

Joined By Uprising Commander, Taliban Overrun Tabar Area



SAR-I-PUL CITY - Taliban insurgents captured an area of Sancharak district of northern Sar-i-Pul province after a public uprising commander joined them, a security official said on Wednesday.

The official, who did not want to be named, told Pajhwok Afghan News that Tabar area came under Taliban's control after Raees Karim, the local uprising leader, joined the militants on Tuesday night.

The insurgents fired at the security forces from civilian homes, added source, who had revealed on Monday that Raees Karim had defected to the Taliban along with several fighters. ...*(More on P4)...*(16)

Operation Launched to Secure Maimana-Mazar Highway

MAIMANA - Four Taliban insurgents have been killed in an operation aimed at securing the highway between Maimana and Mazar-i-Sharif in northwestern Faryab province, an official said on Wednesday.



Col. Amir Mohammad Fazli, commander the 209th Shaheen Military Corps first brigade, said the operation was launched on Tuesday to reopen the highway and establish security check-posts. The Afghan Air Force also supported the security forces, he said, adding four militants involved in

attacking several areas were killed by their own mortar shell in Khwaja Sabzposh district. But Abdullah Masoomi, the district's administrative chief, said the four fighters were struck by AAF in the Sahraee Qala area of the district late on Tuesday. There has been no word so far from the Taliban. (Pajhwok)

13 Daesh Militants Killed in Nangarhar Offensive

JALALABAD - More than a dozen Daesh or so-called Islamic State (IS) militants have been killed and 13 others wounded in an air-and-ground operation in eastern Nangarhar province, an official said on Wednesday. Maj. Sherin Agha Faqeer, spokesman for 201st Selab Military Corps, told Pajhwok Afghan News the operation codenamed Selab (9) was conducted in

Wazir Tangi area of Khogyani district against militants during the past 24 hours. The operation involved personnel from border police, national police, public order police and NDS personnel led by the fourth brigade. Faqeer added Papa Kali, Zangani and Balokhel areas had been purged of militants' presence. Ten Daesh

rebels, including a notorious commander named Omaro, were killed and 13 others wounded. Two weapons and 10 landmines were also captured by security forces. In Achin district, three IS fighters were killed as a result of an airstrike in Bandar area late on Tuesday where a Daesh hideout targeted, the military official said. Daesh group has so far said nothing in this regard. (Pajhwok)

152 Weapons Seized From Trailer in Nangarhar

JALALABAD - At least 152 weapons and thousands of bullets have been recovered from a trailer carrying cement in eastern Nangarhar province imported from neighboring Pakistan, intelligence officials said on Wednesday.

The National Directorate of Security (NDS) personnel showed the seized weapons to media representatives in

this capital city, Jalalabad, on Wednesday.

Nangarhar governor's spokesman, Attaullah Khogyani, told Pajhwok Afghan News the guns were confiscated by NDS members in Nawi Gomrak area of Behsud district on the Jalalabad-Torkham Highway on Tuesday night.

He said the lorry was loaded with ...*(More on P4)...*(19)

Casualties As Rival Khost Tribes Resume Clash

KHOST CITY - An armed clash between two tribes --Mangal and Moqbil -- over a land and mountain ownership dispute has caused casualties on both sides in southern Khost province, sources said Wednesday. The clash also involving heavy weapons erupted between the two tribes on Tuesday. Provincial officials did not provide information about the clash, but local people provided contradictory reports.

A tribal elder from Mangal tribe, Falak Khan, told Pajhwok Afghan News two people from their side were slightly injured but he was unaware about casualties to the other side.

Javid, another resident of the area, said four people were killed and four others injured on Moqbil side. But some sources said eight people of Moqbil tribe were killed in the clash. The fight is still ongoing between the two sides. Cap. Abdullah, ...*(More on P4)...*(20)

3 Uruzgan Displaced Children Die in Ghazni Cold

GHAZNI CITY - Three children of a war-displaced family have died due to extreme cold in southern Ghazni province, the deceased children's grandmother said Wednesday, fearing for other kids. Some 24 families after being displaced by the conflict in Tirinkot, the capital of central Uruzgan province, arrived in Ghazni City about a month ago. These families live in tents made of plastic mostly donated to them by other people. Bibi Gul, an elderly woman in the families, told Pajhwok Afghan News her ...*(More on P4)...*(17)

Working Daikundi Mothers Struggling to Parent



NEILI - A satisfactory number of women work in government offices both civil and military in central Daikundi province despite the lack of kindergartens, separate dressing rooms and toilets. Of the total 1,850 government employees in Daikundi, 206 are women who account for 11 percent of total employees, according to the statistics from the local Independent Administrative Reform and Civil Services Commission (IARCSC). In addition, women have occupied 1,342 teacher posts of the total 3,243 posts while 55 women discharge duties in security forces ranks in Daikundi. The Education Department, Police Headquarters, Customs Office, Agriculture Department, Prison and the Work and Social Affairs Departments are among state institution where more women have been employed. ...*(More on P4)...*(18)

Child Rescued, Alleged Kidnappers Including Woman Arrested



HERAT CITY - A four-year-old child has been rescued and two of his kidnappers, including a woman, have been arrested in western Herat province, an official said on Wednesday. Police spokesman Abdul Ahad Walizada said the child was kidnapped from the first police district of Herat City, the provincial capital, on Tuesday. He said the captive was recovered in Charah-i-e-Zaman Khan area, where a woman and man were arrested in connection with the abduction. The detainees were handed over to detectives for investigation. On the other hand, police also detained two armed robbers with a pistol, two knives and one bottle alcohol in the 6th police district of the provincial capital, the official added. (Pajhwok)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



Aries You're no stranger to speaking before thinking about the ramifications of your words. Unfortunately, your impulsivity can take you down a road to nowhere while witty Mercury annoys cranky Mars. Instead of defensively striking back at someone who may have inadvertently hurt your feelings today, try a more compassionate response.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



Taurus People seem to be pushing your emotional buttons today by inviting you to become more involved with their issues. However, you're quite clear about the limitations your current commitments place on your interactions with others. You wish you could devote more time to another person's predicament.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



Gemini It doesn't matter how busy you are today, you might be operating under the illusion that you can do even more. The reflective Moon conspires with exaggerating Jupiter in your 6th House of Work, bolstering your confidence beyond reason. Don't wait until you're in over your head. There's nothing to gain by increasing the expectations of your associates, only to let them down later. Promise less, deliver more.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



Cancer You are on a creative jag today, but still need to balance your artistic pursuits with your mundane responsibilities. One way to maximize your current enthusiasm is to make a schedule and stick to it. Some people may think that inspiration can't fit into a time slot, but a certain amount of structure works well for you now.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



Leo Although the intensity of your feelings lingers in the air, your attitude is likely much improved now. What seemed like impassable roadblocks yesterday are merely challenges for your ingenuity today. Thankfully, you are standing on solid ground, confident you can handle even the trickiest of situations.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sept 22)



Virgo You are not a happy camper today, especially if someone takes you to task over a familiar issue that you thought had already been resolved. You're tired of running around the same verbal track again and again, as if others expect you to change your story. Your patience is evaporating; you could step over the line by unleashing a barrage of anger to put an end to this nonsense once and for all.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



Libra Your unflappable self-assuredness is a surprise to others today, but they quickly adjust to your display of confidence. Nevertheless, it's crucial to acknowledge the entire spectrum of your emotions, not just the positive ones. You can still be certain about your choices, even if there are potential problems that might pop up along the way.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



Scorpio People might see a more optimistic side of you today, but the same issues still lurk behind your pleasant demeanor. Nevertheless, your positive outlook is sincere and your I-can-do-it attitude reflects your willingness to deal with circumstances in their true light now. You don't need to filter out the tougher aspects of life if you view them as opportunities to exercise

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



Sagittarius You can accomplish wonders now if you keep your doubts under wraps. Hopefully, you already shared your innermost feelings with a close friend and aren't planning on repeating your fears today. In fact, dwelling on any form of negativity could distract you and others from the project at hand. Your internal dilemma stems from your need to be honest while simultaneously being positive about the current process.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



Capricorn Relationship dynamics seem to be flowing smoother, as if you have driven through a construction zone and now are resuming cruising speed. But don't set your expectations so high that you crash at the first sign of trouble. Instead, maintain your standards while allowing for the additional time it might take to reach your destination.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)



Aquarius The fog lifts, the clouds dissipate and the blue sky reveals the distant horizon. You are relieved that you can finally see where you are going again, prompting your hopes and dreams to creep out of hiding. You may discover your goals are further away now than you originally assumed, but you're still enthusiastic about reaching them. Nothing is gained by entertaining self-doubt.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



Pisces Your dreams often seem as real as the three-dimensional world around you. But the evocative Moon's alignments with ethereal Neptune and excessive Jupiter place a magnifying lens on your fantasies today, making them appear more believable than your five senses. It's as if you are on Star Trek's Holodeck and whatever your imagination conjures up is true. Luckily, you can choose where your thoughts go.

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-63 indicating starting positions for clues.

Across clues: 1. Backside, 5. Freight, 10. What we sleep on, 14. Grizzly, 15. Steer clear of, 16. Shade of blue, 17. Possible, 19. Regrets, 20. Cook in hot oil, 21. 9999, 22. Garbage, 23. Deluge, 25. European blackbird, 27. Copy, 28. Crazyness, 31. Divided, 34. A thorny stem, 35. Menagerie, 36. Hard work, 37. Ink blemishes, 38. Cat sound, 39. Santa's helper, 40. Wrinkled fruit, 41. Charges, 42. Inflammation of the lungs, 44. Little bit, 45. Snob, 46. Estate, 50. Convulsion, 52. French school, 54. Children's game, 55. Low islands, 56. Cave dweller, 58. Leer at, 59. Eagle's nest, 60. "Oh my!", 61. Require, 62. Mammary gland of bovines, 63. It holds up trousers.

Down clues: 1. Behind, 2. Backward-looking, 3. Nymph chaser, 4. Historic period, 5. Eyetooth, 6. ___-garde, 7. Gown, 8. A black, brittle asphalt, 9. Lyric poem, 10. Desolate, 11. Makes equal, 12. Membership fees, 13. Cumberbund, 18. Bumbling, 22. Russian emperor, 24. Train track, 26. Applications, 28. Sarcasm, 29. Horn sound, 30. Ouches, 31. Stair, 32. Survey, 33. Modus vivendi, 34. Hyperbolized, 37. Invigoration, 38. Style, 40. Not amateurs, 41. Anaglyph, 43. New, 44. Bank employee, 46. Motherless calf, 47. Pizazz, 48. Area of South Africa, 49. Excrete, 50. Computer symbol, 51. An enclosure, 53. Unit of cut wood, 56. Letter after sigma, 57. Apply gently,

Yesterday's Solution crossword puzzle grid with words filled in.

Word search puzzle grid with letters L, J, H, C, A, E, B, E, R, K, C, W, M, A, N, B, L, T, K, C, E, H, C, O, E, O, N, O, L, I, R, J, D, I, S, C, A, R, D, O, I, E, N, A, A, A, S, V, G, S, H, I, T, T, A, G, E, N, T, E, N, D, T, T, F, H, A, S, R, H, W, T, I, P, E, A, B, Y, E, C, T, L, T, H, Y, R, V, N, E, R, O, R, I, E, W, G, R, I, O, A, T, X, E, J, O, D, S, I, T, D, O, M, T, E, A, T, N, V, N, R, D, E, R, A, E, I, R, L, A, E, A, Y, U, E, G, S, R, M, Q, G, T, E, B, F, S, P, S, S, E, L, D, D, U, H, H, B, C, O, N, T, E, S, T, U, P, D, A, T, E.