

21 Taliban Insurgents Killed in Helmand

LASHKARGAH - At least 21 Taliban insurgents including one of their commanders were killed in ongoing military operations in southern Helmand province, the provincial governor's office said in a statement.

The operation was launched almost a week ago in Lashkargah city to clear the insurgents. The group's commander Nazim was also killed on Monday, according to the statement. Ground troops meanwhile also received air support during the operation and are advancing in Bolan area of the city, it stated.

However, the statement did not provide more details on the operation.

The operation comes after insurgents recently raised their attacks around Lashkargah. (Tolonews)



Afghan Refugees Describe Warm Welcome from Local People in New Home after Calais Eviction

CALAIS - There was a lot of angst and trepidation on Monday (24 October) as many refugees feared they would face rejection and an uncertain future after they were left in the dark about where the French authorities would send them ahead of the planned demolition of Calais' camp.

While more than 20% of the 'Jungle' refugee camp's population left ahead of the eviction - because of fears of being displaced across 451 reception centres in France and the desire to reach the UK for others - a little group of Afghans spent their first night sleeping in their new accommodation in Pays de la Loire.

Netty Miles, who worked in the Calais Women and Children's Service Volunteer Coordination, met the group of six or seven in May 2016 - three months after they had arrived in the camp, home to 8,100. The little group, all of whom came from different regions of Afghanistan and met in Calais, formed what the volunteer described as an "extended family support group". In the camp - that is expected to be demolished from Tuesday - members of the group eat together, looked after each other's shelters and ... (More on P4)... (13)

8 Border Police Personnel Killed in Torkham Attack

JALALABAD - At least eight border policemen have been killed and three others wounded as result of Taliban attacks on their check-posts at the Torkham border gate in eastern Nangarhar province, an official said on Tuesday.

A security official, who did not want to be named, confided to Pajhwok Afghan News the insurgents stormed the security posts late Monday night, killing eight border police personnel and wounding three others.

Attaullah Khogyani, the

governor's spokesman, confirmed the assaults but had no information about casualties.

Separately, at least 16 fighters of the Islamic State, also known as Daesh, were killed in Achin and Pachiragam districts in air and ground strikes, he said.

Ten Daesh rebels were killed and four others wounded in the Upper Pachir neighborhood of the restive town. Two Taliban militants were killed as a result of an airstrike in the Bander locality of Achin, he added. (Pajhwok)



Afghan Taliban use Drone to Film Suicide Attack



KABUL - The Afghan Taliban have released aerial footage of a suicide car bombing in southern Helmand province, marking the first time the media-savvy militant group has used a drone to record an attack.

The 23-minute video shows a suicide bomber ramming a Humvee into a military base in volatile Nawa district, triggering a mushroom cloud of flames and smoke and razing the entire compound. With pro-Taliban poems playing in the background, the

video reported Tuesday by the US-based SITE Intelligence group shows a turban-clad bomber in front of a Humvee, hugging fellow fighters before he departs.

The camera mounted on a drone shows a birds-eye view of the target, tracking his Humvee as it strikes the base, causing a massive explosion.

The video, which could not be independently verified, is the first drone footage released by the Taliban. The Afghan defense ... (More on P4)... (14)

2 Militants Killed, As Many Wounded in Badghis Clash

QALA-NAW - At least two Taliban militants have been killed and two others wounded in a clash with security forces in the Rabat locality of northwestern Badghis province, an official said on Tuesday.

Amir Shah Nayab, the provincial police chief, told Pajhwok Afghan News the insurgents were stormed security check-posts on Monday night. In the en-

suing gunbattles, two rebels were killed and two others injured. A resident of the area, Abdul Qudus, claimed seeing the body of one attacker at the site. But he had no other details of the overnight engagement. Badghis Civil Hospital Director Dr. Abdul Latif Rostae confirmed receiving a wounded man, who later succumbed to his injuries. (Pajhwok)

Army Ranger Killed in Afghanistan Was on his 14th Deployment

WASHINGTON - Sgt. 1st Class Kristoffer Bryan Domeij was one of three soldiers killed by an IED over the weekend in Afghanistan. The 29-year-old Army Ranger was serving his 14th deployment to the war zones, according to the U.S. Army Special Operations Command.

Domeij served four tours in Iraq and another nine stints in Afghanistan since 2002, ABC News reports. "To volunteer that many times to deploy speaks volumes to Kris' character and dedication to his country," said Tracy Bailey, spokeswoman for the 75th Ranger Regiment, according to the Huffington Post. "He was larger than life. The man everybody wanted to be around."



"This was a Ranger you wanted at your side when the chips were down... He is irreplaceable ... in ... (More on P4)... (15)

131 Kg of Drugs Seized, Militants Killed

JALALABAD - Eleven militants have been killed, three smugglers held and 131 kilograms of drugs recovered in raids in Kabul and Nangarhar provinces, an official said on Tuesday.

Nangarhar police chief, Brig. Gen. Syed Agha Noorani, told reporters that police conducted raids and prevented an attempt at drug smuggling by recovering 38 kilograms of heroin and 43 kilograms of hashish.

Teased Female Herat Drivers Vow to Stand Strong

HERAT CITY - While more than 250 women have been issued driving license in western Herat province, most of the female drivers complain they are being subjected to eve-teasing and harassment by men.



In an interview with Pajhwok Afghan News, Aminullah Maihanyar, provincial Traffic Department head, said: "Women cause least traffic accidents in all over the world, that's why we are supporting them in this cause. More than 250

women have been trained about traffic rules and issued driving licenses." But most of the female drivers complain about inappropriate behavior of male drivers towards them. They are being teased by men drivers throughout the city. Shayma Wafae, who goes to office in her car, told Pajhwok that women drivers ... (More on P4)... (17)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

There's an amazing array of possibilities right at your feet, but your desires overcome your reason today, leaving you dazed and confused. A disillusioning Venus-Neptune square can even throw you into a temporary state of despair as you try to narrow down your choices. But you could be easily fooled in your current idealistic frame of mind.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

The path to happiness is an elusive one today, even if you're convinced that your honorable intentions are enough to make everything turn out okay. However, charming Venus squares fuzzy Neptune from your 8th House of Intimacy, leading you to confuse an unrealistic fantasy with true love. Trust your recent decisions and just keep heading in the same direction.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Your compassion and imagination take the driver's seat today while vulnerable Venus dynamically squares fantasy-prone Neptune. Opening your heart to others is fine as long as your expectations aren't set so high that you end up disappointed. You're more likely to overlook reality now in your pursuit of a dream, seeing people as you wish them to be rather than as they truly are.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

If something seems too good to be true today, it probably is. Thankfully, you're able to retreat from the unrelenting pressure of making choices while indulgent Venus in your 6th House of Daily Routine creates a stressful square with intoxicating Neptune. Although you are so optimistic that you could gloss over the facts now.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

You might convince yourself that nearly anything is real today as long as it's something you want badly enough. However, you're treading on dangerous ground as a romantic Venus-Neptune square paints reality with your imagination, weakens your willpower and distorts your judgment about a person or a purchase.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

It's all too easy to misread others today, especially if your fantasies distort your perceptions. An imaginative Venus-Neptune square makes it tough to discern the truth, even if the exciting Virgo Moon enables you to isolate individual bits of data. Instead of trusting the vague generalities of your intuition, zoom into the smallest details and build the truth from there. Using your astute powers of concentration can prevent you from believing that all is well.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

You long to escape the mundane routine of everyday life and will ignore practical considerations today to justify your dreamy voyage. A magical moment of delight may inspire creative endeavors and romantic pursuits by stimulating your imagination. However, your reasoning could be skewed while a magnetic Venus-Neptune square pulls you off course and leads you down a garden path now.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

It's as if you've slipped into a hypnotic trance and are compelled to chase a phantasmagorical dream. A misleading Venus-Neptune square prompts you to give in to escapist behavior today. Unfortunately, your plan could backfire when you realize you've fallen down a surreal rabbit hole and you don't know the shortest route back to the surface.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

Untangling the threads of illusion from the colorful tapestry of life is a monumental project today because fact and fiction have tied themselves into a lover's knot. A deceptive Venus-Neptune square fuels your dreams while clouding the truth, especially when you project your desires onto someone else. Your infatuation may not be grounded in reality, so enjoy the experience without making any serious commitments.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

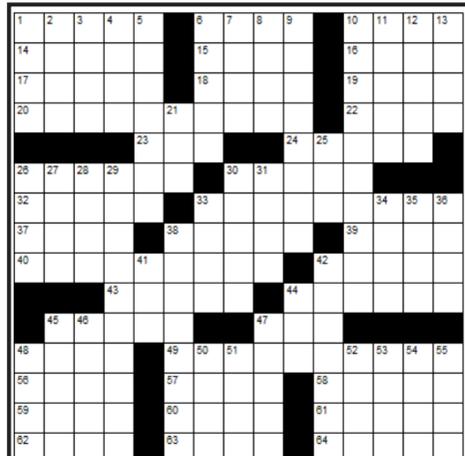
You may overestimate the value of people and objects today, making it wise to spend your love and money with caution now. Illusory Neptune forms a stressful square to accountable Venus in your 12th House of Fantasy, prompting you to merge your dreams with reality. You might be overcome with desire, risking recent gains for the exhilaration of a passing pleasure.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

Balancing your dreams with the tangible needs of others is a complicated puzzle today. Romantic fantasies can be particularly alluring yet disorienting while sweet Venus in your 11th House of Friends forms a confusing square to surreal Neptune. Nevertheless, you're ultrasensitive to others now and one offhand comment might be enough to trigger your insecurities.

Pisces (Feb. 19-Mar. 20)

Concentrating on monotonous work tasks can be quite a challenge when you're so inspired by vivid dreams, beautiful objects and fascinating ideas. Sensual Venus squares glamorous Neptune, activating your imagination while weakening your sense of practicality. Your current attractions may be ill-advised because you could be susceptible to deception now.



Across
1. Aqualung, 6. Stigma, 10. Affirm, 14. November birthstone, 15. Sea eagle, 16. Agreeable, 17. Convex molding, 18. Found on rotary phones, 19. Tall woody plant, 20. Capable of being penetrated, 22. Pile, 23. Female chicken, 24. Moses' brother, 26. Eyetooth, 30. Civet-like mammal, 32. Prank, 33. Hairy, 37. Mangle, 38. Dog-___, 39. Notion, 40. Bitterly or sharply, 42. Drive, 43. Praises, 44. Charisma, 45. Not black, 47. Witch, 48. Space, 49. Sore throat, 56. Killer whale, 57. Double-reed woodwind, 58. Swelling under the skin, 59. Self-satisfied, 60. Scheme, 61. Napped, 62. Being, 63. Tropical American wildcat, 64. Anxious.

Down
1. Cease, 2. Sheltered nook, 3. Atop, 4. Cotton bundle, 5. Nitric, 6. 4-door car, 7. Baby's bed, 8. A Freudian stage, 9. Let go, 10. Hard coal, 11. An small olive-grey bird, 12. Sea, 13. Cry, 21. Scarlet, 25. Donkey, 26. Temporary living quarters, 27. Two-toed sloth, 28. Render unconscious, 29. Journey, 30. Rolls up, 31. Comply with, 33. Head, 34. Biblical garden, 35. Require, 36. Container weight, 38. Letter container, 41. Consume, 42. Hint, 44. A tribe of Israel, 45. Nematodes, 46. To deceive or cheat, 47. Doglike nocturnal mammal, 48. Thorny flower, 50. With competence, 51. Lion sound, 52. Doing nothing, 53. Adolescent, 54. Rapsallions, 55. Satisfy.

Yesterday's Solution
V I A S T V O W E L A R C S
I N C H E D E M A G O A T
E T U I N O T T I C E A B L E
O E M E T E R R E L I E V E
V I E U N D E R
O M N I P R E S E N T
G O O N S A E R T E R I B
R A I N G S T E A L P A C E
E T E U S E R S M A N A G E
P E R S E V E R I N G
B A S A L E N S
E R O D I N G T S U N A M I
A E L A T I N O U S T R E S
A T O P P A N N I E P E A L L
T E N T S T E E L S A T E

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