

15 Militants Eliminated in Paktia Airstrikes by US Forces

GARDEZ - At least 15 Taliban insurgents have been killed in two airstrike by the US military in southeastern Paktia province, officials said on Wednesday.

Col. Kamin Shinwari, police chief for Syed Karam district, told Pajhwok Afghan News the foreign forces raided a Taliban base in Bokra area on Tuesday night.

He said 11 militants were killed, two others wounded, and weapons and ammunition belonging to rebels destroyed as a result of the strike.

Separately, police spokesman Sardar Wali Tabasom said the US forces carried out the airstrike in Wach Ghrak area of Ahmadabad district. Four insurgents were killed and three others wounded.

In Kabul, a statement from the Ministry of Interior (MoI) said that 15 militants had been killed in Syed Karam and Ahmadabad districts. The Taliban have said nothing thus far about the fatalities. (Pajhwok)



27 Taliban Insurgents Killed During Counter-Terrorism Operations



QALAT - At least 23 militants belonging to Afghanistan's insurgent group Taliban were killed and 28 other injured during the operations in southern Zabol province of Afghanistan.

Afghan Ministry of Defence (MoD), confirming the casualties, said in a statement that the operations were conducted in Shahjoi and Mizan districts of the province, the Khaama Press reported. Local Taliban leaders, the deputy shadow district chief of the group for Mizan Hayatullah Mujahid, Taliban's shadow ... (More on P4)... (15)

Taliban Suffer Heavy Casualties in Helmand Operations, Claims MoD



KABUL - The Taliban insurgents have suffered heavy casualties during the operations of the Afghan security forces in southern Helmand province of Afghanistan, the Ministry of Defense (MoD) said Wednesday.

According to a statement by MoD, the Afghan security forces conducted various operations in the past 24 hours but the heavy casualties were inflicted on the militants ... (More on P4)... (19)

4 Daesh, 2 Taliban Rebels Perish in Nangarhar Blitz

JALABABAD - Four Daesh and two Taliban militants have been killed during ongoing security operations in eastern Nangarhar province, officials said on Wednesday.

The Nangarhar governor's spokesman, Attaullah Khogyani, told Pajhwok Afghan News the ground and air assaults were being conducted in Haska Mena and Batikot districts of the province.

He said at least four Daesh or so-called Islamic State (IS) fighters were eliminated and seven others wounded in air raids on Tuesday in Haska Mena district. Another airstrike carried in Batikot district left two Taliban insurgents dead who were brothers, according to Khogyani, who added a motorbike belonging to the rebels was also destroyed in the raid. (Pajhwok)

Clash at Pul-i-Charkhi Prison Leaves 1 Inmate Dead

KABUL - One prisoner was killed and another injured in a clash in the third block of Pul-i-Charkhi jail in capital Kabul on Wednesday, an official said.

Lt. Gen. Abdul Hakem Kohistani, head of prisons and detention centres, confirmed to Pajhwok Afghan News the clash inside the jail in which one prisoner was killed and another injured.

He said situation have ... (More on P4)... (16)

Two Senior Taliban Commanders Killed in Urozgan

TRINKUT - Afghan security forces have killed Taliban's military commander, Hayatullah Mujahid and the group's operation commander, Sideq Aqa in Urozgan province, local officials said.

The Atal 205th corps has confirmed their killings and said at least 21 other Taliban insurgents were killed also by Afghan forces.

The Taliban considers ... (More on P4)... (17)

Premature Explosion Among the Taliban Leaves 13 Militants Dead, Wounded

KABUL - At least thirteen Taliban insurgents were killed or wounded after an Improvised Explosive Device went off prematurely among the several Taliban insurgents in eastern Laghman province of Afghanistan.

According to the officials of the 201st Silab Corps of the Afghan ... (More on P4)... (18)

Gunmen Attack the Spokesman of Balkh Governor in Mazar-E-Sharif



MAZAR-E-SHARIF - Unknown gunmen carried out an attack on the Balkh governor's spokesman in the provincial capital Mazar-e-Sharif city.

According to the local security officials, the incident took place earlier Wednesday in the vicinity close to the residence of Munir Ahmad Farhad.

Provincial police chief Abdul Raziq Qaderi confirmed the incident and said the attack was carried out by a couple of gunmen riding a motorcycle.

He said Mr. Farhad has sustained injuries in the attack but his condition is satisfactory.

According to Qaderi, the gunmen have managed to flee the area but the security forces have launched an operation for the

apprehension of the assailants. No individual or group has so far claimed responsibility behind the attack.

Balkh is among the relatively calm provinces in northern parts of Afghanistan where insurgency related incidents are reported.

However, the anti-government armed militants have stepped up their efforts to destabilize some parts of the province, specifically attempting to expand their insurgency in some remote districts of the province.

However, the main motive behind the attack on Mr. Farhad has not been ascertained so far and it is yet not clear if the attack was carried out by the militant groups. (KP)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



Aries You may be licking your wounds over a past misunderstanding but, thankfully, your recovery is steady now. Your analysis of recent events can leave you feeling discouraged, but your assessment of the current situation reveals progress today. Although you might still feel wary, you can't help but rebuild your confidence as the day wears on.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



Taurus You don't appreciate it when others interfere with your established routine. However, someone's suggestions might actually make sense today, and heeding their advice is wise, even if it's a step into uncertainty. Thankfully, steady Saturn grounds you with its cooperative sextile to Mercury in your 6th House of Habits.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



Gemini Your emotional attachment to the past is emphasized now if someone in the present moment reminds you of an old friend or lover. You quickly slip into a daydream to replay scenes from your life story. However, you may encounter more than you bargained for as other memories flood into your awareness, luring you away from your current obligations.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



Cancer Making progress at work is an uphill battle when you must frequently interrupt your regular tasks to solve a problem. Thankfully, solutions arrive effortlessly today, but not until you go through the motions of deconstructing the dilemma and constructing a better plan.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



Leo You rarely mind being in the spotlight, even though it seems instinctive to keep your feelings undercover today. In fact, it is your ability to subdue your emotions that empowers you to present your ideas in a clear and succinct manner now. All types of communication are more effective as long as you maintain an unwavering commitment to remaining objective.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



Virgo You can muddle your way through a complex tangle of emotions today by focusing your attention on the past. Paradoxically, your retrospection enables you to calculate your trajectory. However, you must be careful or you could miss a hazard in the road ahead. Thankfully, there is a simple remedy to your dilemma: keep one eye on the rearview mirror and the other on the path in front of you.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



Libra You take your responsibilities quite seriously today. You feel empowered with the authority you need to lay down the law as taskmaster Saturn offers a helping hand to messenger Mercury. However, it's smarter to lead by example rather than by demanding obedience. In the long run, you will accomplish more if you inspire others rather than impress them.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



Scorpio You might rather watch a documentary today than star in one. Interactive Mercury is hiding in your 12th House of Privacy, urging you to remain quiet while austere Saturn approves of your introverted behavior. Gathering information is more useful than dispersing it now, and your research could pay off sooner than you think.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



Sagittarius You're so involved with the pressing issues of the day that you can't envision a simple way out of your dilemma. Instead of pushing for a solution, a temporary retreat may be in order now so you can contemplate your situation. Exploring alternative strategies gives you a sense of power and prepares you to react quickly to the changing circumstances today. However, having too many choices is just as overwhelming and can hinder your actions.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



Capricorn You are preoccupied with the hopes and dreams of others today, and may have trouble concentrating on your own. Thankfully, industrious Saturn in your 12th House of Invisibility offers unseen assistance as it harmonizes with logistical Mercury, strengthening your resolve to forge ahead.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)



Aquarius Your daydreams are less fantasies now than a process by which you create a map into the future. Nearly anything is possible if you can eliminate the extraneous noise and focus on your top priorities. Luckily, the meticulous Cancer Moon is camped out in your 6th House of Details, motivating you to achieve your goals. Don't be concerned if progress is slow as long as you're not losing ground.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



Pisces Your hard work could finally earn you the recognition you deserve. However, you may be required to embark on an information quest now, so you can put the last few missing pieces into place. Once completed, events will reveal your destiny as karmic Saturn in your 10th House of Public Status rewards you for your persistence. Entertainer Eddie Cantor quipped, "It takes twenty years to make an overnight success."

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-63.

Across: 1. Distort, 5. Velocity, 10. Actors in a show, 14. Gambling game, 15. Mother, 16. Mimics, 17. Vaccination, 19. Between the head and shoulders, 20. Coloring agent, 21. Alarm, 22. Stags, 23. Anagram of "Ladders", 25. Unreactive, 27. A late time of life, 28. Records over an existing track (sound), 31. Pincer, 34. Affirm, 35. Record (abbrev.), 36. Quiet time, 37. Supporting column, 38. Greek cheese, 39. In the past, 40. Obdurate, 41. Optical maser, 42. Threatening, 44. Dawn goddess, 45. Menacing look, 46. A despicable coward, 50. Offspring, 52. More awful, 54. Not high, 55. Greek letter, 56. Young unmarried woman (archaic), 58. 3, 59. Pee, 60. Gangly, 61. Terminates, 62. Discourage, 63. Vesicle.

Down: 1. Slides, 2. East African country, 3. Ceased, 4. Suffering, 5. Grinned, 6. Show-off, 7. Arab chieftain, 8. With great feeling, 9. One of the tribes of Israel, 10. A misleading fabrication, 11. Openings, 12. Religious offshoot, 13. Sounds of disapproval, 18. Kind of lily, 22. German for "Mister", 24. A small wooded hollow, 26. Tidy, 28. Unpaid, 29. Mend (archaic), 30. Stigma, 31. Burrowing marine mollusk, 32. Large, 33. Stetched, 34. Ceramic ware, 37. Blend, 38. Quick, 40. Glance over, 41. Fails to win, 43. Invariably, 44. Less difficult, 46. Pilotless plane, 47. Assuage, 48. Buns, 49. Inhabited, 50. Location, 51. Smut, 53. Leave out, 56. Clunker, 57. And so forth.

Yesterday's Solution: PRANK, ORCA, RAVE, CANAL, REAL, EGAD, UNTIL, BANT, WILLO, STILL, BIRTH, OLO, JET, OARED, EDISON, FOULS, SOAPY, SLUGFESTS, SOME, EPOCH, FAIL, EMBELLISH, BURRO, COINS, GALLIOT, SHARPS, BET, MOIL, ILLUMINATE, ARSE, OVER, SOLED, GALS, NIPS, TREAD, EXES, SITE, EMERY.

again, allies, banana, begin, bunch, cage, chain, civilian, clear, commit dance, died, facility, fare, horse, inform, leave, never, pilot, pixel, quite, rigid, single, smart, spent, start, sweater

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