

15 Militants Killed, 13 Injured in Baghlan: Official

PUL-E-KHUMRI - Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) backed by airpower have killed and injured more than two dozen Taliban militants in Baghlan-e-Markazi district of the northern Baghlan province with Pul-e-Khumri as its capital 160 km north of Kabul over the past two days, a local official said Saturday. "Up to 15 Taliban rebels have been killed and 13 others injured in Baghlan-e-Markazi district since Friday morning," district governor Gohar Khan Babri told Xinhua. Several villages have also been liberated from Taliban clutches, the official added. Without commenting on possible casualties



of security personnel, the official stressed that the militants have fled away. The deputy to provincial police chief, Rashid Bashir, has also confirmed the clash in Baghlan-e-Markazi districts of Baghlan province, contending that no security personnel has been hurt over the past 24 hours. Taliban insurgents have been wiped out from some 10 villages, the official asserted. The armed Taliban militants haven't commented. However, locals said that dozens of houses and hundreds of acres of farmlands have been destroyed or badly damaged due to fighting in the area. (Xinhua)

Notorious Taliban Commander Killed in Herat

HERAT CITY - A notorious Taliban local commander was killed in western Herat province and a public uprising commander survived a roadside bombing separately in northwestern Faryab, officials said on Saturday. Jilani Farhad, Herat governor's spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News security forces besieged a notorious Taliban commander's hideout in Karimabad village of Guzara district on Saturday at about 8:00am.

He said both the sides exchanged fire for six hours and finally the commander, Abdul, and his son were killed and a policeman was also killed and four other security personnel were wounded. In Faryab, a vehicle carrying a former Junbish commander and current public uprising commander, Mohammad Qul alias Kul Haji, hit a roadside bomb on the way to Andkhai district from Qarghan district. ...*(More on P4)...(10)*

Five Militants Killed in Airstrike

KABUL - At least five militants were killed in an airstrike in Afghanistan's eastern Kunar province, which was carried out targeting a hideout of the militants in Ghaziabad district. The Ministry of defense confirmed that five militants were killed and their hideout was destroyed, while another terrorist was arrested in Khogyani district of Nangarhar, reports Khaama Press. So far, the anti-government armed militant groups have not commented regarding the reports. The Afghan forces have stepped up counter-terrorism operations in the region to suppress the militants as they attempt to increase terrorist attacks. (ANI)

Couple Shot Dead in Kunar Capital: Police Chief

ASADABAD - A couple has been shot dead by unidentified gunmen in eastern Kunar province, an official said on Saturday. The overnight shooting occurred in the Karhala village on the outskirts of Asadabad, the provincial capital, the Kunar police chief said. Brig. Gen. Abdul Haseeb Syedkhel told Pajhwok Afghan News the gunmen entered a civilian house in the village and killed the couple. He said ...*(More on P4)...(11)*

Clashes Erupt Between Afghan, Sudanese Migrants in France

PARIS - Violent clashes erupted between Afghan and Sudanese migrants at a makeshift camp, where several huts were set alight, a media report said. Up to 400 migrants began fighting on Thursday afternoon near a food distribution point, though the cause of the standoff was yet to be established, AP reported. It quoted police official Steve Barbet as saying 40 people were wounded in the violence, but none was in critical condition. The migrants also burnt some of the makeshift huts. But scores of firefighters moved quickly to put



out extinguished the fire and there were no injuries. Police have started an inquiry into the incidents. French authorities believe some 4,000 people live in the Calais camp, but NGOs suggest the numbers are far higher. (Pajhwok)

Helmand Youth Run to Promote Peace

LASHKARGAH - Over 100 youth took part in a marathon in Nawa district in Helmand to promote peace and security in the province. The organizers of the event said they conveyed the message of peace to villages in their district and that they are tired of war and want permanent peace in Afghanistan. "We want to deliver the message of peace to residents of this district and we want to make the villagers aware about peace. We want an end to insecurity in the country," said Jawed Ahmadi, a resident of Helmand. Another resident of the province, Sayed Gul, said: "We have lots of messages on peace. We want to send all of them to every corner of Hel-



mand. We want to say no to war. We want peace. All Afghans should leave no stone unturned to maintain peace and security in Afghanistan." Meanwhile, Nawa district chief Aka Mohammad Takra said they will use all their efforts to ensure security in the district and provide a safe environment for daily activities of the young generation. "We welcome this move by Helmand athletes and youth. We will help them in this regard and we will try to ensure a lasting peace and security in the country," he added. (Tolonews)

Haqqani Network Suicide Bomber Shot Dead in Kabul

KABUL - A suicide bomber belonging to the Haqqani terrorist network was shot dead by the Afghan intelligence operatives in capital Kabul. The National Directorate of Security (NDS) said the would-be suicide bomber was shot dead before he manage to reach to his target. NDS said the man was wearing a suicide bombing vest but there are no reports regarding the exact location where the bomber was looking to

carry out an attack. This comes as the US Embassy in Kabul earlier issued a security alert warning its citizens regarding militants planning attacks in the city. "The U.S. Embassy in Kabul continues to receive reports of militants planning unspecified attacks in Kabul City and elsewhere in Afghanistan against locations and individuals with potential American connections," the alert by ...*(More on P4)...(12)*

Drone Strikes Played Key Role in Suppressing ISIS Activities

KABUL - The local officials in eastern Nangarhar province have said drone strikes have played a role in suppressing the activities of the loyalists of Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) terrorist group in Achin district. The district administrative chief Ghalib Mujahid has said the group has received major blows in this district during the recent months and their activities have become limited by a large extent. He said the loyalists are the terror group are targeted on daily basis both



the Afghan forces and the US forces. Mujahid further added that the terror group loses around 5 to 10 militants on daily basis as a result of the counter-terrorism operations. According to Mujahid, the drone strikes have mainly targeted the hideouts and centers of the terror group which they had established in this district. Achin was once a stronghold of the loyalists of ...*(More on P4)...(13)*

Balkh Court Attack: Bribe Sought from Victim to Get Govt. Aid

MAZAR-I-SHARIF - One of the families, who lost relatives to a coordinated Taliban attack on a court complex in northern Balkh province last year, alleges the officials concerned are demanding bribe in return for giving them the government assistance. The attack that lasted seven hours in Mazar-i-Sharif left 21 people dead and another 76 injured in April 2015. The attack also partially destroyed the appellant court's building and its

archives. Families of the victims and public representatives blame police for failing to prevent the incident and say the assistance so far given to the affected families is equal to nothing. Provincial security officials say one police officer has been arrested for negligence but investigation into all aspects of the attack is still ongoing. Abdul Manan, a resident of Mazar-i-Sharif, said he lost his 37-year-old son Abdul Qayum to ...*(More on P4)...(14)*

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

You love the idea of socializing with your friends yet you may discover that their interests are vastly different from yours today. At first, you're ready to head out on your own instead of modifying your plans for the sake of harmony. Nevertheless, it's smarter to soften your stance and consider acquiescing to the needs of others.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

Although the process of realization takes a while, it begins to dawn on you that you don't have to handle your regular load of responsibilities today. You still may spend time thinking about moneymaking opportunities, but you grow less concerned with material success throughout the day. Instead of trying to get ahead of the pack.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You can talk your way around nearly anything as long as you aren't swept up in a rising tide of emotions. But once you become attached to a certain outcome, you can't see the myriad of possibilities that are right in front of your face. Don't settle for the path of least resistance now; you need to stand up and fight for what's rightfully yours. On one hand, you must be resolute when it comes to getting what you need.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

You may feel like a Crab out of water until the Moon floats into fishy Pisces later in the day. However, you're not interested in being limited by the synchronized swimming of all the other fish in the school. You're craving something entirely new and different without really caring if you're out of step with everyone else.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

Friends and relatives seem to be pushing your buttons today, and it's almost as if they're doing it on purpose. However, upon closer examination it becomes readily apparent that the real issue lies within you and not anyone else. Stop fighting against the prevailing winds; your life grows simpler when you are wise enough to discern the difference between those things that can and cannot be changed.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

Everyone seems to think that you will continue marching to your own drummer and they assume you aren't interested in conforming to the consensus of the group. Although you might ruffle some feathers with your eclectic behavior today, there is an admirable precision to your actions. Your tendency is to explain your strategy in great detail, but all that talk won't help your case now.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

Sometimes saying no to a social invitation is essential for your emotional well-being, especially if there are specific things you wish to accomplish. Instead of falling into the trap of getting lost in someone else's agenda today, decide early in the day what you want to achieve and commit to making it happen. The feeling of deep satisfaction you will derive from following through with your plan will leave you smiling for days.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

A flurry of events shifts the spotlight to your relationship with your outer world. Although you may be content running errands and crossing things off your list now, you secretly long for a break in all the action. Thankfully, you'll get your chance later today if you're willing to prioritize your tasks so you can spend some time in quiet contemplation.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

Relationship tension is slowly building as you try to balance your needs with the desires of others. It's frustrating when your personal goals conflict with the wishes of someone you love. Rather than trying to smooth over the rough spots today, speak from the heart about the things that matter most to you. However, you must also take the time to listen to someone else's story, too.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

You might feel as if you're being pulled in several different directions at once. Unfortunately, you don't do well when there is no concrete plan in place. Even if someone is annoyed at your need for a detailed schedule, map out your day the best you can. Nevertheless, circumstances could change and your evening may still take you down an unexpected path.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

Making up your mind is not the easiest thing to do today. In fact, you might surprise everyone with how quickly you can change your stripes. However, any uncertainty you experience during the day could vanish in an instant when the lightning strikes and you see the ultimate truth. This kind of "aha" experience can be a profound moment, but avoid trying to explain your epiphany to everyone else.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

It may seem as if your weekend is being hijacked because you have so much work to do this morning. Thankfully, your busyness will pay off sooner than you expect if you are strategic with your schedule. However, you need to take charge in order to make something special happen. Although you might not feel ready to relax until nighttime, the high level of mental and social stimulation acts as a tonic for your soul.

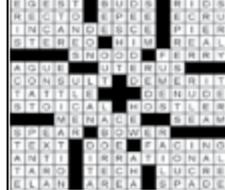
Across

- 1. Castrated male chicken, 6. Anagram of "Cabs", 10. Warbled, 14. Without company, 15. Forearm bone, 16. Decorative case, 17. Small slits, 18. Kettles, 19. Anagram of "Star", 20. Supposition, 22. Fog, 23. Indian dress, 24. Literary compositions, 26. Spike, 30. Barbie's beau, 31. Explosive, 32. Arab chieftain, 33. Hens make them, 35. Got up, 39. A member of the Cosa Nostra, 41. Thirstily, 43. They make wool, 44. Ride the waves, 46. Clairvoyant, 47. Henpeck, 49. Hemp, 50. Fizzy drink, 51. Pamper, 54. Module, 56. Wicked, 57. Repose, 63. Accomplished, 64. Hemorrhaged, 65. Metaphor or hyperbole, 66. Beers, 67. Small island, 68. Ballet skirts, 69. Fishing poles, 70. Dregs, 71. It makes.

Down

- 1. Money, 2. Friend, 3. Defecate, 4. Savvy about, 5. Homes for birds, 6. Conscience, 7. Conclusion, 8. Against, 9. Breed of hound, 10. Dressmaker, 11. Courtyards, 12. Bonkers, 13. Central points, 21. Cod-like fishes, 25. Catch, 26. Precious stones, 27. Nursemaid, 28. A small high-pitched flute, 29. Excluded from a society, 34. Sings (to attract), 36. Chocolate cookie, 37. Sleigh, 38. Tropical American wildcat, 40. Iridescent gem, 42. Append, 45. A small guitar, 48. Type of pet rodent, 51. A type of tree, 52. Convex molding, 53. Ate, 55. Shabby, 58. If not, 59. Not false, 60. Greek letter, 61. Creative work, 62. Where a bird lives.

Yesterday's Solution



abdomen, advice, ambulance, antics, beers, between, clear, closure, couple, dale, design, doctor, elephant, famous, first, former, kale, lees, little, maid, manager, parent, pastes, press, pride, prime, pursue, rant, retreat, shrink, speak, special, spike, stop, tooth.

