

Afghan Military Kill 6 Security Forces in Air Strike Mistake

FARAH CITY - Ministry of Defense says five soldiers and a police officer were killed in an air strike carried out by an Afghan military helicopter in western Farah province. The ministry said in a statement Saturday the helicopter had used "inaccurate information from ground forces" when it conducted the air strike late Friday night. It says the forces were being attacked by insurgents



in the Bala Buluk district. When they called for air support, the helicopter incorrectly fired a rocket at a checkpoint occupied by Afghan security forces. The incident is being investigated, the statement says. It comes after a U.S. air strike in eastern Nangarhar province early Wednesday killed at least 15 people. Officials and the U.N. mission in Kabul say the dead were civilians. (AP)

Jawzjan: War-Hit Women, Kids Work at Kilns to Eke out Living

KABUL - Some women and children affected by war and poverty in northern Jawzjan province are left with no other option but to work at brick kilns to eke out a living. Tens of families coming from conflict-hit areas in neighbouring Faryab and Sar-i-Pul provinces have sought shelter in Shiberghan, Jawzjan's capital. Children and women of these families support their elders and families through the hard work. Sabera, 40, who recently lost her husband to clashes with Taliban, is currently working at a brick kiln with her mother in Chel-mard village. "I have two children and both help me in bricks making. We make 1,000 bricks daily and earn 500 afghanis," she said. Zarmina, another woman who worked in the same kiln with her spouse, said: "There is no work in winter, so we borrow money and return that in summer with wages we earn through bricks making." She earns up to 500 afghanis a day and ... (More on P4)... (15)

China's Investment in Afghanistan Helps Stabilize Peace, Revive Economy: Afghan Economist

KABUL - A renowned Afghan economist and Kabul University professor believes that investments by China in Afghanistan can immensely contribute to stabilizing peace, security and reviving economy in the conflict-ridden country. "China's investment in Afghanistan's economy, especially in the production sector to establish factories to boost local products inside Afghanistan can create job opportunities and alleviate poverty in the country," Sayed Masoud told



Xinhua in an interview recently. The war-ravaged country, according to the analyst, is a consuming one and importing more goods from foreign countries would further damage the country's impoverished economy. ... (More on P4)... (16)

Parwan Farmers Happy over High Grapes Yield

CHARIKAR - Grapes production in central Parwan province was experiencing a high output this season with farmers saying they were happy about more demand for grapes in the market as well. Haji Abdul Munir, an orchard owner from Deh Mullah Yousuf village of Charikar, the provincial capital, said he collected 17.5 tons of grapes from his 1,000 vines this year. He said the grapes production this year was doubled compared to the previous year. "This year I earned 220,000 Afghanis from my grapes garden compare to 40,000 of last year's income which was very low," he said. Mild weather and rains on proper times were ... (More on P4)... (17)

Rebels Shut Alternative Road to Logar's Azra District: District Chief

PUL-I-ALAM - Local officials on Saturday said the alternative road leading to Azra district of central Logar province has also been closed for public traffic due to security problems. Hamidullah Hamid, the town's administrative chief, in an exclusive interview with Pajhwok Afghan News said few months ago an alternative road connecting Azra with Khaki Jabbar district of Kabul province was inaugurated after construction to felicitate the residents, but no vehicle could move on it over the past few



weeks. "The Afghan forces have removed their posts on the alternative road because they did not receive equip-ments and food on time, but local residents do not travel on the route due to roadside bombs and militants' threat," ... (More on P4)... (18)

12 Dead, 9 Held in Fresh Clashes, Raid

KABUL/KANDAHAR - A dozen militants have been killed and nine others arrested during clashes and raid in different parts of the country, an official and statements said on Saturday. Two militants were killed and five others wounded when insurgents attacked Afghan National Army (ANA) patrol in Armal locality, on the outskirts of Mehtarlam, the provincial capital, the governor's spokesman said. According to Umar Zwak security officials have arrested two suspected rebels as well. Separately, seven suspected rebels have been arrested with weapons and other equipment



during security forces raid in the Shah Wali Kot district of southern Kandahar province, a statement from the governor house said. Another statement from 205th Atal Military Corps claimed killing 10 rebels in Uruzgan, Kandahar and Zabul provinces in the past 24 hours. Militants have not commented over the incidents. (Pajhwok)

Sikh Man's Killing Sparks Protest in Jalalabad

JALALABAD - The Sikh minority on Saturday staged a protest demonstration against the killing of a Sikh man by suspected militants in eastern Nangarhar province. The protestors, who gathered in Jalalabad, the provincial capital, asked the government to arrest the killers. Attaullah Khogyani, the governor's spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News the insurgents abducted the Sikh from his home at about 7:20am on Saturday morning and

gunned him down at last night. The neighbor next morning came along with some gunmen and abducted Singh from his home before killing him, he said. He said Royal Singh had invited his friends for a party at his home when his neighbor came and asked him to end the gathering. Darbhajan Singh, a friend of Royal Singh, said the minority had never been subjected to such atrocities in the past. "Our homes are being ... (More on P4)... (19)

Woman among 4 Arrested for Claiming \$25,000 Ransom against 4 Year Old Boy

KABUL - A woman is among 4 kidnapers arrested by the operatives of the Afghan intelligence as they claimed a ransom of around \$25,000 for the release of a 4-year-old boy kidnapped by the group. The Afghan intelligence, National Directorate of Security (NDS), said the group was busted from the vicinity of Lashkargah city, the provincial capital of restive Helmand province. A statement by NDS said the group was led by Qudratullah son of Sher Agha and had kidnapped the boy identified as Shafiqullah from Lashkargah city. The statement further added that the child was rescued from the custody of the kidnapers and was handed ... (More on P4)... (20)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

Although current challenges may go unresolved today, it might seem as if you are on a temporary holiday. It's not that the pressing predicaments have disappeared into thin air; it's just your spirits soar with the Sagittarius Moon, allowing you to fly above the troubles that complicate your life. You're free to dream about visiting your own future, even if it's only a figment of your imagination.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

You are inspired by your dreams this week but this doesn't mean that every wish will automatically manifest according to your favorite fantasy. Nevertheless, practical thinking isn't the answer now because your imagination can help you envision what you want. Acknowledging your extreme idealism might not help you reach your goals.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Relationship tensions might be exacerbated by your unrealistic ideas today. Ambitious plans won't necessarily create problems all by themselves; the real difficulty stems from the apparent impossibility of living out your adventures in the real world. Nevertheless, it isn't constructive to needlessly worry about what will happen next. Simply make sure everyone realizes you know the difference between the facts and your fantasies.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

Someone turns the passion up enough that you might change your mind today, preventing you from sinking into a deep emotional stew. However, your current discomfort is alleviated when you rise above the drama by refocusing on a project you put aside a few days ago. Remember, you're not escaping from responsibility; the unresolved issues will still be there upon your return.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

Gentle breezes blow through the hidden backwaters of your mind. This new awareness stimulates memories of something you really wanted in the past but life required you to put it on the back-burner. The refreshing movement is actually a sign that you're not as trapped as you believed.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

You might feel like you're stuck in an invisible eddy of cosmic energy today, even if others are supporting you. However, the help you currently receive doesn't necessarily improve the circumstances that ultimately need to change. Your closest friends may honestly believe their behavior is nurturing, but they could be exerting too much emotional control. Thankfully, this imbalance won't last long.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

You're less self-contained today and you may experience a strong urge to communicate your thoughts and feelings to others. Your current restlessness might get the best of you now, prompting you to take action. Heading out into the real world is a good start; anything that stirs up the energy will also elevate your mental game. Seek out like-minded souls who also want to make positive changes and exchange ideas.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

Your life is taking on the appearance of a great adventure and although this can be scary territory, it is also exciting to dance with the unknown. Your higher self knows that you are on a path meant for you alone. Meanwhile, the fiery Sagittarius Moon offers you a fresh perspective on all the powerful emotions you've been experiencing lately.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

Any encouragement received today is good for your mental outlook. Unfortunately, you may not be getting all the rest you need since free-floating anxiety still lingers in the atmosphere. Fortunately, the Moon's current visit to your sign symbolizes emotional rejuvenation, especially if you've recently experienced some turmoil. Accept the fact that there isn't a quick fix to your dilemma.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

A chapter in the book of your life is drawing to a close. However, there are still many elements to be prioritized before launching your next project. Most importantly, give yourself enough time to focus on your closest relationships. Regardless of any current interpersonal struggles you might be embroiled in now, take a few minutes to smell the flowers when you get the chance. Yesterday's the past, tomorrow's the future.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

You can't avoid the myriad of things you need to do today, but at least you can see some light at the end of the tunnel. The notion of finally coming out on the other side is thrilling because it seems you've been subterranean long enough. You're more than ready for the fresh air and blue sky, but everyone else's schedules may prevent you from reaching your destination until later in the week.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

You are acutely aware of the role you are to play today, but you might not be able to deliver on all of your promises. Thankfully, your intentions are honorable and you inspire others with your cheerful willingness to champion nearly any good cause. However, you might inadvertently leave your own needs out of the mix. Taking care of yourself isn't being selfish; attending to your health and wellbeing now enables you to continue helping others.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65

Across
1. Approves, 6. Sensed, 10. Anagram of "Ties", 14. Hotel employee, 15. Wings, 16. Stepped, 17. Wash out with a solvent, 18. Train track, 19. Learning method, 20. A payment of money, 22. Basic unit of money in China, 23. Unhappy, 24. Truths, 26. Associate, 30. Nothing-but-net sound, 32. Heavenly hunter, 33. Calmness without winds, 37. Breathe hard, 38. Earthquake, 39. Small island, 40. Not here, 42. Building addition, 43. Periods of seven days, 44. Fast, 45. Wear away, 47. Hit on the head, 48. Aspersion, 49. A verbatim performance, 56. Role, 57. French for "State", 58. Audio communications, 59. A D-Day beach, 60. Certain, 61. Make improvements, 62. Depend, 63. Chickadees, 64. Discharges.

Down
1. Not under, 2. Cabbagelike vegetable, 3. Astringent, 4. Abominable Snowman, 5. Type of hat, 6. Unit of capacitance, 7. Distinctive flair, 8. Nonclerical, 9. Television movie, 10. An alkaloid plant toxin, 11. Anagram of "Tutor", 12. Smidgens, 13. Biblical garden, 21. Bar bill, 25. American Sign Language, 26. Expect and wish, 27. By mouth, 28. Containers, 29. Remarkable, 30. Mixes, 31. Sage, 33. Search, 34. Feudal worker, 35. Sleigh, 36. Alluring, 38. Most diaphanous, 41. Married, 42. Garb, 44. Drunkard, 45. Gladden, 46. Not urban, 47. Nibbles, 48. Prod, 50. Decorative case, 51. A heavy open wagon, 52. Docile, 53. Bright thought, 54. Pig sound, 55. Gestures of assent.

Yesterday's Solution
FEMUR BODDY DAMS
ABEL REBEL OPAL
IRAN SVRSE UNTO
SONATA TISM BEES
SNIDE SLASH
DUMA GERATE
APOSTLE TROTTER
BOINSATI MOROSE
SNOOKER ASPERSE
RESELL EYED
PACTS GAMED
SLAM BAIT FRUGAL
HIVE ELECTORATE
AKIN LINE PILOT
WELT LATE SCAMS

G R A M M A R T O U C H R
L L P S C X P U L S E I E
W E A V E H T R O J A N P
S H E E P C E H I T C H E
C G O R I L L A S D U R L
B H L N O H C O T L E E B
V U O I S B O R C V E P I
H A N R D E I O O K M O M
O G U C E E T N D W I R U
R O F L H O R S E L N T G
D N N R T U C H O R U S G
E Y E S T R A N G E T M E
D I V I N E E E C L E A R