

# US, Afghan Forces Raid Al-Qaida Camp

KABUL - The United States military said Tuesday it conducted a major air and ground operation with Afghan forces in southern Afghanistan, killing "numerous" al-Qaida militants. Based on months of intelligence gathering and planning, the operation was launched October 7 in the Shorabak district of Kandahar province and concluded Sunday, a U.S. military statement said. More than 200 American and Afghan forces took part in the offensive, which involved 63 U.S. precision airstrikes while Afghan forces engaged in several ground battles against al-Qaida networks at two



related sites. "This is one of the largest joint ground-assault operations we have ever conducted in Afghanistan," the statement said, quoting Brigadier General Wilson Shoffner, a U.S. military spokesman in Afghanistan. "Growing capability" Shoffner said the al-Qaida sanctuary was struck in the center of the Taliban's historic heartland, demonstrating "the growing capability of the Afghan security forces." "The first site, a well-established training camp, spanned approximately 1 square mile. The second site covered nearly 30 square miles [77 sq km]," he added. ...*(More on P4)...(16)*

## Afghan Woman Avoids Arranged Marriage through Rap

KABUL - At 16-years-old, SonitaAlizadeh, a woman who hails from Afghanistan, was informed by her mother that she was to be sold into marriage. Alizadeh, who had already recorded several songs, responded to the news by shooting a music video for a record titled "Daughters For Sale." On the song, Alizadeh raps: "I scream to make up for a woman's lifetime silence / I scream on behalf of the deep wounds on my body / I scream for a body exhausted in its cage / A body that broke under the price tags you put on it." The song was published close to a year ago, and as of today (October 13), the video has received well over 70,000 views. Among those to view the "Daughters For Sale" video was a rep for the Strongheart Group. According to CNN, the Strongheart Group is "an organization that helps individuals directly impacted by social issues tell their story." "She had passion and drive," Zoe Adams, CEO of the Strongheart Group said while speaking with CNN. "We knew we could help her achieve her dreams to get an education, develop as an artist and be a voice for girls being forced into marriage." On behalf of the Strongheart Group, Alizadeh was offered a student visa and a full scholarship to the Wasatch Academy in Mount Pleasant, Utah. Alizadeh, who recently attended London's Women in the World summit, says her family, her mother in particular, had to warm up ...*(More on P4)...(20)*

## Luxury Afghan Jewelry Finds Way to US and UK

KABUL - Luxury jewelry handcrafted by Afghan men and women in Kabul have found way to United Kingdom and United States with the help of a popular London-based jewelry designer Pippa Small. She has shops in Notting Hill as well as Los Angeles in United States of America and has developed a large following for her statement-making bohemian jewelry which works with the natural contours of gem stones for a "river-tumbled, imperfect feel", according to a report by Valeri Denny published in American business magazine Forbes.

Inspired by a group of nomadic people called the Kuchi with the women having big swinging skirts with lots of jewelry, her latest line 'The Turquoise Mountain Collection' includes strong, bold pieces handcrafted by the artisans. "I've been working with this group for about seven years now. I went out initially to design a collection with a charity to go with the Bactrian collection, a horde of gold from the second century around the time of Alexander the Great. The gold had been hidden by the museum director in Kabul when the Taliban came through. He buried it and when the Taliban fell, he had opened where he hidden it. They're beautiful exquisite pieces that have touring around the world. The charity thought because it was touring, they'd have a craftsman make jewelry that they could sell in the museums," she told Valeri. She said "I found a group of craftsmen at Turquoise Mountain and went back twice a year to make collections with those craftsmen that I'd sell to ...*(More on*

## 19 Cases of Exchange of Gunfire Reported Along the Tajik-Afghan Border

DUSHANBE - The first nine months of this year have seen 19 cases of exchange of gunfire between Tajik border guards and trespassers along the Tajik-Afghan border, according to the Main Border Guard Directorate at the State Committee for National Security (SCNS). 10 Afghan trespassers and six Tajik trespassers have reportedly been killed in those gunfire exchanges. Besides, two Afghan trespassers have been wounded. 165 violators of border,



including 31 Afghan nationals, six Kyrgyz nationals, 109 Tajik nationals, nine Uzbek nationals, eight Russian nationals and two citizens of China, have been detained over the same nine-month period. More than 1,000 kilograms of narcotics and 20 firearms have reportedly been seized along the border over the report period. *(Asia-Plus)*

## New Frontier Posts Set up Along the Tajik-Afghan Border

DUSHANBE - Two new frontier posts - Sari Pul and Kafrotoun - have been set up along the Tajik-Afghan border in Khatlon's districts of Panj and Hamadoni, according to the Main Border Guard Directorate at the State Committee for National Security (SCNS). "Official ceremonies of opening of the new frontier posts in Panj and Hamadoni districts took place at the end of last week," Mohammad Ulughkhoyayev, a spokesman for the Main Border Guard Directorate, told Asia-Plus in an interview.

According to him, the SCNS chief SaymuminYatimov, Border Troops commander RajabaliRahmonali, chief of the Main Border Guard Directorate's office in Khatlon province AslamNazarov, Interior Minister RamazonRahimzoda and some other officials attended the ceremonies. "The frontier posts are provided with all necessary equipment and premises meeting international standards," Ulughkhoyayev said.

A total length of Tajikistan's common border with Afghanistan is more than 1,400 kilometers. In May this year, Tajikistan created the second line of defense along its common border with Afghanistan following aggravation of the situation in the border areas of the neighboring country. We will recall that during a meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin in Putin in Russia's Black Sea resort of Sochi, Tajik President EmomaliRahmon said on October 6 that Tajikistan is "extremely concerned" about the situation along the Tajik-Afghan border. Rahmon reportedly said the situation in Afghanistan was "getting worse by the day." "Practically, fighting ...*(More on P4)...(19)*

## Policeman Killed in Kandahar Suicide Attack

KANDAHAR - A policeman was killed and another injured in a suicide attack in southern Kandahar province early Tuesday, local officials said. The attack took place in Maiwand district of the province after police stopped a suicide bomber at a CHECK point. The insurgent then detonated his explosives, killing the policeman and injuring the second officer, the provincial governor's media office said in a statement. There were no civilian casualties in the attack, the statement said. However, no group including the Taliban has claimed responsibility for the attack. *(Tolnews)*

## Battle for Kunduz Draws Afghans into Urban Warfare

KUNDUZ - The Afghan army's limitations in urban fighting were on full display during the two-week effort to drive the Taliban from Kunduz - a city that the insurgents overran in a single day. The Taliban announced Tuesday they were pulling out of Kunduz, insisting they had not been beaten but had chosen to withdraw to spare further civilian casualties. Afghan forces had pushed Taliban fighters from most of the city in two weeks of fighting after the militants' biggest battlefield success since they were driven from power in 2001. Even though Afghan security forces have finally prevailed, the Taliban's ability to seize a major city - especially one far from their traditional southern strongholds - threatens to change the character of the war, which had been fought mostly in rural ar ...*(More on P4)...(21)*

## Saudi Arabia Signs Deals Worth \$10 Bn with France

RIYADH - Saudi Arabia announced on Tuesday the signing of 11.4 billion U.S. dollars deals with France, local Al-Arabiya TV reported. The report said these deals include the establishment of a Saudi investment fund worth 2.3 billion dollars, a maritime research center and an industrial complex in France. Local Elaf e-newspaper reported that the deals also cover energy, weaponry,



infrastructure and satellites, as well as health and agriculture. France's ambassador for international investment Muriel Penicaud told the TV channel that French corporations ...*(More on P4)...(18)*

### Outlook Horoscope

#### Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

You aren't willing to give up your freedom, even in a trade for a less stressful path in life. However, you might choose being responsible today over being independent - although you may not be happy with your decision. Unfortunately, clinging to your annoyance can create serious static in your relationships. Expressing your negativity and then letting it go allows you to avoid feeling.

#### Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

Recent promises have you climbing the walls today, leaving you with little time to enjoy life's pleasures. Although your goals are straightforward, nothing is simple while everyone is making demands on your time. Unexpressed emotions can turn a casual encounter into a tangle of intrigue now. Don't wait to address the source of a problem if you already understand the current dynamics.

#### Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Your passions are running the show today, making you feel less confident of your decisions. But the intensity of relationship dynamics grows stronger as your emotions sink into the shadows of your subconscious. There isn't a lot of room for faulty logic now, so methodically think through your plan before you initiate a process that can't be stopped midstream. Taking the time to consider what your heart needs empowers you to make the right choice.

#### Cancer (June 21-July 20)

You strive to understand both sides of a relationship issue today, but may be forced to take a position later on. The Moon's afternoon shift into emotional Scorpio reminds you that your feelings control so much of your behavior that you might be unable to change the outcome of the present situation. Listen to your inner voice now.

#### Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

There is still a lot of hard work to do over the next few weeks and you're thankful that all the noise is beginning to settle down. But instead of tying up loose ends or planning your next move now, you're more inclined to take the day off for rest and relaxation. Balancing your hectic schedule with a bit of peaceful solitude at home may be the smartest allocation of your time today.

#### Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

You're able to assimilate big changes into your life without too much difficulty now. However, you're not interested in simply trading a relaxing day for one filled with distractions. Happily, making a commitment to express yourself creatively motivates you to realize your greatest potential. Share whatever thoughts come to mind, even if it complicates the picture today. It really doesn't matter which artistic medium you choose

#### Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

You can't seem to find enough time to kick back today, but you might believe you can get away without fulfilling all of your responsibilities. However, there is a difference between pursuing ambitious goals and simply honoring your promises. You may have to make up for lost time later in the evening if your laziness wins out early on. Balancing work with play is a safer strategy than going to either extreme.

#### Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

You are likely to reach a significant fork in the road today, yet your current map isn't clear about where either path leads. Unfortunately, your decision-making process is a lot more complicated now because of this cosmic ambiguity. Nevertheless, the Moon's shift into your sign later in the day triggers your final answer.

#### Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

It's a whole new ballgame once you decide that you're ready to step up to the plate and aim for the fence. Surprisingly, you may procrastinate for a little while longer, yet the momentum shifts so quickly today that you need to make pragmatic choices or you'll lose your chance to show off your muscles. Ironically, your dreams can reveal the winning strategy now. Integrating your creative visions with your current reality.

#### Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

Your social life continues to be on the move as the emotional Moon rocks your 11th House of Community. Although your friends may be overwhelmed with your unwavering intensity, you just want to do the right thing. You're not interested in making mistakes that will send the wrong message. Believe it or not, giving yourself permission to have fun is more important now than anything else.

#### Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

You may enjoy the thrill of imagining whatever is around the next bend, but other people's demands can squelch some of your excitement today. The Moon's afternoon shift into your 10th House of Public Responsibility reminds you that you're not as independent as you wish. Establishing new priorities helps you navigate your way through messy territory.

#### Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

You aren't interested in casual conversations today because you feel as if you're running out of time to connect on an emotional level. You have no patience for social games that distract you from the real issues on your mind. However, it's not always easy to find the right person to bring into your confidence. Listen closely to your intuition and allow the universe to pick your audience.

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-64.

Across: 1. Genuflected, 6. Carry, 10. Ancient Peruvian, 14. Creepy, 15. God of love, 16. Anthracite, 17. Beeper, 18. Adroit, 19. Probabilities, 20. Minstrel, 22. Roman emperor, 23. Old World vine, 24. Got up, 26. Subjugate, 30. Relating to audible sound, 32. Allegation, 33. Contrabandists, 37. Picnic insects, 38. Hotel offering, 39. Region, 40. Baby baskets, 42. Something of value, 43. Angry, 44. Urticate, 45. Pariah, 47. Neither, 48. Unwakable state, 49. Train engine, 56. Plunder, 57. Historical periods, 58. Soft drinks, 59. Initial wager, 60. Anger, 61. Portents, 62. Not the original color, 63. Sleigh, 64. Rental agreement.

Down: 1. Retained, 2. Close, 3. Therefore, 4. Place, 5. Element with the symbol Tb, 6. Woman's undergarment, 7. Chocolate cookie, 8. Curdled soybean milk, 9. Alienate, 10. Image breaker, 11. Connecting points, 12. Close-knit group, 13. As well, 21. « Maria», 25 -18wheeler, 26. Anagram of «Cabs», 27. Forearm bone, 28. Flying mammals, 29. Dispersed, 30. Strike, 31. In baseball, 3 per inning, 33. Cooking fat, 34. At one time (archaic), 35. Bobbin, 36. Satisfy, 38. Growlers, 41. Fury, 42. Spray can, 44. French for «Name», 45. Bonkers, 46. Overact, 47. Nuzzled, 48. Attired, 50. By mouth, 51. An enclosure, 52. Hefty volume, 53. Bright thought, 54. Campers, 55. Being.

Yesterday's Solution

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