

US Bombing in Afghanistan Hits Seven-Year High

KABUL - The U.S. used 751 bombs against ISIS and Taliban targets during the period, according to the recently released report. This was a 50 percent jump from August and the highest number of airstrikes in one month since August, 2012, it added. U.S. airstrikes hit an all-time high in Oct. 2010, at 1,043.

"This increase can be attributed to the president's strategy to more proactively target extremist groups that threaten the stability and security of the Afghan people," it said.

The report did not detail the number of those thought to have been killed in the strikes. Afghan and American military officials in the country did not respond to requests for comment. In August, President Trump announced a new approach for the U.S. war in Afghanistan. Acknowledging that his "original instinct was to pull out" of Afghanistan, Trump said that after becoming president he realized a hasty withdrawal would cede ground to terror groups. (Monitoring Desk)

The number of American airstrikes in Afghanistan hit a seven-year high in September as the military acted on President Donald Trump's new strategy for the country, according to the U.S. Air Forces Central Command.



Takhar Residents Being Bullied to Pay Taliban

TALOQAN - The Taliban are allegedly forcing residents of three districts of northern Takhar province into paying them money. The militant movement, however, reject the claim as groundless.

Sher Ahmad, hailing from the Darqad district of Takhar, told Pajhwok Afghan News the Taliban had launched a campaign to forcibly collect money from civilians. ...*(More on P4)...(22)*

Heavy Clashes Ongoing in Faryab

KABUL - Faryab officials said on Tuesday that heavy clashes between security forces and Taliban insurgents have been ongoing in Pashtonkot district of the province since Monday night. The Afghan National Army (ANA) media officer for the north, Nasratullah Jamshidi, said the clash started on Monday night in Sar Hawoz village of Pashtonkot when the Taliban attacked a local police check post. ...*(More on P4)...(23)*

Taliban Militants and Local Leaders Suffer Heavy Casualties in Zabul Operations

KABUL - The Ministry of Defense (MoD) said the operations were conducted in Shahjoi and Mizan districts of the province. A statement by MoD said at least 23 Taliban militants were killed and 28 others were wounded during the operations. The statement further ...*(More on P4)...(24)*

Taliban Blamed as Leader Found Dead in Paktika



SHARANA - Taliban militants allegedly killed a tribal leader in southeastern Paktika province on Tuesday over cooperation with the government, locals said.

Syed Mohammad, a resident of Saygani village of Khair Kot district, where the elder's body was found, told Pajhwok Afghan News that militants snatched Malik Nazar Gul from his car on the Paktika-Ghazni highway on Monday night.

Gul's body was found dumped in Khairbeen area on Tuesday morning, the resident said, asserting the elder had no government job, but he supported the government, for which he was assassinated.

The governor's spokesman, Mohammad Rahman Iyaz, confirmed Malik Nazar Gul's murder by Taliban, but provided no details. ...*(More on P4)...(20)*

Nangarhar Families Agree to End 30-Year-Old Enmity

JALALABAD - Two families from eastern Nangarhar province have agreed to end their long-running enmity as a result of mediation from tribal elders.

About 30 years ago, Mangal and Allah Baz, members of a family, were killed in a clash in the Marakikhel area of Sherzad district. The incident triggered a feud between the rival households.

However, mediation by tribal leaders led to a resolution of the feud that had resulted from the dispute over water. When Hashim and Nader killed their cousins, the relationship changed into enmity. But tribal elders from Khogyani and Sherzad districts had long been ...*(More on P4)...(21)*

Pak-Afghan Border Villages Brace for Berlin Wall-Style Divide



CHAMAN/QUETTA - Thousands of Pashtun tribal people who for decades ignored the invisible line that bisects their dusty villages and demarcates the Afghanistan-Pakistan frontier are bracing for a Berlin Wall-style divide of their neighbourhoods.

Pakistan, worried by Islamist attacks, is building a fence to prevent militants criss-crossing the porous 2,500 km (1,500 mile) frontier along the disputed colonial-era Durand line drawn up by the British in 1893.

The fence, which Kabul opposes, will run down the middle of so-called "divided villages" where few people have passports and Pashtun tribal loyalty of

ten trumps allegiance to the state. Seven such villages are dotted around Chaman district, home to the bustling border-crossing town of Chaman in Pakistan's southwestern province of Baluchistan. Other divided villages are believed to exist further north in the restive Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA).

Pakistani officials in Baluchistan are now working on shifting Pakistani citizens in the divided villages to their side of the fence and say security worries override concerns that it will break up communities.

"(A border wall) was there in Germany, it is in Mexico. ...*(More on P4)...(25)*

7 Militants Blown up by Own Bomb in Laghman

MEHTHARLAM - At least seven Taliban insurgents have been killed and nine others injured by their own bomb in Alingar district of eastern Nangarhar province, an official said on Tuesday.

Sarhadi Zwak, the governor's spokesman told Pajhwok Afghan News that the incident happened when explosives inside the militants' car went off in Elga Gul area of the district on Monday evening. He said seven insurgents including a notorious commander Qasim known as Abbas were killed and nine others including a shadow Taliban chief for Badpakh district wounded in the blast.

Zwak added the militants were heading to Elga Gul area for planning a terrorist attack.

These militants were involved in terrorist activities from the long past in Alingar district of Laghman, he said.

There were no words from Taliban about the incident. (Pajhwok)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



Aries Responsibilities call and you have little choice but to do what is expected. People have no patience with you now, especially if you offer excuses rather than making good on your promises.

Although thinking about completing a project may be overwhelming today, you can use the cosmic energy to your advantage.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



Taurus Your desires are running wild today, and you wish you were free enough to follow every whim. However, you may feel energetically stifled, even if you know what you want out of life. Although circumstances beyond your control seem to be working against you, you're not in any mood to accept no for an answer. However, taking a shortcut will only stir up additional friction.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



Gemini You may be operating with caution as you sink into a defensive mode today, triggered by the red lights around you. Others may be fooled by your lack of enthusiasm but they would be wrong to write you out of the game. You're no less excited about the prospects for your future; it's just that you're frustrated by other people's negativity. Flaunting your optimism could rile someone's ire -- and arguing with them now

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



Cancer You want to be judged in a positive manner by your coworkers today. Unfortunately, they might be stressing you out with too many demands, making it difficult to do your job successfully. Although there is a lot on your plate, you may also be overly sensitive now that the moody Moon is back in your sign.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



Leo Managing your feelings of jealousy isn't always as simple as you wish, especially if someone is giving you the cold shoulder. Your goals are pretty straightforward now, yet your attempts to fulfill your emotional needs may appear blocked. Although it could seem that the problem originates with someone else, it might actually be your unexpressed.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



Virgo Your impatience can get the best of you today, but a little self-restraint works wonders. Impulsive Mars in your sign encourages immediate action but its square to karmic Saturn requires you to consider the possible adverse consequences, too. However, it's a mistake to assume that your imagined worst-case scenarios will automatically manifest. Nevertheless, there are plenty of alternatives now.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



Libra You might feel as if you have worked yourself into a corner today, but giving up is not an option. In fact, the message you are receiving from sobering Saturn now is a wake-up call that reveals where your plan needs more work. Instead of struggling to escape from the current situation, acknowledge your role in creating the restrictive circumstances.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



Scorpio Awesome possibilities are appearing everywhere you look now, but they all seem to be just beyond your reach. You might overreact and try to grab an opportunity anyhow, only to miss your chance because your imagined sense of urgency disrupts your balance. You could work yourself into a state of frenzy today, especially if you fear the potential of the moment will pass you by.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



Sagittarius External circumstances seem to be leaning on you in a way that makes you uncomfortable now. For example, you may be reluctant to participate in a new work project today, and end up pushing back in order to establish your boundaries. Unfortunately, you might ultimately be required to join the parade anyhow, even if you're ambivalent about its purpose. It's more important to keep the peace than to create a conflict over an issue that won't matter in the long run.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



Capricorn Decision-making could be a piece of cake today, especially if you are clear about your goals. Although you might have very strong opinions about a particular situation, it's challenging to connect them with the bigger picture. In fact, you may follow your instincts now, only to later realize that you've complicated your work.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

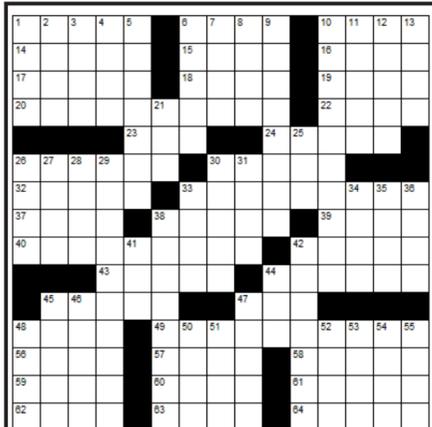


Aquarius A disagreement with a partner won't be solved today by putting a bandage on it. You need to reexamine your beliefs and possibly modify your position on a complex matter of mutual interest. Money or shared property may be at the root of the current conflict as a delay prompts you to blame the other person. Unfortunately, there will be no winner if either of you feels like a loser.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



Pisces You may be handed a specific list of unfinished tasks today without any warning. Unfortunately, you don't know what to do because you can't spread yourself any thinner. Nevertheless, you run the risk of eliciting an angry response if you just say no. A delicate situation requires your finesse in order to avoid an unproductive and unnecessary conflict. Expressing your support for another person's goals doesn't mean you must adopt them as your own.



Across

1. Caper, 6. Killer whale, 10. Rant, 14. Hawaiian veranda, 15. Genuine, 16. Quaint outburst, 17. Up to, 18. To diet, 19. Gentle, 20. Spontaneous abortion, 22. Hedgepodge, 23. Type of airplane, 24. Rowed, 26. Invented the light bulb, 30. Infractions, 32. Frothy, 33. Donnybrooks, 37. A few, 38. Historical period, 39. Be unsuccessful, 40. Aggrandize, 42. Donkey, 43. Metal money, 44. A long narrow ship, 45. Thai currency units, 47. Wager, 48. Drudgery, 49. Shed light on, 56. Backside, 57. Not under, 58. Anagram of "Doles", 59. Not guys, 60. Bites, 61. Step, 62. X X X X, 63. Location, 64. Manicurist's board,

Down

1. Add, 2. Deliver a tirade, 3. Against, 4. Found on a finger 5. Party pooper, 6. Course around a star, 7. Back, 8. Camber, 9. Albeit, 10. Repentant, 11. Nimble, 12. Unexpired, 13. Cocoyam, 21. Tall hill, 25. Alien Life Form, 26. Anagram of "Sees", 27. Bad end, 28. Poetic foot, 29. Temporarily incapable of speaking, 30. Clean between teeth, 31. Owl!, 33. Whirl, 34. Indian dress, 35. Novice, 36. Notch, 38. Exclusions, 41. A parcel of land, 42. Thin plain-weave fabric, 44. Precious stone, 45. Cleansing agent, 46. Passageway, 47. An exchange, 48. A magician, 50, 57 in Roman numerals, 51. Past tense of Leap, 52. Stand-ard, 53. Away from the wind, 54. Rip, 55. Countercurrent

Yesterday's Solution

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

after, break, build, cancel, county, curs, earth,, enchant, faith, flower, glamor, grope, hidden, knees, lept noteworthy, persist, plead, please, purple, queen, radical, remain, rend, rile, saute, sloe

