

NATO Commander Gen. Scott Miller Arrives in Ghazni Province



8 Civilians Killed in Logar Night Raid

PUL-I-ALAM - Eight civilians, including women and children, have been killed during a night raid in Mohammad Agha district of central Logar province, local residents claimed on Wednesday.

Azizullah, a tribal elder from the Ab Bazak locality, told Pajhwok Afghan News Afghan security forces conducted a raid on Maulvi Malang's house on Tuesday night. He said eight members of Malang's family, including women and children, were killed during the night raid.

"The residents of locality came together, blocked the Kabul-Logar highway for an hour but later security forces interfered and forced the people to reopen the road," he said.

According to Azizullah Maulvi Malang is the prayer leader of a mosque in the area and had no links with the Taliban or any other militant group.

District Chief Noor Mohammad Obaidi said last night Afghan forces conducted raid in the Ab Bazak locality.

"The resident of locality claimed that eight members of Maulvi Malang had been killed in the night raid so I came to the provincial capital along with local elders to explore the matter," he said.

Taliban Spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said Afghan and US forces raided a prayer leader's house in the Ab Bazak locality in Mohammad Agha district last night. Mujahid claimed 20 civilians were killed during the raid. (Pajhwok

GHAZNI - The Commander of the NATO-led Resolute Support Mission Gen. Scott Miller arrived in southeastern Ghazni province of Afghanistan earlier yesterday.

The provincial government media office in a short statement said Gen. Miller arrived in Ghazni province on Wednesday morning. The local authorities have not disclosed further information in this regard but reports say Gen. Miller has met with the provincial governor Wahidullah Kalimzai and some other provincial officials.

Gen. Miller who is also in command of the U.S. forces in Afghanistan, has arrived in Ghazni province at a time when heavy clashes are underway in some districts of the province.

The Taliban militants launched numerous attacks in Jaghoori and Malistan districts of Ghazni province during the recent weeks which have inflicted casualties



both on security forces and ordinary civilians. Ghazni is among the relatively volatile provinces in Southeastern parts of the country where the Taliban militants are active in some of its districts often carry out attacks against the government and security institutions. (KP)

Saffron Processing Factory in Herat to Hire 700 Women

HERAT - An Afghan businessman has invested USD 2 million to open a saffron processing factory in western Herat province.

The factory will offer job to 700 women at the plant.

Provincial Agriculture Director Abdul Saboor Rahmani said the factory was located at a convenient location for farmers to bring their saffron to sell and collect their money.

The factory processes and packages saffron before exporting to foreign countries.

In its initial stages, the factory will purchase 600 kilogram of saffron from farmers and will export to foreign countries after processing and packaging in the



factory. Haji Qasim Alkozai, owner of the factory, said he established the facility after investing two million dollars. (Wadsam)

NDS Personnel Find Missing Biometric Device in Paktika

SHARANA - A public representative on Wednesday claimed intelligence operations had found a missing biometric device in southeastern Paktika province, but yet to share information about it with the media.

The Provincial Council chief, Bakhtyar Gul Zadran, told Pajhwok Afghan News that National Directorate of Security (NDS) personnel had found a biometric device.

"The NDS should provide information as from which candidate the device was captured and from where," he added. He said the candi-

date who had stolen the device should be exposed. However, Paktiak NDS department ... (More on P4)...(9)



Experiment Show Helmand Climate Best for Tangor, Kinnow

LASHKARGAH - Thousands of Tangor and Kinnow saplings would be planted next years in southern Helmand province as the preliminary tests of the trees produced positive results, an official said on Wednesday.

Agriculture Director Zalmai Aloko told Pajhwok Afghan News scientific examinations showed the fruit produced positive result in the Helmand.

He said thousands of Tangor and Kinnow fruits had been planted in the Bolan Experimental Farm

which would be distributed to farmers in the spring.

"Tangor and Kinnow could be a good alternative to poppy because it consumed little water and produce huge yield," he said.

In addition, he said besides date orchards, plans had been made for development of cumin farms.

Najibullah, a farmer from the Nad Ali district, said he had transplanted Kinnow and Tangor trees last year and produced positive yield.

He added his father advised him not to grow poppy ... (More on P4)...(10)



Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



A number of social invitations could come your way today, possibly connected with groups you're affiliated with. Accept as many as you can handle, Aries; you should have a wonderful time, learn much that fascinates you, and make some new friends. A surprise encounter with a friend or your romantic partner could bring you closer together.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



The latest equipment might suddenly be available to you. It's likely to make life easier and more interesting. It could also open doors to make new friends and find new opportunities. Increased income is also a possibility. You could stumble on some surprising information, Taurus, and this could set your mind going in a new direction.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



Friends or a group could bring new and exciting information your way, perhaps involving career or educational opportunities. You might explore combining artistic talents with modern technology. Invitations to related social events could follow. Accept as many as you can, Gemini. They could make a difference in your personal, professional, and creative lives.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



Today you could decide to host a party or meeting in your home. You're likely to expect a lot of visitors. This should be an exciting occasion, Cancer, and you could go out of your way to make this the best event possible. It will probably be worth it. This event could bring people and information your way that make a big difference to you.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



Vast amounts of information could come to you through email or phone. Expect to hear from groups. You could make new friends, Leo, possibly in your neighborhood, as changes could be taking place in your community. You could hear of classes you want to take. Books or magazines may bring valuable information.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



- Have you been thinking about expanding your computer skills? If so, this is the day to do it. You're likely to discover a lot of valuable information, as well as shortcuts for accomplishing your goals. Happiness reigns in the home as family members exchange a lot of new and interesting ideas. This could be a very gratifying day in a lot of ways, Virgo.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



Social events, possibly involving groups, could put you in touch with knowledgeable people who could provide valuable information. You might decide to go back to school or otherwise advance your education. Technology could play a large part in all this, Libra, so it might be a good idea to work on your computer skills and bring them up to snuff.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



Today your mind might be on social and political issues. If you aren't currently involved with groups dealing with these issues, you might consider joining one. A recent increase in income might have given you some extra time, and you may be excited about the possibilities. Service to others is one, Scorpio. Consider some others,

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



- Information could come your way today that starts you thinking about new and revolutionary ideas. Perhaps they involve modern technology or social and political issues. Opportunities to meet new friends who share your interests could come through group activities. You should be feeling especially curious and optimistic about the future, Sagittarius, and whatever exchanges with others you have are likely to set your mind buzzing.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan.19)



Unusual and unexpected opportunities to better your career could come to you today through friends. These friends could provide you with valuable information about making maximum use of your skills, Capricorn. Efficiency could get a boost from technology. Expect a number of interesting communications, all bringing good news.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

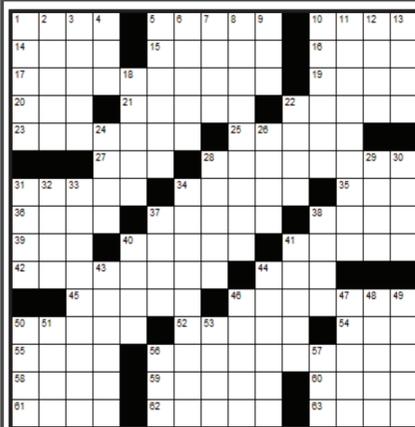


The possibility of taking a trip by air could present itself today. The trip might be made with friends or a group. If you've been working on projects connected with education or publishing, this is the day to move them forward. Books, TV, and the Internet could bring interesting, valuable information your way. This promises to be a busy, stimulating day.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



The possibility to advance your career through increasing your technological skills may present itself today. This could open doors for you in a lot of directions, paving the way for increased income. A number of new contacts could come into your life, bringing friendship and opportunities. This is the day to work on building your skills and possibly return to school.



Across

- Stooge, 5. Autumn color, 10. Salt Lake state, 14. Dwarf buffalo, 15. Sing like Bing, 16. Andean country, 17. Exceedingly harmful, 19. Agitated state, 20. Years (French), 21. Chunks, 22. Outbuildings, 23. Barren, 25. Dialect, 27. "Dig in!", 28. Brandy glasses
- Extra, 34. Anxiety, 35. "The Matrix" hero, 36. Benefit, 37. Flower holder, 38. Immediately, 39. Australian bird, 40. Have another go at, 41. Irritates, 42. Jingle, 44. Flipper
- Inexperienced, 46. Curl, 50. Caught a glimpse of, 52. Found on old phones, 54. "Maria", 55. Celestial bear, 56. Music director, 58. Decomposes, 59. Loosen, as laces, 60. Lairs, 61. To be, in old Rome, 62. Endured, 63. Blind (poker),

Down

- Dads, 2. Concerning, 3. More bad, 4. Indian bread, 5. Supernatural, 6. Illegal activity
- A rigid circular band, 8. In a stirring manner, 9. Ensign (abbrev.), 10. Gist, 11. Run-down apartment houses, 12. Dry, 13. Shacks
- Homeric epic, 22. Sieve, 24. Need a bath badly
- Data holder, 28. Tangle, 29. Drunkards, 31. Acted like, 32. Audition tape, 33. Pharmacists, 34. Assistant, 37. Arid, 38. Caroled
- Anagram of "Deer", 41. Dentist's action, 43. Lubricating oil, 44. Repleted, 46. AM/FM device, 47. Burdened, 48. Affair
- Breviloquent, 50. Certain, 51. They're paid to play, 53. Moving within, 56. Public transit vehicle, 57. American Dental Association,

Yesterday's Solution

CHARM WEDS DUST
LANAI OTTIE TINTO
ALONG RUSH SPIN
DENTIFRICE TINS
DEEPLY CRUEL
RALLY SAIL PLANE
ESSE BORN AWAY
EYE BALLED STICRE
TALU STRIT TWISE
MESA STITIS
HIFT FOUR EASED
EDITURNS RILED
ESNE LOGE SITEING

attach, bread, beef, breed celebrated, check dialect dirty, disgraceful, dislike drone, dull, dunce, exalt, explain futile, future, glacial, graph hatred, humble, image loiter, needy, nurse,

