

Jalalabad Clear 34°C 19°C	Ghazni Clear 24°C 07°C	Kandahar Clear 30°C 13°C	Mazar Clear 31°C 17°C	Herat Clear 34°C 17°C	Bamayan Partly Cloudy 20°C 07°C	Kabul Clear 27°C 12°C
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Gen. Campbell Afghan Forces Not Ready to Take on Fight Themselves

KABUL - John Campbell, the commander in charge of the U.S.-led military coalition in Afghanistan, told a Senate panel on Tuesday that Afghan forces aren't yet ready to fight for themselves. The commander, who is testifying days after U.S. air strikes hit a Doctors without Borders hospital in Kunduz, also confirmed that he is providing options to President Obama that could keep U.S. troops in Afghanistan longer than 2016, when they are now scheduled to leave. The hospital strike killed 12 staff members with the charitable group



as well as 10 patients, and Doctors without Borders labeled it a war crime. The U.S. said the strike was called in by Afghan forces, underlining concerns about their readiness. "Afghan security leaders need to discern better when to fight, when to hold and when to assume risk," Campbell told the Senate Armed Services Committee. He said President Obama is aware of the "tenuous situation." Campbell has reportedly drafted five drawdown options, including reducing the 9,800 troops in Afghanistan to ...*(More on P4)...(7)*

Taliban Kills 16 Members of one Kunduz Family

KUNDUZ CITY - Kunduz residents have spoken out about their terrifying ordeal at the hands of the Taliban last week, with one resident telling how he lost 16 family members to insurgents in just one incident. Rahim Gul told TOLONews that "the Taliban has committed unforgivable crimes". The clearly emotional man said 16 members of his family were killed in a rocket attack. "The Taliban confiscated 40 hectares of my land and burned our house down. We left and went to another house but again the Taliban



hit our house - with a rocket. Some of my children are now seriously wounded and the others are dead," he said. Another resident, who escaped the city after last Monday's siege, has since returned to the city to check on his house. He said his son was also killed by the Taliban. He said: "The Taliban was shooting ...*(More on P4)...(8)*

Teachers Cry Foul on World Teacher's Day



KABUL - International Teacher's Day was celebrated in Kabul on Monday at a time when most teachers are subjected to financial hardships and poor living conditions, they say. According to them this is because of the governments lack of attention paid to them. Education Minister, Assadullah Hanif Balkhi, while praising talented teachers, vowed to address

their situation. "Improving teachers' lives has been the top priority in our programs and I will not leave any stone unturned to improve their lives all over the country," the minister vowed. Last year, President Ashraf Ghani directed the concerned organizations to distribute land to all teachers around the country but this has ...*(More on P4)...(10)*

Modi Pitches for "Make in India" Initiative at Indo-German Summit

NEW DELHI - Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi Tuesday made a pitch for his two ambitious initiatives - "Make in India" and "Digital India" - at the Indo-German Summit that he held with visiting German Chancellor Angela Merkel in the southern city of Bengaluru. "We are on the path of making India a global manufacturing hub. There is ...*(More on P4)...(9)*

Airstrikes Taking a Toll on Taliban

KUNDUZ CITY - Airstrikes carried out by the Afghan Air Force are starting to take a toll on insurgent numbers but this is pushing the Taliban into hiding. TOLONews reporter Wali Arian says security forces say the Taliban is scared of such aerial attacks. However, insurgents are hiding out in civilian houses in a bid to escape such assaults. One area in particular is that of Khan Abad district in Kunduz province where insurgents are holed up in civilian homes. *(Tolonews)*

Mullah Mansour Running Businesses under Fake Names and Owns a House in Dubai

KABUL - American daily newspaper the New York Times has published a report indicating that the Supreme Leader of Taliban Mullah Akhtar Mohammad Mansour is a businessman and running businesses in Dubai. The report cites a person that knows Mullah Mansour as saying that the Taliban leader owns a cellphone company. The news agency cites some intelligence officials as saying that Mullah Mansour is wealthy by any standard, partly because of his ties to Ishaqzai narcotics traffickers.



One Afghan intelligence official has said that some of the wealth of Mullah Mansour has been frozen by Pakistani officials. One such time came this year when Pakistan was seeking to broker a round of talks between

the Taliban leadership and the Afghan government and wanted Mullah Mansour to go along with it, the official said. According to the NYT, some of the time, he lives in a southern ...*(More on P4)...(11)*

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