

150 Rebels Killed in 2 Weeks in Ghazni: Police

GHAZNI - At least 150 Taliban militants have been killed and 41 others wounded during two weeks of operations in five districts of southern Ghazni, an official said Wednesday.

Provincial police chief, Brig. Gen. Aminullah Amarkhel, told a press conference that the clearing operations were ongoing in Ghazni city, the provincial capital, and Andar, Giro, Deh Yak, Qarabagh, and Zanakhan districts for the past two weeks.

He said 150 militants had been killed and 41 others injured and several villages cleared of their presence as a result of the opera-



tions. Three Taliban commanders including Mullah Ahmadi, Mullah Hanif and Mullah Khalid Mansor were among the dead, Amarkhel said, adding several villages had been cleared of militants.

"I assure Ghazni people that Taliban would not be able to capture even a single checkpoint," he said. Mohammad Eshaq, a resident of Tasang area of Deh Yak district, told Pajhwok Afghan News heavy clashes between Afghan forces and Taliban were ongoing in their areas for the past several days. Civilians also suffered casualties during the clashes, he said. Noorullah, a resident of Giro ...*(More on P4)...(16)*

Taliban Raise Flags in Suburb of Lashkargah

KABUL - Residents and members of civil society institutions in Helmand on Wednesday raised concerns over the infiltration of Taliban in suburbs of the provincial capital Lashkargah where the insurgents have in parts, including Bolan, hoisted their flags.

Amid public despera-

tion meanwhile, provincial governor Hayatullah Hayat has said that the Afghan security forces have plans to carry out a large scale operation in the region aimed at curbing a further advance and infiltration of the group's fighters into the city.

He said that the security ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

Afghan Migrant Kills Wife in Australia

SYDNEY An Afghan migrant, 43, allegedly murdered his wife, 30, by setting her alight in their Sydney home in Australia before fleeing the blaze with his two young sons - as neighbors recall woman's terrified screams for help, according to the Daily Mail.

The husband of a woman whose body was discov-

ered after a house fire has been charged with murder.

Residents described hearing a woman's screams for help as the fire tore through the home of a family from Afghanistan in the early hours of Tuesday.

Abdul Barati, 43, and his two sons, aged six and ...*(More on P4)...(18)*

Young Afghan Architects, Engineers Rebuild Ancient Palace

KABUL - Darul Aman Palace, one of Afghanistan's historical sites which was badly damaged during the civil wars, is now getting its original shape as young and determined Afghans are trying to rebuild it.

Officials from the Kabul Municipality said 25 of the engineers and architects

are Afghan females.

"We completed the documentation process within five months and it is prepared based on the documents and the images we had from the palace," said Afghan female architect Khadija Husaini.

"The electric system of the palace is completely ...*(More on P4)...(20)*

Mental Illness Casts Shadow over Afghans Struggling to Cope with Decades of War

LONDON - When psychiatrist Ghulam Sarwar Sakha first met a 23-year-old woman who had been studying in the northern Afghan city of Kunduz when it was stormed by the Taliban last year, the trainee teacher could not drown out the voices in her head.

Locked in her room to avoid the fighting that raged on the streets outside, the student started hallucinating.

"I receive warnings and threats. They say I am bad girl. I don't wear a hijab. They are going to come and get me," said Sakha, recalling the words of his patient. It became so bad that her parents took her to a doctor who prescribed medicine for a physical ailment. But in reality, she was suffering from schizophrenia, said Sakha, who treated the woman during a visit to his homeland to do charity work.

Some 10 million Afghans - nearly a third of the population - who are facing mental ...*(More on P4)...(19)*

150 Cargo Trucks Escaping Customs Duty Impounded

PUL-I-ALAM - Intelligence officials have impounded dozens of cargo vehicles en route to Kabul in central Logar province for allegedly attempting to evade customs duty, an official said on Wednesday.

Salim Saleh, the Logar governor's spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News the National Directorate of Security (NDS) personnel stopped 150 cargo trucks at the entrance to Logar province after they attempted to escape from

customs duty. He said the trucks destined for Kabul from Pakistan had passed through Khost, Paktia and Paktika provinces reaching Logar. "Some of the vehicles have made fake customs duty documents and several others were without any documents. A few other vehicles' documents have been sent to the provincial capital for a check." He said the cargo vehicles were loaded with rice, ghee, flour and other food commodi-



ties. The vehicles wouldn't be allowed to go until they cleared customs duty. Gul Habib, a resident of Pul-I-Alam, the provincial capital, said, "Three of my trucks have also been stopped at the entrance to Logar and I have cleared the customs duty." *(Pajhwok)*

Two American Advisers Killed, 3 Wounded by Shooter in Kabul

KABUL - A gunman in an Afghan army uniform on Wednesday shot dead at least two American advisers and wounded three more near a base in the Afghan capital before being killed himself, officials said.

The American deaths included one soldier and one civilian, while one soldier and two civilians were injured and in stable condition, the U.S. military command in Kabul said in a statement.

"The two individuals were



killed during an attack near a coalition base by an unknown assailant, who was later killed," the statement said. "They were conducting duties as part

Afghan Brothers Meet in UK after a Decade

PESHAWAR - An Afghan boy, one of the first child migrants reaching Britain from Calais jungle in France, has met his brother after more than a decade, a TV channel reported. Aimal Khan, 14,

was reunited with his older brother Asif, who told Sky News: "It was a great moment, when I saw him after a long time, more than 10 years."

Asif, a 25-year-old chef ...*(More on P4)...(22)*

Taliban Shadow District Chief among 16 Rebels Killed

JALALABAD - At least 16 Taliban militants including the group's shadow district chief have been killed during airstrikes in eastern Nangarhar province, an official said on Wednesday.

Hazrat Hussain Mashraiqwal, the provincial police spokesman, told Pajhwok ...*(More on P4)...(23)*

Large Afghan Pomegranate Crop Threatened by Lack of Markets: Farmers

KANDAHAR - Farmers in Afghanistan's fertile south harvested a bumper crop of deep red pomegranates this year, but they say barriers to international trade in the landlocked country means much of their fruit may go to waste or be sold too cheaply. The obstacles to fruit exporters, who accounted for more than a quarter of all Afghan exports in 2014, have posed a serious threat to one of the



few functioning parts of Afghanistan's economy, struggling to emerge from decades of war. Most of Afghanistan's pomegranates are exported to Pakistan, where prices are ...*(More on P4)...(24)*

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

Putting your words into action can't be delayed any longer. Talk is cheap, but it won't solve any problems now as you try to get ahead at work. You might even feel as if your survival is at stake when combative Mars joins ruthless Pluto in your 10th House of Career. Your coworkers may mistakenly believe your urgent need to win means they must lose, fueling a struggle for dominance.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

You could surprise yourself with the intensity of your feelings today if someone questions your goals or your motivation. An impassioned conjunction of contentious Mars and Pluto may provoke unexpectedly strong reactions. What is a game to you can seem like mortal combat to others, so choose your playmates carefully.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Enthusiasm turns sour today if you give your emotions too much power. Your passion rises to a crescendo now that ardent Mars runs into powerful Pluto in your 8th House of Deep Sharing. Nevertheless, hold your temper if someone steps out of line to oppose you. You can't win this battle by fighting fire with fire. Nevertheless, a well-thought-out strategy enables you to apply analytical thinking in a calm and constructive manner rather than acting.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

Tough talking escalates into an open disagreement today, especially if an ambitious person challenges your progress. You may be particularly opinionated now, prompting you to take initiative in a relationship or attracting aggressive people if you say nothing at all. Either way, militant Mars and potent Pluto are stirring up a storm in your 7th House of Others.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

There is no need to panic today if your plans start to unravel. It's tempting to roar like a Lion but a show of power won't necessarily help to keep your life in order. You might be so convinced you're doing the right thing that you overcompensate, only to make matters worse.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

Your words are so sharp today that you could inadvertently hurt someone you meant to help. Nevertheless, your practical analysis of the situation enables you to see through most misunderstandings and deceptions as you cut to the chase. But apply a dash of diplomacy when making your case because some people may be more sensitive than you realize. If you encounter irrational resistance.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

Uneasy dynamics on the home front strengthen your convictions and intensify conflicts with family members. In fact, you may think you've been thrown into a transformational cauldron of alchemical change, which can rock the foundations of your emotional world. Unfortunately, some of your current discomfort is likely tied to nearly forgotten memories from your past.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

People appear to be on edge today and their extreme reactions seem out of proportion with the current circumstances. Paradoxically, someone's anger or resentment might be aimed in your direction if you attempt to bottle up your emotions. A volatile Mars-Pluto conjunction destabilizes your 3rd House of Communication.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

You are a person on a mission today, eager to do whatever is necessary to reach your goals. Your stamina is a godsend as assertive Mars joins unstoppable Pluto to push you forward. Unfortunately, you could overreact if you think your success is being threatened in any way. The crisis may be real but you can transform a stressful situation into a beneficial one as long as you don't try to take on the entire world.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

You might have to face your fears today if you encounter people who push your buttons. On the other hand, you could accidentally upset someone else if you let your feelings of discontent or mistrust slip out. Nevertheless, this is an opportunity to recognize what you need to do to find satisfaction. Letting go of an attitude that impedes your success may be necessary now.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

You try every possible option just to sidestep a difficult conversation, but your avoidance has already likely contributed to the current drama. You're probably not very happy about running into an emotionally intense person today as cranky Mars hooks up with passionate Pluto in your 12th House of Destiny. Nevertheless, taking responsibility for your role in the conflict minimizes the discomfort all the way around.

Pisces (Feb. 19-Mar.20)

Intense conversations with colleagues and friends may delve into psychologically profound territory today. Memories of old emotional conflicts raise unnecessary fears that fuel a disagreement. Unfortunately, you might turn your feelings into anger in order to defend your position even if you're not being attacked. It's only worth the energy to argue if you are moving through new ground instead of picking at familiar old wounds.



Across

1. A single time, 5. Ticketed, 10. "Smallest" particle, 14. Role, 15. French school, 16. Balcony section, 17. Gauntness, 19. Trim, 20. Confederate soldier, 21. Impolite dinner sound, 22. Washed-out, 23. Helps, 25. Long stories, 27. Purchase, 28. Emits, 31. An unidentified aircraft, 34. Merchandise that is shoddy, 35. Mineral rock, 36. Midmonth date, 37. Small goose, 38. Venician magistrate, 39. Barbie's beau, 40. Cut of beef, 41. Beauty parlor, 42. Alienate, 44. Consumer Price Index, 45. Even, 46. Adult male chicken, 50. Not those, 52. Insect stage, 54. Center of a storm, 55. Japanese wrestling, 56. Graniteware, 58. Food thickener, 59. Varnish ingredient, 60. Corrosive, 61. Lease, 62. Something of value, 63. Not we.

Down

1. A drama set to music, 2. What we are called, 3. Grouches, 4. And so forth, 5. Loyalty, 6. Convulsion, 7. French for "Black", 8. Running away, 9. Lair, 10. Lama pacos, 11. In inedible mushroom, 12. Monster, 13. A fitting reward (ar,chaic), 18. Put out, 22. Informer, 24. Nile bird, 26. Agreement, 28. Delete, 29. Therefore, 30. Observed, 31. Bicycle, 32. Poems, 33. A man of refinement, 34. Excavating machines, 37. Part of a skeleton, 38. Speaker's platform, 40. Rant, 41. Thread holder, 43. Vacation destination, 44. Powerfully persuasive, 46. Bog hemp, 47. Instruct, 48. Lofty nest, 49. Slender, 50. Russian emperor, 51. Large, 53. Catholic church service, 56. Historic period, 57. A Buddhist temple.

Yesterday's Solution



again, around, arrangement, bread, broad, care-free, cast, clock, dance, destruction, drive, engine, enjoy, heart, house, jewel, lean, lease, light, maybe, parks, peace, protest, purchase, radical, rampage, rapes, reach, rich, rides, right, spring, steak, sunny.

