

Key Taliban Figure, Uprising Commander Killed in Faryab

MAIMANA - A key Taliban member and an uprising commander have been killed in separate security incidents in northern Baghlan and Faryab provinces, officials said on Wednesday. The Ministry of Interior (MoI) said the Taliban stormed several security posts in Niazullah, Shahr-i-Kohna and Tapa-i-Afghan areas of Baghlan-i-Markazi district late on Tuesday. A statement from MoI said a key Taliban commander identified as Salam Uzbek and 15 other militants were killed and 25 more wounded in a counterattack from security forces. Salam Uzbek was one of important members of the insurgent movement in Baghlan, leading attacks in the province, the ministry added.



On the other hand, an uprising group commander, also a tribal elder, was shot dead by Taliban in the Dawlatabad district of Faryab province. The district chief, Syed Abdul Salam Nazhat, said commander Anmrud was stopped on his way home by Taliban in Sar Jangal area before being shot dead on Tuesday evening. A provincial council member, Abdul Ahad Elbaig, said Anmrud was an influential figure of the Turkmen community. He played an important role in resolving disputes and problems among people. (Pajhwok)

Afghan Special Forces Kill 4 Suspects in Kama Raid

JALALABAD - At least four suspected people have been killed and several others detained during an Afghan Special Forces' operation in eastern Nangarhar province, an official said on Wednesday. The governor's spokesman, Attaullah Khogyani, told Pajhwok Afghan News the raid took place in the Sangar Srai area of Kama district on Tuesday night. He said the Afghan forces raided a house to capture a wanted Taliban commander, but the militants opened fire on them. Four suspected people were killed in Special Forces' retaliatory attack, Khogyani added. Investigations are underway to ascertain whether the dead had links to the Taliban. An official based in Kama district, wishing not to be named, revealed both sides suffered casualties in the operation. However, the source did not provide exact figures. The official added the Afghan forces also arrested some people during the ...*(More on P4)...(15)*

Afghan Soldiers among 6 Killed in Farah Firefight

FARAH CITY - Three Afghan National Army (ANA) soldiers and as many Taliban militants have been killed and eight others wounded in western Farah province, officials said on Wednesday. Farah governor's spokesman Mohammad Nasir Mehri told Pajhwok Afghan News the insurgents attacked ANA posts in the Kanisk area of Bala Baluk district on Tuesday night. He said three soldiers and three rebels were killed and eight others, including four army personnel, wounded in the ensuing clash. Meanwhile, the Taliban claimed capturing a security post in Kanisk area, killing 11 soldiers and wounding eight others.



According to another report, a public order policeman was killed in a gun attack by the militants in the Qadis district of Badghis province. The district police chief said the policeman was on his duty in Qal Zardak area on Tuesday night when he came under attack. (Pajhwok)

Hundreds of Families Displaced from Nawbahar Village

FARAH - Hundreds of families have left the Nawbahar village of Western Farah province due to militant-linked violence that left 50 Taliban dead and wounded, residents and an official said on Wednesday. A resident of the village, Azizullah, told Pajhwok Afghan News around 300 rebels had gathered in the area to attack security check-posts. He said the displaced families had settled in their relatives' houses he said, adding three check-posts of the Afghan National Army (ANA) in the village came under attack



last night. Iqbal Bahir, provincial police spokesman, confirmed the clash between Taliban and security forces in Nawbahar. He said so far five militants had been killed and 10 others were wounded. The fighting was still underway. (Pajhwok)

US Soldier Killed in Nangarhar Operation

KABUL - A U.S. soldier was killed in a joint military operation in eastern Nangarhar province on Tuesday, Resolute Support said in a statement. "One U.S. service member died as a result of wounds sustained during an operation in Chin district, Nangarhar province today," according to the statement. "The service member was killed conducting an operation with Afghan forces when the patrol triggered an improvised explosive device. The mission was conducted as part of a larger United States-Afghan counterterrorism mission targeting the Islamic State (Daesh) Khorasan. An investigation is being conducted to determine the exact circumstances of the event," it said. However, the statement did not provide further details. (Tolonews)

30 Rebels Eliminated in Uruzgan, Kandahar Clashes

TIRINGOT/KANDAHAR CITY - At least 30 Taliban militants have been killed and several others wounded in the security operations in Uruzgan and Kandahar provinces, an official said on Wednesday. Brig. Gen. Wali Jan Sarhadi, Uruzgan provincial police chief, told Pajhwok Afghan News they had pushed back the insurgents and a team of engineers was trying to defuse bombs in the locality. He said fighting was still underway in the Sar Shkloarea of the Tirinkot. So far 14 militants had been killed and a number of Taliban and four



policemen wounded and in the operation. Meanwhile, Samim Khpalwak, the Kandahar governor's spokesman, said 16 rebels were killed and four others injured in Shah Wali Kot and Mianshin districts of the southern province. Some weapons of the militants were also destroyed during ...*(More on P4)...(16)*

Top Taliban Leader in Charge of Baghlan War Killed by Afghan Forces

KABUL - A top Taliban leader who was actively in charge of leading the group's insurgency in northern Baghlan province was killed during clashes with the Afghan security forces. The Ministry of Interior (MoI) said the slain Taliban commander was identified as Salam Uzbek who was killed along with 15 of fighters. MoI further added that Uzbek was killed after launching a coordinated attack on security posts in the village of Niazullah in Baglan-e-Markazi district. At least 25 insurgents were



also wounded during the clashes, MoI said, adding that commander Uzbek was one of the prominent leaders of the Taliban group who was leading the war in Baghlan since a long time. The Taliban militants group has not commented regarding the report so far. Baghlan is among the relatively volatile provinces in northern Afghanistan where the Taliban insurgents and militants belonging to other insurgent groups are actively operating in a number of its ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

Major conflict can grow out of a minor issue today, making it necessary to tame the flames of aggression if you want to avoid a fight. A high-energy square between macho Mars and bombastic Jupiter gets your temperature rising, delivering the courage to knock on doors and ask for what you want - even if you were previously refused. Your fierce capacity for selling your ideas may be overwhelming to others.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

No matter how cool, calm and collected you remain, the pace at work may get a little crazy today. Red-hot Mars forms a stressful square to expansive Jupiter, magnifying a powerful release of energy that shakes your world. But avoid getting dragged into someone else's dispute since taking sides can be a dangerous business now.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Your enthusiasm about a potential relationship requires expression today, but strong convictions can trigger fights or competition that could get out of hand. A dynamic square between impetuous Mars and adventurous Jupiter may push you to share more than you intended, but you're intrigued to see how far you need to go to elicit a response. Although there might not be a reason to keep your feelings to yourself.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

You could be overwhelmed with a seemingly endless list of chores today. In fact, you may take on so much that your schedule does indeed fall apart - but you can turn this sense of chaos to your advantage. Of course, it's crucial that you extinguish any brushfires, but don't get distracted from your long-term goals. Although you might be chasing lofty ambitions, you needn't resolve every issue that arises now.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

Your judgment may be clouded by a wave of restlessness at work today. Although you already have your agenda in place, you might be eager to express your latest and greatest ideas. Go ahead and speak your piece, but do it in a thoughtful manner that doesn't negatively impact your positive frame of mind.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

You possess an I-can-do-anything attitude today, but there are still formidable hurdles to overcome. Consciously resisting the temptation to set your sites too high increases your odds of finding satisfaction. Overspending, over-indulging and over-committing are traps that could result in negative consequences later on. Instead of stressing about how to fix everything all at once, reevaluate your situation and develop a strategy to preserve what's already working.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

You are on a mission to expand your mind and deepen your understanding of the complexities of the universe. But an irrepressible square from super-hero Mars to extravagant Jupiter in your sign can skew your judgment, making everything sparkle with awesome potential. You are all over the emotional map today but, ironically, still might try to keep your intentions secret.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

Working to establish equilibrium between your personal needs and your commitments to others isn't always easy. Putting your life in balance is even more complicated while rowdy Mars squares lavish Jupiter. Nevertheless, the cosmos blesses you with enough common sense now to moderate any overindulgence.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

Impulsive or reckless acts are inviting today, but aren't likely to turn out well. The Moon's return to your sign, coupled with the overreactive Mars-Jupiter square, inspires inflationary thinking that could lead to blind optimism. Nevertheless, your key planet Jupiter is the king of bigger, better and more -- and is so convincing in his exuberance now that it's difficult to know when to stop.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

Loading up on luxuries is a luxury you can't afford now. Nevertheless, taking an emotional risk can be a spontaneous and pleasantly surprising event. However, you must be careful about acting on every whim because the inflationary Mars-Jupiter square encourages you to believe you can get away with just about anything these days. Heightened anxiety may propel you to do something foolish.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

Choices made now are likely to create long-term ripples in your life, especially regarding education plans and travel. The enthusiastic Mars-Jupiter square can be a cosmic catalyst that reminds you to act with patience not with haste. In fact, the bigger the commitment, the more cautious your approach should be now.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

Although you may be distracted from your current objective, a highly energized square between insistent Mars and opportunistic Jupiter blasts you forward, even if you're not heading in the right direction. You're passionately driven by strong opinions that could provoke unnecessary clashes now. However, playing the role of an observer changes everything today. Quiet your mind and keep a light hand on the wheel.

Across

1. Catch a glimpse of, 5. Unable to see, 10. Dirty air, 14. ___ vera, 15. Radiolocation, 16. Docile, 17. Culinary art, 19. Wreckage, 20. Alkaline liquid, 21. Parental brother, 22. Persists, 23. Gist, 25. Picture, 27. Yore, 28. Throughout the world, 31. Clean between teeth, 34. Delete, 35. Center of a storm, 36. Rant, 37. Strike, 38. Russian parliament, 39. Avenue (abbrev.), 40. String, 41. Four-bagger (baseball), 42. Tracts, 44. Feline, 45. Make a counterfeit, 46. Some, 50. Criminal, 52. French for "Our", 54. Big fuss, 55. Out of control, 56. Possible, 58. Flightless bird, 59. Narrow fissures, 60. Nile bird, 61. Sea eagle, 62. French school, 63. Bones on your sides.

Down

1. American symbol, 2. Kills, 3. Models, 4. Nevertheless, 5. Unbroken mustang, 6. Javelin, 7. False god, 8. Name on a desk or door, 9. Not wet, 10. Layers, 11. Burial chamber, 12. Leave out, 13. Family lines, 18. Steps of a ladder, 22. Part of the outer ear, 24. Convenience, 26. A flexible pipe, 28. Smiles, 29. An acute inflammatory disease, 30. 365 days, 31. A social club for male undergraduates, 32. Wash, 33. Past participle of "overfly", 34. In a superior manner, 37. Gulp, 38. Shower with love, 40. Mountain pool, 41. Shelter, 43. Novice, 44. Cherry, 46. Condition, 47. Jewish scholar, 48. Improvise, 49. Loamy deposit, 50. Not genuine, 51. Arab chieftain, 53. Ear-related, 56. American Sign Language, 57. What we breathe.

Yesterday's Solution

HUMID, CRISP, CLAP, ERODE, OVAL, HALLE, LIBEL, TOGA, ABLE, PASSAGEWAY, NEAR, YES, GODLY, DIADEM, OPINE, URGENT, SCORELESS, PILES, SWELL, ISLIE, ESSENTIAL, VENUE, REIGN, CAREER, GIVEN, FAT, COVE, GREEDITNESS, ARTIO, FAST, GARET, FEEL, RISE, APNEA, EDDY, SLED, NEEDED

adore, after, attract, awake, boat, first, flesh, focus, for, get, gear, going, grasp, house, incisive, infatuation, inspire, mews, minute, mope, music, near, notice, pale, permit, persist, proud, raps, rare, rubs, scenario, sharp, signal, stones, story, that, thrill, trouble.

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