

92 Rebels, 5 ANA Soldiers Dead in Fresh Violence

KABUL - At least 92 militants and five Afghan National Army (ANA) soldiers have been killed in different parts of the country during the past day, the Ministry of Defense (MoD) said on Thursday. According to the statement, at least 65 other rebels were wounded, 10 arrested and tons of weapons and bombs were seized during the offensives. It confirmed the death of five ANA soldiers targeted by



militants and roadside bombings. The casualties took place during a series of ground and air operations in Kunar, Ghazni, Kandahar, Fara, Faryab, Kunduz, Kabul and Helmand provinces, the statement said. A day earlier, MoD said that 122 rebels and six ANA soldiers were killed in separate security incidents in different parts of the country. (Pajhwok)

IMU Declares it is Now Part of ISIS Group

KABUL - The Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU) declared as a terrorist organization by the United States has declared it is now part of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) terrorist group. The group has recently released a video which purportedly shows the group's leader Usmon Ghazi and his fighters taking oath of allegiance to ISIS terror group and its leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. The latest video by IMU with a length of 2 minutes 36 seconds, shows the group's leader Ghazi claiming that they are not just a movement but a state.



The video also purportedly shows scenes from Afghanistan but the exact location has not been ascertained so far. This comes as Ghazi issued a statement last year declaring support to ISIS terrorist group, however he fell short of using the... (More on P4)... (23)

12 Mosques Torched in Past 10 Days in Baghlan

PUL-I-KHUMRI - Categoricaly condemning torching of 12 mosques in northern Baghlan province on Thursday, the hajj and religious affairs department asked Taliban to surrender the perpetrators to Ulama Council or the group would be held responsible for setting the fire to worship places. Abdul Rashid Mazhari, director hajj and religious affairs, told Pajhwok Afghan News



12 mosques had been torched in the last 10 days in Dand-i-Ghori locality of the provincial capital, Pul-i-Khumri. He said the mosques were set on fire in areas where Taliban had sway and it was the group's responsibility to ascertain the perpetrators and detain them... (More on P4)... (24)

Senior Daesh Leader Among 7 Held in Kabul

KABUL - The National Directorate of Security (NDS) on Thursday claimed arresting a senior Daesh leader recruiting fighters for the group along with six other associates in capital Kabul. Abdul Fatah son of Abdul Qadar widely known as Mohammad-- responsible for recruitment new fighters and then sending them to training centers-- is among the detained men, the spy network said in a statement. The other men apprehended by the NDS included former Taliban commander Noor-ul-Haq son of Eid Mohammad who is dealing with financial branch for the group in... (More on P4)... (25)

Afghan Forces Launch Joint Operation in Kabul's Sorobi District

KABUL - Afghan forces have launched a major military operation - code name (Musalase-Fuladi) - in Sorobi district of Kabul province, security officials reported on Thursday. The operation's lead commander, General Laal Zaheer, announced that more than 2,000 Afghan National Army (ANA) soldiers, Afghan National Police (ANP) and NDS personnel are taking part in the operation. Gen. Zaheer said the operation would target insurgents supported by the Pakistan's Inter-Service Intelligence (ISI). According to ANA officials, already several domestic and foreign insurgents have been killed, including a number of Chechen and Arab terrorists. (Tolonews)

Unidentified Motorcyclists Kill Civilian in Parwan

CHARIKAR - Unidentified gunmen riding motorbike have killed a civilian on Friday in Charikar, the capital of central Parwan province, an official says. Brig. Gen. Mohammad Zaman Mamozai, police chief, told Pajhwok Afghan News Abdul Wahid, the resident of Charikar City, was killed by



by unidentified gunmen. The attacker fled the scene after

killing the person. "At least ten persons have been arrested in connection of Wahid's murder. He was killed due to personal enmity," he said. Khwaja Mushafiq, doctor of civil hospital, said a dead body of 35 year old Wahid with six gun shots had been brought to the hospital. (Pajhwok)

Security Posts to be Increased in Khogyani Zone

JALALABAD - Several areas have been cleared of militants as a result of an ongoing operation "Iron Triangle" in the Khogyani zone of eastern Nangarhar province. Dozens of militants have been killed during the operation launched last week in the zone that encompasses three districts namely Hesarak, Sherzad and Khogyani, security of-



officials told a joint weekly press conference at the Governor's

House in Jalalabad, the provincial capital. Deputy police chief (administration) Col. Amir Khan Lewal said the operation that was started in Khogyani's Memla area had reached Sherzad district. He said the operation was successful because many areas had been cleared of militants. He said the operation was... (More on P4)... (26)

Commanders Among 29 Insurgents Killed in Logar, Sari Pul

PUL-I-ALAM - Two commanders were among 29 militants killed during airstrikes by foreign forces and ground operations by Afghan security forces in central Logar and northern Sari Pul provinces, officials said on Thursday. Logar Governor Mohammad Haleem Fidai told Pajhwok Afghan News foreign forces

carried out the airstrikes in Babos area of Pul-i-Alam, the provincial capital, last night, killing a dozen Taliban militants, including a notorious commander Maulvi Abdul Wahid Badr. Another eight rebels were wounded in the airstrikes that targeted Badr, who had been fighting... (More on P4)... (28)



2-Day Journalism Training Workshop Begins

KHOST CITY - The Afghan Journalists Protection Committee (AJPC) has arranged a two-day workshop for journalists of southeastern Khost province aimed at boosting their capacity and skills amid conflict. Farooq Jan Mangal, the AJPC head in southeast, told Pajhwok Afghan

News on Friday that the two days workshop would formally end today in which 15 journalists with local and foreign media took part. The two days training session was aimed at enhancing knowledge of local journalists how to discharge their... (More on P4)... (27)

Policeman, Two Attackers Killed in Kandahar Clash

KANDAHAR CITY - One policeman and two attackers were killed in a clash when militants mounted attack to force their way inside a police station in southern Kandahar on Thursday, an official said. Zia Durrani, police spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News two militants attacked the 7th police check



posts and they wanted to enter into the facility... (More on P4)... (29)

Afghan National Army Helicopter Crashed in Zabul

QALAT - A helicopter belonging to the Afghan National Army has crashed in southern Zabul. Taliban militant group claim that the chopper was downed by their fighters but local officials term the claims as baseless. Ministry of Defense and governor of Zabul province report that the incident took place due to technical issues this morning. The Ministry of Defense issuing a statement confirmed the crash in Shokhil village of Shinkai District but did not provide details about the casualties. Though, the statement added that rescue teams were dispatched to the area and additional details would be provided later. Initial reports suggest that there were a total of 17 soldiers on board including the crew members. (KP)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

A never-ending string of distractions makes for a busy day. But rather than growing tired from the activity, all the twists and turns just seem to make your life more interesting. Nevertheless, it's wise to delay important decisions because your judgment could be slightly impaired now. Relax and enjoy the unplanned events this weekend, even if your previous plans unravel in the process.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

You're capable of untangling the intricacies of financial planning today, so it makes sense to attend to money management while your thinking is so sharp. Unfortunately, you may be required to iron out a problem that's exacerbated by your temptation to spend too much cash. But the current issues also involve your emotional relationship to your possessions.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You may start the day as an irrepresible optimist but the power of positive thinking gradually slips away as the day wears on. The mentally agile Gemini Moon squares trickster Mercury, challenging you to maintain a healthy perspective on new projects or adventures. Although cultivating an I-can-do-it attitude is empowering, too much self-confidence lures you in over your head before you remember that you can't swim.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

Although you might chat up a storm today, you're keeping the most significant topics locked up behind your emotional firewall. However, protecting yourself from potential hurt could also add to your current loneliness. But you're not one to confuse flirtatious dialogue with the heartfelt communication that leads to intimacy.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

Although you're sometimes called Lucky Leo, your current good fortune is more about your positive attitude and your ability to find the silver lining in nearly any dark cloud. Thankfully, your friends are rallying around you to support your dreams. The sweet thing is you don't have to do much of anything today, other than remaining open to the assistance coming your way.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

People see you as more gregarious, but in reality social chit-chat annoys you most of the time. Nevertheless, you can still get so wrapped up in trivial conversations and superfluous activities that you are completely distracted from your real work. Don't fight the inevitable; return to agenda tomorrow once the noise quiets down. Taking life less seriously gives you a wonderful chance to reconnect with others in a lighthearted manner.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

You might be planning a special getaway to an exotic location in great detail, whether or not your imagined vacation is practical. You certainly deserve an escape after the challenges you have recently encountered. Start talking about your next adventure. Remember, you're greasing the wheels and putting a larger chain of events into motion that could culminate in your travel fantasies coming true.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

The deeper you dig today, the easier it will be to navigate through the tangle of weeds that appear to hold your life together. However, taking the next step seems impossible when you're stuck in place. Thankfully, you can see the truth from just about every angle now, so with a little detective work you should be able to figure out how to move forward.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

It might feel as if there's too much drama in the realm of relationships today, but the other events in your environment aren't half as important as what's going on within your own heart. In fact, if you stay aware of the complex dilemmas at home, your personal war on terror can be won. Thankfully, as you address your inner issues, external ones become less scary.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

You could take on more than you can possibly handle because you tend to overestimate your capabilities today. However, your optimism can't last once you realize there are not enough hours in the day to finish everything. Unfortunately, it's nearly impossible to determine a strategy that makes the best out of a difficult situation. The worst thing you can do is try to hide your uncertainty.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

It's like you're on a rocket ship that cannot quite accelerate fast enough to reach escape velocity today. It's all too easy to become frustrated if you don't achieve all of your goals on your expected timetable. Fortunately, you can still do amazing work, even if you fall short of your initial destination. But there's no reason to be discouraged as long as you give it your best shot.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

Your intentions may be misunderstood today but the gulf between you and others grows wider the more you talk. Nevertheless, silence is not a viable option because you can't seem to rein in your loquacious tendencies now. Every thought has the potential to become an entire song and dance routine. Ironically, your confidence doesn't waver, even if you're having trouble making your position known.

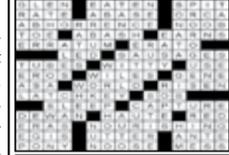
Across

- 1. Ottoman title, 6. Physiques, 10. Bearing, 14. Hurt, 15. Diva's solo, 16. Cocoyam, 17. Booming, 19. Fastens, 20. Detects, 21. G, 22. "Where the heart is", 23. Fit out again, 25. Scintillas, 30. Have in mind, 32. Banister, 35. Invigorate, 39. Big step, 40. Decipher, 41. Poster color, 43. Demesnes, 44. Extreme cruelty, 46. Gave temporarily, 47. Religious splinter groups, 50. Property claims, 53. End ___, 54. Dowel, 55. Narcotic, 60. Boorish, 61. Decorative, 63. Indian music, 64. Give temporarily, 65. Coral island, 66. Anagram of "Lyme", 67. Unique, 68. Hemp cords.

Down

- 1. Taps, 2. Pang, 3. Cold-shoulder, 4. Female chickens, 5. Viper, 6. Tavern, 7. Beginning, 8. Kitchen set, 9. Wise one, 10. Organized, 11. Dimwit, 12. Swelling under the skin, 13. Snouts, 18. East southeast, 24. A tree fruit, 25. Arm of the sea, 26. At one time (archaic), 27. Destiny, 28. Strong and sure, 29. Backwash, 31. Terminates, 33. Notions, 34. Egghead, 36. Cast a ballot, 37. Biblical garden, 38. Where a bird lives, 42. Control surface on a plane, 43. An uncle, 45. Indicate, 47. Pungent Indian dish, 48. Normal, 49. Shelf, 51. French for "Name", 52. Lance, 54. Game on horseback, 56. Within, 57. At the peak of, 58. Story, 62. One or more.

Yesterday's Solution



before, brain, break, brush, character, danger, date, depth, dross, egotistical, elation, escape, from, gape, guests, handy, hearth, honey, mirth, mite, mouse, pads, person, plane, pore, prize, rays, relieve, righteous, sample, scheme, skirt, soothe, stream, sweat, tart, teach, tire, trade, wagon.

BEFORE E L A T I O N

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