

# Al-Qaeda Operatives Deploying to Zabul Districts: Officials Warn

QALAT - Zabul police headquarters on Thursday said there are clear indications that militants affiliated to the al-Qaeda terrorist network are deploying in Arghandab, Dai Chopan and Khak-e-Afghan districts of the province. Members of Zabul provincial council warned that the resurgence of these militants in the province is posing serious threats to national security. According to Zabul police chief, movements by the militant group initially



started six months ago. "They are in Khak-e-Afghan area including Dai Chopan and some other remote regions, Al-Qaeda or Daesh operatives, whatever you call them, foreigners exist there," said Mirwais Khan Noorzai, Zabul police chief. Local officials have asked the government to take action so that these insurgents do not infiltrate other provinces. "Currently they exist in five districts, in recent times ... (More on P4)...(16)

## Faryab Commander Paying for Drug Addicts' Rehabilitation



MAIMANA - An uprising commander in the Balcheragh district of northwestern Faryab province has picked dozens of drug addicts from streets for rehabilitation at his personal expense. Residents of the district welcomed the action of Commander Khafoor, acknowledging a decline in robbery cases after the addicts' admission to rehabilitation centres. Mohammad Amin, head of agricultural cooperative society in Balcheragh, told Pajhwok Afghan News people were tired of robberies committed by drug addicts, who stole wood, doors ... (More on P4)...(18)

## Chilly Weather Kills About 20 Children

SHIBERGHAN - At least 20 Afghan children died due to chilly and unfriendly weather in Jawzjan province over the past two days, a local official said Thursday. "As many as 20 innocent children died due to freezing weather in Darzab District, Jawzjan province over the past two days," Abdul Rahman Mahmoodi, deputy to provincial governor, told reporters. The victims belonged to the Internally Displaced People (IDP) who fled their homes due to clashes between security forces and Taliban insur-

gents in the neighboring Sari Pul province in recent months, the official added. More than 1,600 IDP families have been living in schools, mosques, abandoned buildings and even in open areas in the district, Halima Sadaf, a member of the provincial council, told Xinhua earlier on Thursday. Moreover, she noted that some of the ill-fated children have died due to winter-related diseases. Over the last two months, 95,000 Afghan families have become internally displaced and



been forced to flee their homes as fighting occurred in several Afghan provinces, according to officials. The mountainous northern Afghan provinces have received its first snowfall since Monday. (Xinhua)

## Insurgency Claims 6 Lives, Wounds 15 in Nangarhar

JALALABAD - The ongoing Afghan insurgency and violent incidents including mortar fire and bomb blasts have claimed six lives including two innocent children and injured 15 others in the eastern Nangarhar and the neighboring Laghman provinces since Thursday, officials said Friday. In the latest aggressive attack, the armed militants detonated a remote-controlled bomb next to the residence of a senior police official in Jalalabad city the capital of the eastern Nangarhar province Friday morning killing him and a child and injuring six more children, some in critical condition. "The blast occurred behind the gate of the house of a police official Abdul Hakim who was in charge of detention center in Nangarhar province at around 10:50 a.m. local time today killing him along with a child and injuring six more children," provincial administration spokesman Attaullah Khogiani told Xinhua. Three more police also sustained injuries as a sticky bomb targeted their van in Jalalabad city on Friday, police said. A similar ... (More on P4)...(17)

## Road Accident Kills 1, Wounds 18 in Lashkargah

LASHKARGAH - At least one person was killed and 18 others injured as a passenger suddenly diverted from its way in the western Helmand province on Friday, spokesman for provincial government Omar Zawak said. According to the official, the reckless driving of the driver in the congested road caused the accident and a woman lost his life on the spot; while 18 others including women and children sustained injuries, some in critical conditions. Congested roads and ignoring driving rules by the drivers usually cause deadly road accidents in Afghanistan. (Xinhua)

## Roadside Bomb Kills Policeman in Laghman

MEHTARLAM - One police personnel was killed on Friday as a roadside bomb struck a police vehicle in Laghman province with Mehtarlam as its capital, 90 km east of Kabul, a local official said on condition of anonymity. Spokesman for provincial government Sarhadi Zawak confirmed the incident, saying that a mine planted by militants on a road in Dawlat Shah district struck a police van Friday morning killing a ... (More on P4)...(19)

## Union Concerned About Local Cooking Oil Sector

KABUL - The Economists and Industrialists Union on Thursday raised concerns over the dramatic surge in cooking oil imports into the country, saying that the money invested in this is estimated to be about \$7 million USD annually. In turn the union called on government to take steps to revive investor trust and promote domestic production. They said that the money invested in importing of cooking oil has a negative



impact on the economy. The lack of access to raw materials is the reason behind the surge, the union members said. Meanwhile, the Ministry of

Public Health (MoPH) has expressed doubts over the quality of cooking oil coming into the country. Currently six cooking oil ... (More on P4)...(20)

## 12,000 Returning Families to Get Land Plots in Laghman

KABUL CITY - Nearly 12,000 repatriated refugees will get land plots under a residential scheme launched on Thursday in eastern Laghman province. The Laghman provincial press department in a statement said the township was being constructed in the center of Mehtarlam city, the provincial capital. "All works were completed today and this project has been approved and distribution



of plots to migrants will be started in near future." The statement said all required facilities, including gardens and playgrounds, would be constructed in the township. Laghman Governor Abdul Jabbar Naeemi was ... (More on P4)...(21)

## 15 Militants Killed, 7 Injured in Security Operations: MoD

KABUL - Fifteen militants have been killed during security operations in different provinces, the Ministry of Defence (MoD) said on Friday. The operations were conducted in 12 provinces over the past 24 hours, a statement from the ministry said, adding that 15 fighters including a commander were killed. At seven guerrillas were wounded in the operations in Nangarhar, Paktika, Ghazni, Logar, Kandahar, Uruzgan, Ghor, Herat, Farah, Faryab, Kunduz and Helmand provinces. (Pajhwok)

### Outlook Horoscope

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

Take a deep look at the most important relationships in your life to find ways to improve them or discern which, if any, no longer meet your needs. If all is going well, your success might arouse jealousy in others or leave you feeling strangely unfulfilled as sweet Venus joins suspicious Pluto in your 10th House of Status.

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

Suppressed passions push their way into awareness today, deepening the bonds of a significant partnership. However, you could spread yourself too thin when your key planet Venus squares excessive Jupiter in your 6th House of Routine. But the stakes are higher than you realize, and your actions can stir up unexpectedly powerful emotions now.

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

You're unlikely to change your mind today once your heart is set on something or someone. Vulnerable Venus joins unfathomable Pluto in your 8th House of Deep Sharing, scaring you with the intensity of your unexpressed feelings. You are driven to push them out into the open, even if your normal response is to bury your emotions. Unfulfilled needs can stand in the way of your happiness now.

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

Expressing your desires sounds like a wise move today until someone unexpectedly tries to silence you. Apparently, the intense passions that you're bringing out into the open can be upsetting at first, yet they could also build intimacy if you're willing to go deep. Although you might not have planned things this way.

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

Acknowledgment of your efforts may not come readily as evaluating Venus joins insatiable Pluto in your 6th House of Service. Unfortunately, relationships are undermined by mistrust or manipulation today, especially when secrecy is involved. Expressing your discontent doesn't help now unless you recognize what's wrong and attempt to deliver fast answers.

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

Your emotional intensity reenergizes a partnership or strengthens your resolve in a significant negotiation. Nevertheless, in the midst of all your obligations today, find some playtime to kick back and enjoy yourself. Searching for meaning in interpersonal relationships can take you out of the casual realms and into more intimate spaces. An indulgent Venus-Jupiter square amplifies your cravings and tempts you to ask for more than you need.

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

Harmony at home and the approval of your friends are less important than connecting with your deepest desires today. Nevertheless, you can't just ignore the mundane promises you made to others. But neither can you deny the feelings that are bubbling up from your subconscious as magnetic Venus dances with provocative Pluto in your 4th House of Roots.

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

Sometimes your feelings are so powerful that you don't know what to do with them. Normally, a sexy Venus-Pluto hookup creates an emotional tidal wave that's beyond your control. Romance heats up to the boiling point. However, this time around, the conjunction occurs in your 3rd House of Information.

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

You can't help but see the best in others, making you eager to gamble on their potential now. While it's healthy to push the edge of the envelope and broaden your horizons, make sure to maintain your bearings by using your moral compass. Acting with integrity may lack the excitement you crave today, but the tangible results of your ambitious plans are certainly worth the sacrifice.

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

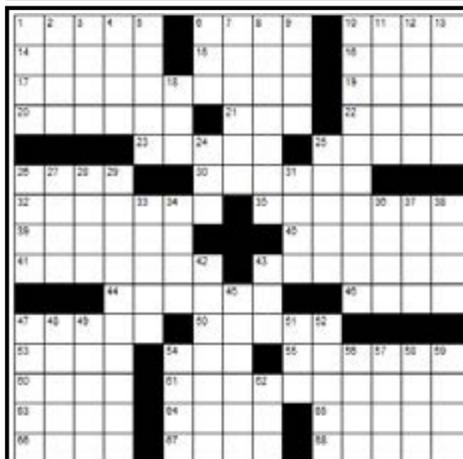
You exude an irresistible magnetism that makes your relationship world more exciting today. But your newfound lust for life also leads to control issues or problems stemming from possessiveness. Nevertheless, jealousy and envy are traps created by a lack of self-confidence. Thankfully, your sense of social responsibility could save you from the consequences of intense personal desires.

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

Hidden feelings may pop out unexpectedly today. But your odd sense of liberation might not last long because loving Venus hooks up with mysterious Pluto to reveal deeper layers of meaning. You could unwittingly step onto a relationship roller-coaster ride as you discover new sources of pleasure while breaking free of unrewarding alliances and responsibilities.

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

Mistrust may arise among your friends due to someone's secrecy or a severe difference in values. But even your co-workers can create drama when gracious Venus runs into cynical Pluto in your 11th House of Groups. Although it's uncomfortable to deal with an unpleasant subject, bringing difficult issues to the surface is more productive today than ignoring them.



**Across**  
 1. An exchange, 6. At a distance, 10. Jokes, 14. Heavenly hunter, 15. Brand of credit card, 16. Weightlifters pump this, 17. African antelope, 19. Roman emperor, 20. Highly seasoned fatty sausage, 21. Female sib, 22. Chew, 23. Assists, 25. Trades, 26. Border, 30. Amass, 32. The highest female voice, 35. Include, 39. A type of tincture, 40. Burrow, 41. Annul, 43. Demesnes, 44. To the rear, 46. Jab, 47. Urgency, 50. Foot lever, 53. Initial wager, 54. One of the tribes of Israel, 55. It secretes mucin, 60. Clairvoyant, 61. Possible, 63. Urgent request, 64. Fastened, 65. Swedish money, 66. Paddle, 67. Unit of land, 68. Lance.

**Down**  
 1. Fronts of ships, 2. Murres, 3. Small brook, 4. Fizzy drink, 5. Colonic, 6. "\_\_\_ Maria", 7. An elaborate party, 8. Helps, 9. Rodents, 10. Crisp round cookie, 11. Sporting venue, 12. Small goat antelope, 13. Flurries, 18. Top part of an apron, 24. Conceit, 25. Unveiling, 26. Largest continent, 27. Doofus, 28. Style of hairdo, 29. Involving three parties, 31. Shacks, 33. Licorice-like flavor, 34. Where a bird lives, 36. "Do \_\_\_ others...", 37. Docile, 38. If not, 42. Pertaining to the liver, 43. Terminate, 45. One who leases, 47. Catches, 48. Anoint (archaic), 49. Metal, 51. French for "Friend", 52. Blockheads, 54. Information, 56. Grumble, 57. Double-reed woodwind, 58. Forearm bone, 59. Char, 62. Citrus drink.

**Yesterday's Solution**

about, above, ahead, automatic, baker, baton, bids, blog, candor, change, check, claim, core, corps, cover, cross, drive, effort, filth, front, game, ground, impact, lines, match, merge, piece, pierce, point, positive, prim, right, route, sedan, smile, split, taken.

