CIA Secret Funds for Afghanistan in the Hands of Al-Qaeda

NY Times

KABUL — About $31 million of mon-ey which was provided by the CIA to a secret Afghan government fund ended up in the hands of Al-Qaeda in 2002 when it was used to pay a release for an Afghan diplom-atic “hostage,” according to a New York Times report on Saturday.

To release Abdul Khaliq Faruqi, who was the Afghan consular gen-eral in Peshawar of Pakistan, the Afghan officials first turned to a secret fund that the CIA had

Panjsher Residents Warn of Possible Deadly Floods

KARUL — Affected by recent au-to-nomous flash floods, residents of northeastern Panjsher province have warned of possible deadly floods, de-mANDING the government’s im-me-diate attention to avoid further deaths. They claimed that their problems caused by the flashfloods have not been resolved and further disasters are threatening their lives. “We have not received any help so far,” they said.

Health Dept. Unable to Take Charge of Turkish-Ran Hospital

SHERBERGHAN — Public health officials in northern Jaree-jan province on Sunday said they were not capable financiatrically and technically of tak-
ing charge of a children’s hospital from Turkey. Constructed and equipped back in 2006 by the government of Turkey, efforts of the hospital are cur-
cently being run by the Turkish Cooperative Agency (ITKA).

Special ANA Unit to Conduct Nighttime Raids in North

KUNDOZ CITY — A well-trained unit of the Afghan National Army (ANA) soldiers has been deployed to Kunduz province to launch nighttime operations in the north.

Performance of Hospitals in 13th Police District Evaluated

KARUL — The minister of public health evaluated the performance and services by hospitals in the 13th police district of the city.

Some private hospitals were found lacking basic standards and were given an ultima-tum by the minister to improve their services or face closure.

Kabul Children Athletes Mark Asian Grassroot’s Day

KARUL — On Sunday, a num-
ber of children and adoles-
cent football athletes marked Asian Grassroot’s Day. March 15 in Kabul with a special football match. Afghanistan Football Fed-
eration (AFF) has marked the Asian Grassroot’s Day for the second time as a special day, explaining that festivals like these are beneficial to im-prove the football country. Football has significant-
ly spread to 17 provinces throughout the country,” Afast Kargar, AFF’s tech-nical director, said. “Football has improved at the grass-
roots level. Currently 50,000 players are known to be playing football in the province.

Shura Held to Discuss Education, Math Competition for 2004

Bagram Airfield — An educa-tional forum, the Afghan ed-
ucation forum was held on Sunday in Peshawar province between Khost Field School and Al-

dian education, to include representatives from the Ministry of Education.

They gathered to discuss ideas on how to improve education and security in Peshawar, including plans to organize an upcoming math competition that will in-volve up to 2,500 male and female high school students from the Chauchar and Bagram districts.

Kunar Journalists Denied Access to Information

ASADABAD — Some journalists on Sunday claimed officials denied them information after a refusal to provide access to information.

Radio Liberty reports Ehsabah Ansari told Paulwith Afghan News security and civil officials did not cooperate with journalists when they sought information on different issues of public interest.

The president has already en-
forced the law on access to infor-mation, granting every Afghan citizen the right to get important information from the officials concerned.

Ansari said local officials in-
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Khybe Dagar, a reporter with Bayan Radio in Kunar, said it was government’s responsibility to facilitate journalists and make their duty in accordance with the country’s constitution.

But sources close to the Presi-dential Palace claimed a number of pro-
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Ministry of Youths spokesman Sayed Sadqi said media sections in provincial governments’ headquarters could share infor-
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