

Baghlan Residents Seek Weapons to Fight Taliban

PUL-I-KHUMRI - The residents of Baghlan-i-Markazi district in northern Baghlan province on Saturday said security forces were not able to bolster security, asking the government to arm them to fight rebels.

More than 200 residents and local elders of the district gathered at governor's office said people were fed up of Taliban's brutality. Amir Gul Hussainkhel, a former district chief of Baghlan-i-Markazi, said security forces could not stand against Taliban and they had gathered to demand the government to arm them for their



own safety.

"We will stage uprising against Taliban to flush them out of the area," he remarked.

He added the district was under insurgents' sway and they had already taken control of Hus-sainkhel, Shafikhail, and Hemat-khel localities. Abdul Hakim, another local elder, said foreign insurgents were arriving in the district and time was rip for to fight against them. Acting Governor Mohammad Abadi said he would talk to the central government on the subject about arming local....(More on P4)...(16)

Faryab, Baghlan Floods Claim 8 Lives



MAIMANA - A fresh wave of flash flood in northwestern Faryab and northern Baghlan provinces left eight persons dead and 12 others wounded, hundreds of homes damaged and destroyed thousands of acres of ready crops and orchards, an official said on Saturday.

Deputy Governor Abdul Sattar Bariz told Pajhwok Afghan News the overnight flood in Garizwan, Pashtunkot and Balchragh districts caused huge losses. The Faizabad-Takhar Highway was also closed for traffic due to damages of the vital road. Officials said crops on 1,200 acres of land and 850 acres of orchards had been damaged in the fresh disaster.

Abdul Qader Qadir, the town's administrative chief, said most of the damages occurred in Pashtunkot district. He said two shepherds were killed and as many wounded. Bariz said a commission comprised civil society activists had been formed to assess men and material losses in the flood-hit. Elsewhere, one person was killed and 10 others injured due to flood in the Baghlan-i-Markazi district...(More on P4)...(22)

Three Suicide Vests Seized in Kabul

KABUL - Afghan National Army has seized suicide vests, bombs, other explosive materials and ammunition during a raid in Paghman District of Kabul.

The raid was conducted based on secret information in Arghandi Payeen, Malik, Zargar and other localities of Paghman District.

A statement issued this morning by the Ministry of Defense states that three suicide vests, six hand grenades, magnetic bomb, other explosive materials, two police suits, ammunition, cell phones, wires and other materials for detonating bombs were seized during the raid.

In recent two months militants have increased their attacks across the country. Last week National Directorate of security (NDS) - Afghanistan's intelligence agency - foiled a terror plot against a renowned Jehadi leader Abdul Rab Rasoul Sayaf in Kabul. (KP)

Paktia Police Involved in Graft, Smuggling: PC

GARDEZ - Provincial council members on Saturday accused border police commanders' involvement in corruption and smuggling in southeastern Paktia province - a charge rejected by the officials vehemently.

Abdul Malik Zazai, provincial council member, told Pa-



jhwok Afghan News border police commander, Zar Jan and Haqyar, were involved in corruption and smuggling in border areas of 1st and 2nd Kandak. The commanders had been serving in the area for long time and local people had reservation... (More on P4)...(17)

Young Afghan Teacher Builds a Vehicle from Scrap

MAZAR-I-SHARIF - Mohammad Feroz, a 28-year-old Afghan teacher, built a car vehicle at a cost of 45,000 afghanis in Mazar-i-Sharif, the capital of northern Balkh province.

Feroz, however, on Saturday demanded businessmen and government to extend him with all



out support to build a better vehicle.

In his exclusive interview with Pajhwok Afghan News, he said: "I have never even dreamt I will manufacture a vehicle and media will publish my stories."

Feroz is a teacher in a school in Mazar-i-Sharif. The well-dressed young car-engineer said that his father tried to build a wooden motorcycle 40 years ago.

"I mainly used metal and wood to develop the car," he said he had built the car for his personal use but he could make better than this if he had financial support. He worked as a mechanic in childhood and later he studied designing. He has BSc in oil and gas field where he has improved his skills....(More on P4)...(21)

Taliban Insurgents Attack Military Posts on Busy Highway



KANDAHAR CITY - A large number of Taliban insurgents attacked military posts on the Herat-Kandahar highway in western Farah province early Saturday, local officials said.

The attack took place at about 05:00am after Taliban insurgents attacked the military posts. The clash ended when more troops were sent in along with helicopter support,

Taj Mohammad Jahid, the commander of the 207th Corps of the Afghan National Army (ANA) in western Afghanistan said. "Fighting ended about 10:00 am and the insurgents fled the area. There were no Afghan military casualties in the attack," he said. However, there was no information about insurgent casualty figures. Meanwhile, an eyewitness said that the... (More on P4)...(20)

Six Taliban Insurgents, Including Commander Killed

MAIMANA - At least six insurgents among them their commander were killed in a clash with security forces in northern Faryab province, local officials said on Saturday.

Three other insurgents were injured in the clash. The gun fight took place in Almar district on Friday night after a number of Taliban insurgents attacked security forces,

provincial police chief Nabi Elhaam said. "The clash started last night and continued until this morning. Six Taliban insurgents including their commander were killed," he said. There were no security force casualties in the clash, he added. The Taliban have not yet commented on the incident. (Tolonwes)

Poetry Gatherings Vital for Cultural Growth

KABUL - Poets and critics are of the view that holding annual poetry and literary gatherings are vital for cultural growth and bringing people closer to each other.

Prof Waliullah Fazil, writer and professor at Nangarhar University, told Pajhwok Afghan News that poetry and literary sessions could provide opportunity for young poets and a platform to enhance their knowledge and share their experiences. It could help in promoting the taste of poetry and literature, he said, adding: "Unfortunately, people prefer poets over poetry which can cause



loss to literature."

Bakhtiar Talash, a young poet, criticized poetry gatherings that people gave no importance to meaningful poetry in gatherings.

Palwasha Ahmedzai, a poetess, said: "Poetess can spread peace messages in better... (More on P4)...(18)

12 Daesh Fighters Dead in ANA Airstrikes

FARAH - At least 12 Daesh or Islamic State (IS) fighters, including two commanders, have been killed in western Farah province as a result of Afghan National Army (ANA) airstrikes, officials said on Saturday.

Brig. Gen. Mir Asadullah Kohistani, an official of 202th

Zafar Corps, told Pajhwok Afghan News the air assault took place in Islamabad locality of Khak-e-Safid district on Thursday night.

He added three vehicles of the group had also been damaged in the attack. Dadullah Qani, provincial council member, said the slain commanders

were residents of Shindad district of Herat province. Abdul Basir, an eye witness, said the fighters had descended from Saji Mountains to arrange logistics and food for themselves when they came under attack. It is pertinent to mention that the self-styled Daesh... (More on P4)...(19)

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)



Although you are widely known for your impulsive behavior, your current social involvement is probably more considered. Your motives might not be obvious, but you could go out of your way now to cooperate with people to hide your fear of rejection. Unfortunately, this uncharacteristic strategy won't likely lead to the results you seek.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)



You might not act very friendly today because you don't want to engage in long discussions about your feelings. However, carefully choosing what to say and what to keep secret offers you the illusion of being in control. Your plan could backfire when people realize you're holding back, prompting them to push you toward the very same dialogue you're trying to avoid.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



Meeting people's expectations may seem like an uphill battle, but you don't know how to sidestep the climb. Fortunately, your entire agenda could change in an instant once you realize it's not about pleasing anyone else. It turns out that you're the only one who might be disappointed by your performance today. Others are more likely to accept you unconditionally than you may think.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)



You attempt to mask your current hypersensitivity by throwing yourself into your work today. You think no one will notice your feelings if you impress others with your efficiency. However, your friends are less interested in what you accomplish now than how you communicate with them, your magic stems from expressing the tenderness in your heart.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)



You're not inclined to reveal your deepest feelings now because you don't believe that others really care about what matters most to you. It seems as if everyone always wants to be around you when you're in a playful mood, but it's hard to find a companion who wants to stick around when you have more serious things on your mind.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)



You have a unique way of getting your chores done today and you don't need anyone's approval to move forward with your plan. You might even take your non-conformity one step too far now by alienating someone, as if you're testing the limits of a friendship. Even if your intentions are honorable, people could take your actions the wrong way. Don't complain if others aren't willing to put up with your antics; change your attitude instead.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)



You may have a mother-hen complex; you want to take care of everyone today even if you can't fit another chick under your wings. But your desire to protect the people you love might be more about gaining respect now than demonstrating your compassion. Examine your heart before trying to save another lost soul. Unless you're acting with integrity, you could do more damage than good.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)



Your reluctance to reveal your secrets might create unnecessary distance between you and someone you like. It's not that you want to be alone today; it's just that you may choose to keep your heart hidden from others if you don't feel deserving of love. However, there's no need to create a self-fulfilling prophesy by pushing the all-or-nothing button.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)



Showing your softer side is nearly impossible when others make too many demands on your time. Unfortunately, your friends and relatives might grow annoyed today because you are more interested in being clever than being real. Although you have the witty repartee working on your behalf, the current dynamics are exacerbated if you suppress your feelings. Don't waste time trying to determine who is to blame.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)



Keeping your emotions under wraps seems natural, especially if you think that expressing them could interfere with your plans. However, someone very close to you might be in immediate need of your help. Unfortunately, you can't avoid the drama by simply ignoring his or her disclosure; this misdirected strategy only inflames the situation.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)



You might believe you can act as unconventionally as you feel today, but your eccentric behavior won't go unnoticed. Your friends may be unsupportive in their current judgments. It's not your business to worry too much about the opinions of others now; you only have to be true to yourself. Although you're not responsible for anyone's reaction, your kind concern still goes a long way towards positivity.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)



Hiding your desires behind a stoic presentation won't necessarily fool anyone who really knows you. People can see right through your performance because your deep sensitivity shows in your eyes. Instead of wasting precious resources pretending to be something you are not, let your inner light shine. You might not be everyone's cup of tea, but at least they will know what to expect from you before it's too late.

Across

1. Cries, 6. Backside, 10. Auspices, 14. Be in trouble with, 15. Tracks, 16. Naked, 17. Large long-necked wading bird, 18. Annoying insect, 19. Tall woody plant, 20. Iscellany, 22. Quaint outburst, 23. Gambling game, 24. Exit, 26. Forearm bone, 30. Bird call, 31. Chart, 32. Tailless amphibian, 33. Parental sister, 35. Fondle, 39. Deputize, 41. Flavorless, 43. Scoundrels, 44. Indian dress, 46. Warbled, 47. Santa's helper, 49. Annoy, 50. If not, 51. Renter, 54. Bright thought, 56. Relating to urine, 57. Impasse, 63. Not less, 64. Adorable, 65. Papal court, 66. Biblical garden, 67. Flying saucers, 68. Double-reed instruments, 69. Where a bird lives, 70. Hearing organs, 71. Looks after.

Down

1. Baroque composer, 2. Hairdo, 3. Blue dye, 4. Breathing organ, 5. Streamlined, 6. Jason's crew (Greek mythology), 7. Decrepit, 8. Male deer, 9. High regard, 10. Kirk's starship, 11. To swallow up (archaic), 12. Notions, 13. Sows, 21. Smooth brown oval nut, 25. Jokes, 26. Salt Lake state, 27. Easy gait, 28. Back of the neck, 29. Teenager, 34. Fatigue, 36. Iridescent gem, 37. Skittles, 38. Border, 40. Small island, 42. Disallowed, 45. Flyer, 48. Type of grass, 51. Unit of luminous flux, 52. Wear away, 53. Fathers, 55. Cravat, 58. A soft porous rock, 59. Pipe, 60. Press, 61. Misled, 62. Young girl

Yesterday's Solution

assure, awards, brake, brush, brink, check, chore, coupon dork, dream, favor, fight, firs, flue, four, glove, grave, heart, here, human, juice, phantom, ponytail, race, redeem, requirement, rind, roost, rotor, round, ruts, sees, shine, shout, stall, steeds, strap, tonight, voice, wench, winter.

W A W A R D S T J E E S S
N I E C H O R E U N J T T
P O N Y T A I L I M T A R
Y P C T E D F H C N R L A
B H H E O S I E Q O L P
R A S S U R E M G L O V E
I N B R A K E R T H S S F
N T R C C R S H O U T T A
K O E E I O G D B U R E V
Q M H U D I U R R R N E O
B C Q E N E V P A E A D R
B E V O I C E F O V A S G
R O T O R H U M A N E M H