

# 14 Taliban Militants Killed in Helmand Clashes

LASHKARGAH - Fourteen Taliban militants were killed and seven others wounded during clashes with security forces in different parts of the southern Helmand province, an official said on Wednesday. Governor's spokesman Omar Zwak told Pajhwok Afghan News the clashes took place in Bolan area of Lashkargah, the provincial capital, and in Marjah



district, leaving 14 militants dead and seven others wounded on Tuesday night. Five policemen were also wounded during the firefights, the gubernatorial spokesman said. However, Taliban spokesman Qari Yusuf Ahmadi claimed the fighters killed 23 police in Bolan and Manaf Khan localities of Lashkargah. (Pajhwok)

## Paktia War-Affected Families Receive Aid

GARDEZ - The Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARC) on Wednesday distributed food and non-food items among 275 war-affected families in southeastern Paktia province, the society said. The provincial ARC office said the assistance was given to families who had been displaced by the conflict from Janikhel district. The families had suffered heavy financially losses. Deputy Governor Abdul Wali Sahmi, who distributed the aid, told Pajhwok



Afghan News the assistance included cooking oil, rice, tea, beans, sugar and soap worth three million afghanis. He thanked the ARC office for the assistance and urged other charities help the Janikhel war-affected families. Ziarat Gul Khan Mangal, a resident of Janikhel district, said he was happy with the aid. (Pajhwok)

## 16 Criminals Held in Kapisa, 3 Taliban Killed in Nangarhar

JALALABAD / MAHMOOD RAQI - Sixteen criminals have been arrested and three Taliban militants killed in eastern Nangarhar and central Kapisa provinces, officials said on Wednesday. Kapisa police spokesman Naqibullah Amini told Pajhwok Afghan News the 16 detainees, accused of different crimes, included two policemen. Separately, three Taliban rebels were killed during a clash with security forces in Rodat district of Nangarhar province.



Governor spokesman Attuallah Khogyani identified the slain militants as Mualvi Noor Wali, Toor and Safyee. He said a 10-year-old boy had escaped from Daesh captivity in Haska Mena district and reached a police post. (Pajhwok)

## Teenage Girl Commits Suicide in Jawzjan

SHIBERGHAN - A 17-year-old girl has committed suicide in the Mangajak district of northern Jawzjan province, an official said on Wednesday. Governor Spokesman Mohammad Reza Ghafori told Pajhwok Afghan News the teenage was found hanged in her room Tuesday night. She was recently engaged. He said the mother of dead girl managed to bring her body down from the rope to which she was hanged before security official reached the scene. She committed suicide in a separate room when all other members of the family went to sleep. Ghafori added investigation had been launched while security official could not find a clue which could determine

the reason behind her suicide. Magfirat Samimi, head of the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC) for Jawzjan, doubted the decision of her engagement might have been against her choice and for this reason she committed suicide. She said girls did not commit suicide without reason, adding there might have been some sort of violence had taken place against the dead girl after which she had no choice but to hang herself. She said it was up to security officials to investigate such cases and disclose the reasons behind this case. Nine girls and women have committed suicide in Jawzjan and seven others had been killed so far this year. (Pajhwok)

## 2 Haqqani Militants Arrested

KABUL - Two members of Haqqani militant group had been captured following a special operation in Khost province, the command of Afghan Special Forces said Wednesday. "On Monday, one local commander of Haqqani network and one operational planner of the group were detained by Afghan Special Operation Forces in surrounding areas of Khost province," the command

said in a statement. The captured men were responsible for several direct attacks against Afghan security forces in the province, 150 km southeast of Kabul, the statement said without revealing the name of the detainees. As a Taliban-linked group of militants, the Haqqani network mostly operating in eastern provinces and capital Kabul, has been ... (More on P4)... (12)

## 4 Terrorists Arrest in Nimroz

ZARANJ/FEROZKOH - Police have arrested four suspected terrorists in southwestern Nimroz province and killed seven militants in western Ghor province, officials said on Wednesday. Nimroz Police Chief Brig. Gen. Ghulam Jilani Abubakar told Pajhwok Afghan News four terrorists who were allegedly involved in the killing of security officials and landmine plantation in Dilaram district had been arrested. He said the individuals were held Tuesday evening by police in the main bazaar of Dilaram district. A landmine with remote control, one Kalashnikov and a pistol was recovered from the ... (More on P4)... (13)

## 10 Taliban, 5 Police Killed in Ghazni Violence

GHAZNI CITY - A fresh bout of violence has left at least 10 Taliban militants and five police dead and another five militants wounded in southern Ghazni province, an official said on Wednesday. Col. Asadullah Shajae, the provincial deputy police chief, told Pajhwok Afghan News that armed militants and security forces clashed separately in Khwaja Omari, Zankhan and Maqur districts late on Tuesday night.



Six Taliban were killed in Khwaja Omari and three in Maqur districts and another five militants were wounded, he said. A separate clash in Zankhan district between Taliban and security forces had no casualties on either side but later in the same area a landmine blast killed ... (More on P4)... (14)



Members of Afghan Special Forces show their certificates during a graduation ceremony in Kabul. About 800 trainees of Afghan Special Forces graduated on Wednesday after completion of a 16-week training course. (Xinhua/Rahmat Alizadah)

### Outlook Horoscope

#### Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

You are boarding a fast train to the future only to discover that it stops at every station along the way. Emails and voicemails flood your inboxes today as energetic Mars rushes into intelligent Aquarius and your 11th House of Social Networking. However, just as you find your groove, stern Saturn appears to take your ticket and demands that your papers are in order.

#### Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

You are driven to excel in your career now, but might find making progress is more complicated than you prefer. You may visualize what success looks like but each step you take toward your destination seems to be blocked by circumstances beyond your control. Fortunately, you possess the ability to quickly change the dynamics by changing the rules of the game.

#### Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Doors are opening, showing you all the places you would like to go. Although distant horizons appear closer now that action-hero Mars charges into your 9th House of Faraway Places, obstacles pop up in your mind as fast as you can imagine your next adventure. Fortunately, you have time to make your dreams come true if your willpower is operating at full strength.

#### Cancer (June 21-July 20)

The dynamics of interpersonal relationships are harder to untangle now because your need for emotional connection conflicts with a growing desire for independence. Modifying your behavior prevents you from finding yourself back in a similar position down the road. Assertive Mars enters intellectual Aquarius today, allowing you to see your personal drama more objectively.

#### Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

Your attention is drawn away from your center and toward others now. However, a powerful undercurrent places a firm grip on your enthusiasm, preventing you from being washed away by the excitement of so many options. People seem more determined than ever to support your dreams while stabilizing Saturn grounds warrior Mars.

#### Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

A new assignment may require a period of adjustment, so don't expect smooth sailing now. You are longing for a taste of freedom which inevitably increases the overall tension on your job. Although you might overreact by doing something extreme, there are brilliant solutions available that can produce positive change without needless disruption. Buried resentment could surface and undermine trust.

#### Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

It's rather annoying when prior commitments stop you from following your heart's desire. Passionate Mars blasts your 5th House of Spontaneity, motivating you to take charge of your day by making it more fun. However, your inner child is restrained by stern Saturn in the form of a parent, your boss or some other authority figure who demands that you meet your obligations before you do anything else.

#### Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

You're driven to share the truth today without concern for the consequences. You are cleansed from your past experiences while impulsive Mars moves through your 4th House of Foundations, empowering you to tackle what's next as long as you start with the basics.

#### Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

You're running around faster than ever today yet you struggle to accomplish even the simplest of tasks. You are incredibly busy thanks to powerhouse Mars's shift into high-frequency Aquarius and your 3rd House of Immediate Environment. But things are not what you expect, especially if you jump to conclusions before having all the facts.

#### Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

Your focus is redirected to personal gains today. You might be thinking how you can increase your income, improve a relationship or gain new freedom at work. However, obstacles block your path to emotional satisfaction now. You may believe you need to attend a boring social function for the sake of appearances. Thankfully, you have a choice; you're not required to fake a happy face while ignoring your own needs.

#### Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

It's nearly impossible to contain your excitement today. However, you quickly figure out how to keep cool so you don't shock people with your unorthodox behavior. You can feel the conflict internally as aggressive Mars enters your sign, prodding you into action. However, an unavoidable connection from strict Saturn threatens radical behavior with unwanted consequences.

#### Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

Your head and heart are wide open today, putting you in touch with multiple dimensions beyond this one. Keep in mind that the current cosmic pattern isn't great for self-restraint and common sense. In fact, you're able to justify irrational actions now and may prefer to leave reality in the dust. However, it's your job to find inspiration and encourage others to recognize the metaphysical magic behind the facade of the material world.

#### Across

1. Satisfy, 5. Office worker, 10. Extent, 14. Snip, 15. Bog hemp, 16. Meal in a shell, 17. Renunciation, 19. Mining finds, 20. Mist, 21. Stave off, 22. An edict of the Russian tsar, 23. An appliance for frozen food, 25. Fertile areas, 27. Hanking, 28. Having a higher rank, 31. American retailer, 34. Show-off, 35. Letter after sigma, 36. Constellation bear, 37. Aquatic mammals, 38. Collections, 39. Dawn goddess, 40. Covered with protective barbs, 41. Sheriff's group, 42. Earthquake waves, 44. Altitude (abbrev.), 45. Fable writer, 46. A person who disputes, 50. Put out, 52. French for "Man", 54. Fuss, 55. Narrow opening, 56. A young unmarried woman (archaic), 58. Wash, 59. Mountain crest, 60. Pigeon.

#### Down

1. Stave, 2. Bower, 3. Slight color, 4. An uncle, 5. Cowardly, 6. Not earlier, 7. Arab chieftain, 8. Exuberantly, 9. Cognizance, 10. Writer of "Dracula", 11. Leeches, 12. Air force heroes, 13. Schnozzola, 18. Stares, 22. End \_\_, 24. Tropical American wildcat, 26. Mimics, 28. Rise rapidly, 29. Horse feed, 30. Ploy, 31. Cooking fat, 32. God of love, 33. Soothing, 34. Outer boundary, 37. Japanese wrestling, 38. Drunkards, 40. Headquarters, 41. Layers, 43. Spay, 44. Battalions, 46. Overact, 47. Claw, 48. Stagnated, 49. Female students, 50. Small island, 51. Shredded cabbage, 53. Portent, 56. Father, 57. French for "Summer".

#### Yesterday's Solution



accident, breed, buckle, companion, corn, course, cousin, definition, entrance, exact, filter, flight, human, inch, item, joint, lightning, married, music, neat, night, noise, pardon, parent, party, power, price, rasp, report, shows, stain, state, thank, toast, tough.

