

Now is the time for all good men to come to. Walt Kelly

United States

Durand Line Permanent Afghan-Pakistan Border

KABUL - The United States recognises the Durand Line as an international border between Afghanistan and Pakistan, the State Department said on Thursday. Two days back, former president Hamid Karzai had refused to recognise Durand Line as a permanent border between the two countries. He insisted the border had to be redefined. Karzai's remarks are in line with the position taken by successive Afghan governments over the decades. The 1,400-mile border was established in 1893 following



an agreement between Sir Mortimer Durand, a representative of British India, and King Abdur Rahman Khan. Addressing a news conference in Washington, State Department spokesman John Kirby said: "We don't have any new policies with respect to the borders of Afghanistan." Asked if the US recognised the Durand Line as the final border between Afghanistan and Pakistan, Kirby replied: "It's the recognised border, and we recognise the borders of Afghanistan." (Pajhwok)

NATO Partners Pledge \$200 Million to ANDSF Power Project



KABUL - Resolute Support's Deputy Chief of Staff-Security Assistance in Afghanistan Major General Todd Semonite on Thursday announced that NATO allies and partners have committed to a contribution of \$200 million USD to the Afghanistan Infrastructure Trust Fund. Semonite said: "The contribution will enable ANDSF (Afghan National Defense Security Forces) to transition from expensive, unreliable diesel-generated fuel, to the more cost-effective electric grid." Currently almost 90 percent of Afghan Security Forces' facilities rely on diesel generators at a cost of \$327 million USD annually. According to Semonite, the increased... (More on P4)...(1)

Daesh Kills 600 Afghans, Operate Prisons in Nangarhar

JALALABAD - Daesh militants have so far killed as many as 600 people over the past four months in Achin district in eastern Nangarhar province, said local officials. Achin district governor, Haji Ghalib, told TOLOnews on Thursday that the newly-emerged extremist group has also been running private prisons in Achin - where Hafiz Saeed, the group's chief for the region was killed along with his senior commanders this year in July. The group - which originated in Iraq and Syria - has also taken nearly 150 people hostage recently, including clerics, tribal elders and government officials, he added. "I have a list which shows that Daesh has killed more than 600 civilians," Ghalib said, ... (More on P4)...(4)

CEO's Office Urges Action over Implementation of ERC Recommendations

KABUL - The CEO's office on Thursday said that it would not delay implementing the presidential decree on the recommendations of the Electoral Reform Commission (ERC) which were recently presented to government. The CEO's deputy spokesman Jawed Faisal said the Justice Ministry and Office of Administrative Affairs have been assigned to implement the presidential decree in acting on the ERC's recommendations. "The Ministry of Justice and the Office



of Administrative Affairs are responsible for implementing president's decree ... (More on P4)...(3)

Some Neighboring Countries Have Made us 'Gladiators'



KABUL - Mohammad Mohaqiq, the second deputy to Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the government of Afghanistan has said that: "some of the neighboring countries have made us 'Gladiators'". Talking to the gathering commemorating the 14 death anniversary of Ahmad Shah Masoud, Mohaqiq said that Pakistan is an atomic power because of Afghanistan. He said when Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan in intention to occupy Pakistan ... (More on P4)...(5)

US, China Say Have Shared Stakes in Afghanistan's Success

WASHINGTON - The United States and China have shared stakes in the success of Afghanistan, top diplomats said, reiterating their commitment to promoting an Afghan-led reconciliation process. "In this vital mission, the good news is that you don't stand alone. The US and China share a stake in



your success, a pledge that our two countries renewed in June at our Strategic and Economic Dialogue," said Deputy Secretary of State Antony Blinken. ... (More on P4)...(2)

Sayyaf's Remarks on Taliban Widely Hailed



KABUL - In a recent statement, former Jihad leader Abdul Rasul Sayyaf strongly criticized the Taliban for carrying out attacks against civilians, and called the group's activities totally un-Islamic and against Afghan values. "I want them [the Taliban] to free themselves of others' slavery. If they have any objections they should ... (More on P4)...(6)

Karzai Doubts Al-Qaeda Ever Operated in Afghanistan



KABUL - The former Afghan President Hamid Karzai has dismissed the presence of al-Qaeda terrorist network in Afghanistan by calling it a "myth". In an excerpt of an interview with Al Jazeera English's "UpFront", Karzai said "I don't know if Al Qaeda existed and I don't know if they exist [in Afghanistan]." The interview ... (More on P4)...(7)

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