrative facilities. The bridge has been built at a cost of 16.8 million afghanis financed by the German govern-

ment.

The new 26-metre bridge is made of reinforced concrete, said Sayed Ibrar Hashimi, the district administrative chief while inaugurating the facility.

"This bridge, built with German support, addresses one of the real needs of residents here in Khulm," he noted.

The bridge was officially opened by Zabiullah Akhtari, Head of Sector Services of the Provincial Governor's Office, Eng. Abdul Basid Ainey, Director... (More on P4)...(19)

10 Rebels Killed, 25 Wounded in Herat Clashes

HERAT - At least 10 militants were killed and 25 others wounded during a clash in the Farsi district of eastern Herat province on Tuesday but Taliban claimed killing five Afghan National Army (ANA) personnel.

Abdul Rauf Ahmadi, police spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News insurgents had plan to launch coordinated attack on Farsi district center, but Afghan security forces repulsed the attack by launching operation.

At least 10 militants were killed and 25 others wounded during the offensive in Kotal Nakhodi and Do Aab villages of Farsi district, he added. He said eight motorcycles of fleeing militants were set on fire while some ammunition and weapons were seized in the operation. He said security forces suffered no casualties during the firefight. (Pajhwok)

Officials Arrange for Bodies of Police, Soldiers to be Returned Home

KABUL - Government has finalized arrangements to transport the bodies of 19 police officers and six soldiers to Lashkargah after they were killed in Monday's clash with insurgents in the northern parts of the country, officials said Thursday.

According to officials, 25 security force members were killed

along with dozens of insurgents in the Nawazad clash. Officials said coffins have been transported to Nawazad area where they will be used to deliver the bodies to the families of the deceased.

The incident took place after a number of Taliban insurgents attacked police and military posts in Nawazad, district po-

lice chief Nafas Khan said. The attack happened early Monday.

In the past week, Taliban insurgents attacked three areas in the north and the south of the province.

Officials however, did not comment on whether any civilians were injured or killed during the clash. (Tolonevs)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

If a recent disagreement with a friend or lover created feelings of distrust, you have an opportunity to heal the rift. Unfortunately, you could be accused of being negative if you attempt to address an uncomfortable subject. Thankfully, there's no need for complete resolution, speak your mind and move on. Your calm and rational approach demonstrates your willingness to compromise.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

You won't get the immediate results you seek, but you're likely to rationalize your behavior, nonetheless. However, if you stretch your thinking a bit, you can discover new ways to handle a recurring problem at work. Stepping back and re-prioritizing your responsibilities is a worthy use of your time but you're more comfortable keeping things the way they are now.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You're probably feeling slightly lackadaisical about making significant headway on a big project today. The evocative Moon in your 5th House of Spontaneity is busy hooking up with all the planets in happy-go-lucky Gemini, blessing you with an effervescent outlook on life. Enjoy the lighthearted energy now, since your playful approach to the day might surprisingly provide a generous boost in your productivity.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

You might try to keep your thoughts to yourself today, but somehow they escape from your lips anyway. However, it's critical to reconsider your message because your words pack more power these days than you realize. Fortunately, your clever mental agility combined with a strong conviction in your beliefs is an unbeatable recipe for success.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

These are cosmically auspicious times that can bring you closer to your goals if you're willing to stand up and walk your talk. Words seem to flow off your tongue smoothly when you tell people about your ideas for the future. But idle chatter becomes an endless distraction today, making it especially important to galvanize your thoughts into actions before your momentum fades.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

Taking care of the simplest tasks today may be more complicated than it appears at first. Thankfully, the Moon's current visit to your 2nd House of Resources supports your efforts to make the most of everything you do. Nevertheless, dig beneath the surface for missing pieces of information that might have significant consequences before signing an agreement or handing over any cash.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

You have a plethora of ingenious ideas that all seem worth pursuing today, but you can't turn every flash of inspiration into dramatic action. Rather than attempting to be a superhero, simply write down your most innovative thoughts, instead. Even the most amazing epiphanies could quickly fade back into the hidden depths of your unconscious if you don't fill in all the details.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

You may be able to clear up a lingering problem, even if it's been bothering you for a while. You could mix up your facts as trickster Mercury plays a wild card while retrograding through your 8th House of Transformation. Although you aren't normally inclined toward sloppy thinking, you are so focused on getting the right answers now that you could stumble in the process.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

Unresolved issues could sneak in amidst friendly gestures today as the diplomatic Libra Moon sashays through your 11th House of Groups, encouraging you to act graciously. Unfortunately, it's nearly impossible to tell if a topic is significant enough to address now or if it's only a temporary frustration. Thankfully, you can get away with taking the course of least resistance for a while, leaving the heavy lifting for some other day.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

You may be busily chasing your tail today without accomplishing very much at all. You might even revisit the very same pitfalls over and over again in your race to finish your work. Fortunately, you're able to shake up the dynamics by discussing your concerns with a trusted colleague. Participating in an honest dialogue about your objectives allows others to offer you valuable support.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

Your ability to conjure up the future of your choice is greatly heightened by the reflective Moon's presence in your 9th House of Adventure. Oddly enough, your current optimism encourages others to seek out your approval for their own dreams. Although you are pleased people are asking for your opinion, you're not sure why anyone thinks you know enough to give them advice now.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

You might think you're being completely rational today but your feelings are actually running the show. Ironically, you could use fancy rhetoric to demonstrate your analytical skills, only to become so emotionally charged that your message loses its impact. If you feel secure within the context of your own life, you don't have to share your process with everyone else.



Across

1. Deficiency, 5. Accumulate, 10. Pulp, 14. ___ vera, 15. Juliet's love, 16. Ancient Peruvian, 17. Consoling, 19. Loyal (archaic), 20. F, 21. Sows, 22. A keyboard instrument, 23. Hairdresser, 25. Less friendly, 27. Animal doctor, 28. Laws, 31. Step, 34. Gorillalike, 35. Derisive laugh, 36. Flightless bird, 37. Cache, 38. Countertenor, 39. Type, 40. Creepy, 41. Secret meeting, 42. Short film on current events, 44. Regret, 45. Long times, 46. Punishment, 50. Small slender gulls, 52. Make fun of, 54. Mineral rock, 55. Probabilities, 56. Belonging to the past, 58. Leer at, 59. Not outer, 60. Train track, 61. Lock openers, 62. Excrete.

Down

1. Shoestrings, 2. In the sky, 3. Comfortable, 4. Hemp, 5. Apprehend, 6. Sacred song, 7. Among, 8. Irritable, 9. Soak, 10. Environment, 11. Uncanny, 12. Glance over, 13. Angel's headwear, 18. Willow, 22. Gist, 24. 57 in Roman numerals, 26. Carryall, 28. Go bad, 29. Dines, 30. Fired a weapon, 31. An outer surface, 32. Scrabble piece, 33. Ungracefully, 34. Apprehending, 37. Adolescent, 38. District, 40. God of love, 41. Channel selector, 43. Detects, 44. Vacation destination, 46. Anagram of "Paste", 47. Neighborhood, 48. Path, 49. Shouts, 50. Swiped, 51. Border, 53. Feudal worker, 56. Hasten, 57. Fury.

Yesterday's Solution

amend, arrives, assumes, badger, bonus, celery, census, comfortable, comic, deer, denied, deride, detail, doubt, draft, driven, either, empty, enforce, exist, fees, front, funds, jade, mends, nurse, paste, pavement, proportion, rebels, roof, rude, severe, source, taken, taxes, tower.

