

2 ANA Soldiers, 31 Militants Dead in Takhar Showdown

TALOQAN - At least two Afghan National Army (ANA) soldiers and 31 militants have been killed and 15 other rebels wounded in a gun battle in northern Takhar province, the governor's spokesman says on Sunday. Sunatullah Taimoori told Pajhwok Afghan News that militants mounted attack on Durqand district office on Saturday evening and the ensuing firefight left six militants and an Afghan Local Policeman



(ALP) dead and seven others wounded. The gun battle last for few hours in which Taliban fled the battle ground, he added. Meanwhile, as many as 22 insurgents were killed and eight other wounded fierce clashes between security forces and Taliban

in Khawaja Ghar district. The civilians remained unhurt during the fight. An ANA soldier was killed and nine policemen wounded, he said, adding that security forces got control of the district. Najm-u-Din, a local resident, said the fire fight been underway for the last one month which forced families to leave the area and migrate to safer places. Taliban claimed killing three policemen and damaging police's vehicle in a landmine blast. (Pajhwok)

4 Prisoners, Including Two Detained on Terrorism Charges Escaped from Jail

SHARANA - Four prisoners have escaped from the central detention facility in Paktika province. A security official who did not want to be named told Khaama Press that the jail break took place late on Saturday night. He said that two of those escaped were would-be suicide bombers, detained by the security forces before reaching to their targets. According to the source one would-be suicide bomber was apprehended in Sultan area of Sar Rawza District and the other in Surobi District. The source further said that the prisoners might have been jump on the wall and land outside



since there is no sign to suggest whether they have dug a tunnel or made their way out through the prison doors. Brigadier General Ali Mast, the police chief of Paktika province confirmed the report but added that a search operation has been underway... (More on P4)... (13)

13 Killed, 13 Injured in Separate Kapisa, Kunduz Blasts

KUNDUZ/MAHMOOD RAQI - At least seven persons have been killed and 13 others wounded in two separate bomb blasts in central Kapisa and northeastern Kunduz provinces, officials said Sunday. Kunduz public health director Dr. Saad Mukhtar told Pajhwok Afghan News three people were killed and 10 others



including five civilians and five policemen injured when a police ranger was targeted

with a planted bomb in Spinzar Chaman area of the city at around 8:30am today morning. He said the wounded were under treatment and all were stated to be in stable condition. Mohammad Esa, an injured in the blast, said: "Police stopped their ranger in this area and suddenly a bomb exploded. A shrapnel... (More on P4)... (11)

Newly-Wed Couple Killed in Sar-e-Pul Blast

SAR-E-PUL - A newly-married couple was killed Saturday evening in a roadside bombing in northern Sar-e-Pul, officials said. Provincial Police Chief Mohammad Asif Jabar Khel confirmed the incident, saying the couple was killed when the vehicle they were traveling on struck an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) in Baghawai area. The mine was said to have been planted to target the Police Chief who escaped the bombing unhurt. Police said efforts were underway to arrest elements behind the bombing. (Tolonews)

4 Abducted Students Released in Sar-I-Pul

SAR-I-PUL - Officials in northern Sar-i-Pul province on Sunday said the four university students kidnapped two days ago by insurgents have been released following mediation by local elders. Maj. Gen. Mohammad Asif Jabarkhail, police chief, told Pajhwok Afghan News the students were abducted on Sar-i-Pul-Suzma-Qala highway. He did not comment whether any deal had taken place to secure the release of the students but said they



were released with help of elders and police. Police chief assured with the help of locals no group would disrupt security of the highways in the province. "People have no longer faced any security threat on this route. And we are working with people to make sure this safety continues," he added. (Pajhwok)

Landmine Explosion Kills 10 Civilians

MAHMUD-I-RAQI - A landmine explosion has killed 10 civilians in north-eastern part of the country. The civilians were traveling in a vehicle that ran over an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) in Tagab District of Kapisa province on Sunday morning. Abdul Karim Fayege, the provincial police chief said incident in Tatarikhil area. Four other passengers of the vehicle were seriously wounded



ed who have been taken to a nearby hospital for treatment. The vehicle was almost completely damaged in the explosion. No group has claimed responsibility for the blast. This was the second bomb blast in the country this morning. The other one took place in northern Kunduz province that left two civilians killed and six others wounded. Gen. Campbell who heads NATO-led Resolute Support (RS) mission in the country says that 90 percent of the civilian casualties in Afghanistan are caused by Taliban militants... (More on P4)... (12)

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3 Civilians Killed in Roadside Mine Blast

KUNDUZ - At least three civilians were killed in a roadside mine blast early Sunday in northern Kunduz, local officials said. Policemen among 10 others were wounded in the blast. The incident took place about 8 a.m. after a police vehicle struck a roadside mine, resulting in the death of three civilians passing by the area, Dr. Mukhtar said. The victims have been taken to a nearby hospital, he added. The local police official have also confirmed the blast but have not yet commented on the death toll. No group including the Taliban has so far claimed responsibility for the incident. (Tolonews)

4 Dead in Clash Over Ownership of Pistachio Jungle

AIBAK - Armed clashes between illegal armed groups over products of pistachio jungle in northern Samangan province left four people dead and eight others wounded, residents said Sunday. Mir Hamza, a resident of Aibak City, the provincial capital who was injured in the clashes, told Pajhwok Afghan News the fight



started on Saturday morning between two former Jihadi commanders, including Abdul Manan and Abdul Hamid and lasted for three hours. Hamza, who belonged to Abdul Hamid's group, said they went to Kharpar locality for protecting pistachio jungles and came under attack by Abdul Manan's men. He said three persons from his group and a passerby... (More on P4)... (14)

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Zabul Clashes: Four Soldiers, 16 Insurgents Killed

QALAT - At least four security force members and 16 Taliban insurgents were killed as a result of fierce clashes late Saturday in southern Zabul, officials said. The fighting broke out in Daichopan district when a number of insurgents attacked a security post, a spokesman



for Zabul Police Chief, Fawad Askari said. "The insurgents clashed with security forces for more than 13 hours in which all the attackers were killed," he added. The Taliban have however not yet commented on the incident. (Tolonews)

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Gunmen Kill Former Farah Chief Executive Officer

FARAH - Unidentified gunmen on motorbike shot dead former Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Farah province in western Farah province, an official said on Sunday. Jawad Afghan, the governor's spokesman, told Pa-

hok Afghan News that ex-CEO Mohammad Noor and former senior officer at Herat appellant court was on his way home when militants ambushed him. Mohammad Younus Rasooli, deputy governor, said Noor had served as

CEO Farah from 2009 till 2011 and then he was appointed as senior officer to appellant court in Herat. He was a prominent local elder, he added. No group has so far claimed credit for his assassination. (Pajhwok)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

You're often the first one out the door in the morning, but you might prefer lingering over breakfast today. Your fantasies may have you yearning to stay home, lost in sweet bliss with someone you love. However, even if you could temporarily shut out the world, the idea probably sounds better than the reality. Anyway, you can't hide from work no matter how tempting it seems.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

You want more than just small talk, even when communicating with your coworkers. Thankfully, you flourish in the company of like-minded people, and can be extremely eloquent when your opinions are validated. Obviously, you must exercise discretion but don't let your fear of getting too personal stop you from taking a conversation to the next level.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You may be searching for a deeper meaning to your work, but the truth is you're so idealistic now that you could inadvertently set yourself up for failure. There's nothing wrong with wanting to align your career with your core values, but you might not be able to find a paying job doing what makes your soul happy. Luckily, the Moon's presence in your sign today enables you to change your mind faster than you can shift directions.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

Making a wish is a good first step, but it won't necessarily manifest a magic solution. You must believe that your goal is attainable and diligently work toward achieving it. But the fine line between concrete objectives and elusive pipedreams is tough to navigate now. In order to make the most of this cosmic opportunity, be discerning when weeding out the delusions from the dreams.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

You may not allow anyone to see how much you're struggling now, and your defensive tactics are probably doing the trick. Normally, your pride can stand in your way of revealing your vulnerabilities so others don't get to experience your authenticity. But if push comes to shove, you're more likely to gamble with your heart and share your emotional dilemma today.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

You can be lured down a rabbit hole so quickly today that your head spins and you won't even know what happened. You're so openhearted and trusting when it comes to relationships now that you may come across as uncharacteristically gullible. But don't throw your common sense out the window and give your power of discernment away to those who haven't earned it. Stand back to put things into proper perspective.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

Your current passion for your work is prompting you to take your career ambitions to new heights. Unfortunately, it might be a steep uphill battle. There's a lot of chatter in the air now, but you can still recognize a good idea for what it is if you remain open-minded. You might benefit by coloring in the details of the big picture, but it's not the best cosmic timing for making a commitment.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

You're indulgently swimming in your own watery element today when it comes to sharing your feelings or expressing your creativity. However, you might want to recite an epic poem while someone else would prefer a simple tweet. Either way, your meaning is the same; it's just a matter of different delivery styles.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

Your connections with others are based upon shared history, whether or not it is spoken in the moment. There may be acknowledged threads that interweave your lives that have never been discussed in detail. However, your love of adventure is currently at odds with the softer emotional component of your relationships. The haunting familiarity of the past seems more comfortable now than your drive to explore the unknown.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

You might pull your hair out today if you have to hear even one more person whining about his or her hurt feelings. It's not that you are lacking in compassion, there's just more important things to do now than listen to others complain about their personal dramas. The bottom line is that you intend to have something tangible by the end of the day to show for your efforts.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

Finding and sustaining your rhythm is more of a challenge than you have time for today. Part of the problem is that you might not be certain about what others expect from you. Additionally, you're not even clear about your own needs. However, you aren't quite ready to throw your hands up in the air and do whatever the majority wants.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

Just when you finally find your groove, one more distraction pops up to interfere with your intended productivity. You wouldn't mind it if the interruptions were worthy of your attention. However, it's as if reality is sideswiping you with irrelevant events just to test your powers of concentration. Although your creative imagination offers plenty of inspiration, don't just succumb to wandering in your dreams today.



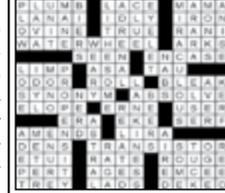
Across

1. Throb, 5. Wanes, 9. Cleave, 13. At what time, 14. Broods, 16. Brother of Jacob, 17. French for "Names", 18. Electronic letters, 19. Vipers, 20. Pig, 22. Most astute, 24. Alike, 26. Water vapor, 27. A mild powdered seasoning, 30. A lightweight cord, 33. Disciple, 35. Strict, 37. Foot digit, 38. Units of force, 41. Chief Executive Officer, 42. A jet of vapor, 45. Offered, 48. Renter, 51. Modern sing-along, 52. Ancient Greek marketplace, 54. Shocked reaction, 55. Retaliations, 59. Flora and fauna, 62. Ear-related, 63. Provide with a permanent fund, 65. Dash, 66. Shower alternative, 67. Display, 68. Sediment, 69. Remain, 70. At one time (archaic), 71. Sounds of disapproval.

Down

1. Barley beards, 2. Grub, 3. Half of a sphere, 4. Trap, 5. East southeast, 6. Backsides, 7. Feelings of boredom, 8. Women's garments, 9. Allow in again, 10. Being, 11. Short sleeps, 12. Powdery dirt, 15. Mixture of rain and snow, 21. Arab chieftain, 23. Armed conflicts, 25. Barely managed, 27. Taps, 28. Take as one's own, 29. One or more, 31. Cemetery, 32. Hellenic language, 34. Explosive, 36. Connecting point, 39. Startled cry, 40. Catch, 43. Lawlessness, 44. A sharply directional antenna, 46. Blah, 47. Least difficult, 49. Snouts, 50. Hypnotic state, 53. Birch relative, 55. Steals, 56. French for "State", 57. Falafel bread, 58. Male offspring, 60. Chat, 61. Picnic insects, 64. Damp.

Yesterday's Solution



board, bother, brink, build, chair, early, economical, electric, enlistment, familiar, fetch, field, fixture, flesh, former, hips, honey, manual, match, minute, offensive, options, origin, pets, pitch, point, reap, severe, sneak, sped, stamp, store, tackle, vanish.

