**US Needs to be in Afghanistan for the Long Haul: Petraeus**

Retired U.S. General David Petraeus said recently that the U.S. needs to stay in Afghanistan and that in being in the country the U.S. has a "useful platform there for the regional counterterrorism efforts." Speaking to PBS NEWSHOUR, Petraeus, who commanded American and coalition forces in Iraq and Afghanistan, said: "I think what we need to get to Afghanistan is a sustainable, measurable, the expenditure of blood and treasure, a sustainable, sustained commitment. We need to recognize that we went there for a reason and we stayed for a reason, to ensure that Afghanistan is not once again a sanctuary for Al-Qaeda or other transnational extremes, the way it was when the 9/11 attacks were planned there. This is the five-year strategy."

**US Has no Strategy to Break Stalemate in Afghanistan: Senator McCain**

WASHINGTON - The United States has no strategy to end the stalemate in Afghanistan, US Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman John McCain said in a statement on Monday. "Nearly 16 years of war, we are at a stalemate in Afghanistan. Worse, we have no strategy to end that stalemate and achieve victory," McCain said. The US senator from Arizona recalled that Defense Secretary James Mattis had told the Armed Services Committee last week the United States was not winning the war in Afghanistan. "And yet, six months into the new administration, it still has not developed a strategy. We cannot keep going like this. If the administration fails to develop a strategy for success, Congress will need to play a greater role," McCain said. In 2001, the United States and its NATO allies launched a military operation following the September 11 attacks. That mission, "is not over," McCain said.

**Terrorist Groups are our Common Enemies: Atmar**

KABUL - The National Security Advisor Mohammad Hanif Atmar on Monday said the terrorists were not enemies of a specific country, but they were enemies of all and combating this heinous phenomenon needed regional cooperation. Atmar expressed the views during a meeting with Russian Ambassador to Afghanistan, Alexander Mantytsky and both sides centered on regional cooperation aimed at eliminating terrorism. A statement from the National Security Council (NSC) received by Pajhwok Afghan News said the Ambassador showed holding of 'Kabul Process Conference' a positive step towards bringing peace and stability in Afghanistan, saying his country was ready for any type of support to combating terrorism. Atmar told Mantytsky that Afghanistan is in need of cooperation from neighboring countries and the region to ensure peace and stability for the Afghan people. While appreciating the 9th International Meeting of High Representatives for Security issues, held on May 24 in Moscow, Atmar said it was a good opportunity for..." (More on P4)...(5)

**US-Afghan Officials Claim Insider Attacks will not Damage Ties**

US Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman John McCain states that the US has no strategy to end the stalemate in Afghanistan. Credit: The Daily Afghanistan

**Envoy Says Moscow a Key Partner to Kabul in War on Terror**

WASHINGTON - The United States has no strategy to end the stalemate in Afghanistan, US Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman John McCain said in a statement on Monday. "Nearly 16 years of war, we are at a stalemate in Afghanistan. Worse, we have no strategy to end that stalemate and achieve victory," McCain said. The US senator from Arizona recalled that Defense Secretary James Mattis had told the Armed Services Committee last week the United States was not winning the war in Afghanistan. "And yet, six months into the new administration, it still has not developed a strategy. We cannot keep going like this. If the administration fails to develop a strategy for success, Congress will need to play a greater role," McCain said. In 2001, the United States and its NATO allies launched a military operation following the September 11 attacks. That mission, "is not over," McCain said.

**ISIS Loses Two Top Foreign Supporters in East of Afghanistan**

JALALABAD - The Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) terrorist group’s critical in Afghanistan, ISIS Khorasan, has lost two of its top foreign supporters in eastern Nangarhar province. The 201st Silab Corps added. of the close air support and artillery units, the 201st Silab Corps added. Nangarhar is among the relatively calm provin ces in East of Afghanistan but certain remote districts in it have witnessed growing insurgent activity mainly led by Taliban and ISIS during the recent years. A power play of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) to establish the Khorasan province in Afghanistan has..." (More on P4)...(9)

**US-Afghan Officials Claim Insider Attacks will not Damage Ties**

KABUL - The Commander of U.S. and NATO forces has said efforts are underway to identify infiltrators within the ANA, especially within the ranks of the Commandos. General John Nicholson, the commander of U.S. and NATO forces in Afghanistan has said that insider attacks against foreign forces were showing that the level of damage between Afghan security forces and foreign troops in the country. He said that efforts are ongoing to identify infiltrators within the ranks of the Commandos, within the Afghan National Army (ANA). "We will not allow the actions of a few confused individuals to break the strong bonds that have formed between us and our Afghan partners,"..." (More on P4)...(2)

**Iran, Afghanistan Hold Talks on Comprehensive Strategic Partnership**

KABUL - High-ranking officials from Iran and Afghanistan held the first round of talks on a "comprehensive strategic partnership" document as part of efforts to boost bilateral relations in the two neighboring countries in different areas. The negotiations were held in Tehran on Sunday afternoon, with a 30-strong delegation of Afghan deputy ministers and ambassadors of the country comprising five committees, Easum News Agency reported. The talks aim to draft a “comprehensive strategic partnership”..." (More on P4)...(9)