

Jalalabad Clear 21°C 9°C	Ghazni Partly Cloudy 9°C -2°C	Kandahar Partly Cloudy 19°C 3°C	Mazar 12°C 5°C	Herat Clear 16°C 2°C	Bamayan Partly Cloudy 4°C -8°C	Kabul Clear 12°C 0°C
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Daily Outlook Weather Forecast

NATO Seeking to Reconcile Death Totals in Kunduz Attack

WASHINGTON - Nearly two months after a U.S. warplane mistakenly attacked a hospital in northern Afghanistan, officials said Friday it remains unclear how many civilians were killed. In releasing a two-page summary of an international investigation that was intended to assess civilian casualties from the Oct. 3 attack in Kunduz, NATO said efforts are still under way to reconcile reports that put the death total at either 30 or 31. A separate U.S. military investigation has been completed to more fully sort out what went wrong and to establish the basis



for possible disciplinary action against the U.S. personnel involved. That investigation concluded that the crew of the AC-130 gunship that conducted the attack did not know the target was a hospital, but that a combination of human error, technical failures and other mistakes led to the tragedy. The U.S. investigation report has not been released publicly, but the top U.S. commander in Afghanistan, Gen. John Campbell, said Wednesday it found that 30 civilians had died. Campbell offered his condolences to the victims of what he called a "tragic

but avoidable accident caused primarily by human error." The international investigation, officially called a Civilian Casualty Assessment Team, or CCAT, said it found credible evidence that 31 civilians had died at the hospital run by Doctors Without Borders, also known by its French initials MSF. The team was led by an American one-star general and was comprised of NATO and Afghan government representatives. The summary of the CCAT report was released Friday by the top NATO commander in Europe, U.S. ... (More on P4)... (6)

Bandits Threaten Economic Artery Between Faryab-Balkh

KABUL - Faryab residents on Saturday voiced their growing concerns over the deteriorating security situation along the key Faryab-Balkh highway which links Maimana and Mazar-i-Sharif. According to them, traffic along this key economic highway is often brought to a standstill by armed men who regularly stop motorists and rob them. Some residents said these armed groups take the lives of motorists if needed. Tolonews journalist, Sayed Arif Musave, reports from the area that such incidents along the highway are also making it difficult for government employees to use the route. They said all government officials are now having to be escorted by Afghan security personnel. The key highway that connects Faryab to the northern provinces is one of Afghanistan's major routes. Residents and motorists who use this highway are however running out of patience and are putting pressure on government to improve security. "Lootings are done on way toward Maimana and Mazar-e-Sharif, robbers loot and there is no security. Security also does not exist in Andkhoy and Dawlat Abad," a Maimana resident Abdul Qadeer said. This comes despite the deployment of a security force unit to the area. But according to some officials, this has made no difference, especially ... (More on P4)... (10)

Tajikistan Closes Borders for Badakhshan Residents



KABUL - As insecurity escalates in northern Afghanistan, Badakhshan residents living along the border with Tajikistan have had their unlimited cross-border access stopped. Darwaz, Ishkashim and Maimanay districts all share a border with Tajikistan and residents from these areas have until now crossed freely in order to do their ... (More on P4)... (7)

NDS Discovers Terrorist Hub, Arrests 3 Terrorists in Zabul

KABUL - The National Directorate of Security (NDS) on Saturday has raided terrorist's hideout and has arrested three terrorists in southern Zabul province. "During a joint operation with the National Police and the National Army, the NDS members have discovered a terrorist training center in Qalat - Kandahar ... (More on P4)... (8)

Herat to Host Iran's Exhibition

MASHHAD - Iran's 11th Exclusive Exhibition will be held in Herat, Afghanistan, from December 15-18, said an official with Khorasan Razavi Governorate General. Ali Rasoulia added that the event mainly focusing on Khorasan Razavi province is to be organized with Trade Development Organization's authorization. Over 30 Iranian companies involved in various industries have so far applied to take part in the upcoming event, he said. The companies participating in the event engaged in the fields of foodstuff, construction materials and industry are from Khorasan Razavi, South Khorasan, Tehran, Isfahan and West Azarbaijan provinces, he said. Rasoulia ... (More on P4)... (9)

Over 100 Foreign Troops Deployed in Kunar

ASADABAD - Kunar security officials said that at least 150 foreign troops have been deployed to the capital city Assadabad and other parts of the eastern province in the past week, in a bid to strengthen security in the province. Kunar police chief Abdul Habib Sayed Kheli told TOLONews that the foreign troops have been redeployed after a two year break. This will help Afghan security forces maintain law-and-order in the province. The troops will also help with reconstruction projects in the province, Kheli said. Meanwhile, a number of Kunar provincial council members and residents welcomed the move and said they hope that the troops will



help secure the province. A member of Kunar provincial council said the foreign troops will play a vital role in maintaining security in the province and that they should prioritize the fight against insurgency there. Residents of Kunar called on the foreign troops to work closely with Afghan security forces in order to prevent ci-

vilian casualties in the province. The Afghan National Defense and Security Forces have shouldered the security responsibility for the country since December last year. Foreign troops, under the NATO-led Resolute Support Mission in Afghanistan number over 13,000 currently but are in a train, advise and assist capacity. (Tolonews)

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