We are Not Leaving Until the Job is Done': NATO's SCR in Afghanistan

The NATO Senior Civilian Representative in Afghanistan Sir Nicholas Kay has said the alliance will not leave Afghanistan until the job is done.

He said "We are not leaving. We are not leaving until the job is done. If the Taliban think they can just walk out, then they have miscalculated." Senior Afghan and U.S. defense and security officials including acting minister of defense Asadullah Khalid, NATO command-er Gen. Scott Miller and deputy interior minister for security Gen. Khalid Sediq said NEPA had launched the campaign. Some members of the Afghan delegation, who had just returned from a two-day meeting with the Taliban officials in the capital of Qatar, had also participated in the meeting. Ambassador Kay reaffirmed NA’s continued support amid on-going efforts to find a negotiated political settlement and the on-going violence in Afghanistan.

Kabul - The Independent Election Commission (IEC) is investigating to identify those staff who were involved in the electoral fraud in the Afghan parliamentary elections. Speaking at a press conference in Kabul, Hana Almn Nasrullah the Chairwoman of the IEC said that the violators will be introduced to the Electoral Complaints Commission and ultimately their case will be referred to the justice. The IEC officials had decided to investigate the case of those staff members who have mis-used their authority in favor or against a specific candidate, those who have lost the voters registration manuals or biometric devices or those who have kept the polling centers closed on the polling day without having a proper justification.

Karzai lauded efforts made to push peace process “must be fully Afghan-owned and Afghan-led,” former President Hamid Karzai said at the 9th World Peace Forum in China, according to Xinhua report. “Progress is there between the United States and the Taliban, and hopefully, it is one that will ensure lasting peace and stability in Afghanistan,” Karzai said. The US Special Representative for Afghanistan Reconciliation Zalmay Khalilzad concluded the seventh round of talks with the Taliban negotiators on July 9 in Qatar. He was cited by reports saying that the Afghan are closer to reaching more than any time in the past. Khalilzad said on July 9 that he had “lots of progress” on four key issues under debate in the negotiations. The four issues which have been discussed by the US and the Taliban negotiators in the seven rounds of talks are counterterrorism assurance, troop withdrawal, a ceasefire and elections. Karzai stressed that transparency in negotiations will immensely help the process evolve.

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KABUL - - The Afghan Special Forces stormed three Taliban compounds in southern Helmand province, the Special Operations Corps said. According to a statement released by Special Operations Corps, the Special Forces stormed the Taliban compounds in Kajaki district late on Tuesday night. The statement further added that the Special Forces destroyed the three compounds during the operation. Furthermore, the Special Forces confiscated 2 weapons, 3 radio sets, 3 computers, a Pakistani national identity card, a stamp, 4 motorcycles, 2 printers, a photocopier machine and some other materials. The Special Forces also arrested 4 suspected militants during the same operation, the Special Operations Corps added. The Taliban group has not commented regarding the operation so far. (KP)

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