Trump Visits Afghanistan, Says Taliban Want to Make Deal

President Donald Trump paid a surprise Thanksgiv- ing visit to Afghanistan, where he announced the U.S. and Taliban have been engaged in ongoing peace talks and said he believes the Taliban wants a ceasefire.

KABUL - President Ashraf Ghani, in his first trip to the site of America’s longest war, Trump took to the air at Bagram Air Field shortly after 8:30 p.m. local time Thursday and spent more than two-and-a- half hours on the ground serv- ing turkey, thinking the troops and sitting down with Afghan President Ashraf Ghani.

President Ashraf Ghani, per tradition, reported were under strict instructions to keep the trip a secret to ensure his safety in the country. About 12,000 U.S. forces remain in Af- ghanistan.

Traveling with a small clutch of

Indian ambassador says that all external support should be cut off from terrorism. The NEW DELHI - Speaking at an event on the Afghan peace pro- cesses on Thursday at the Afghanistan Institute for Strategic Studies (AISI), Ambassador Vinay Ka- rani said that New Delhi has had serious talks with Wash- ington about peace in Afghan- stan, and that Afghans should have full ownership of the peace process. The Indian Ambassador to Afghan- stan stressed that the goal of peace efforts in Afghanistan should be to completely cut off terrorism in the region, and the Afghan process should be in- clusive.

He also said that sustain- able peace in Afghanistan pro- vides further opportunities for strengthening cooperation be- tween India and Afghanistan. Regarding the ongoing peace efforts by US Government, Ameri- can ambassador said that India has talked with the US regard- ing peace in Afghanistan, and that India supports the US ef- forts.

“We have partnered with the United States, and we are en- gaged with the United States in serious (with) discus- sions on the peace-related is- sues relating to peace process and the peace involving Ambassador Khalid Haft.“ Kamar said, refer- ring to Ambassador Zalmay Khalid, the US peace envoy involved with the Afghan peace negotiations.

“We think that a sustainable peace in Afghanistan in the first place requires the co-opting of institutions that sup- port… (More on P4)”

Noor Urges All Sides to Respect IEC Decision on Elections

MAZAR-I-SHAFIF – Jamati-i- Islami Executive Council chief Atta Mohammad Noor has asked all sides to respect the decision of the Independent Election Commission (IEC) on presidential elections. Noor, the former Balkh governor expressed his support for the IEC’s announced the winners. He said it was the first time in the history of election law that IEC commissioners were elected according to the will of the election candidates. He did not name any party or individuals, but said that some parties or individuals strove to forge ties in the political party of the history of the country. IEC (ATN)

Abdullah’s Team: Nation’s Voice Should Be Heard

KABUL - Thousand of sup- porters of Chief Executive Abdullah Abdullah’s election campaign marched from different parts of Kabul and converged near the Presidential Palace on Friday. At a statement read at the gather- ing called for the “people’s voice to be heard” and “for fraud” to be prevented in the election. Two months after the Septem- ber election, preliminary results have still not been announced by the Independent Election Commission. An ongoing vote recount has been delayed by members of Abdullah’s campaign team who have shut down local election centers in the provinces. Abdullah’s team, along with other election teams, contested that several hundred thousands of votes currently in the IEC tally are fraudulent and should be removed. The routes to downtown Ka- bul were closed to traffic early on Friday morning by Afghan forces who instructed protest- ers to choose Chaman-e-Ho- shai area as their final desti- nation instead of Pudarin Square, which is in front of the Palatinal Palace. But the protes- ters made attempts to reach their pre-planned destination. Senior members of the Stabili- ty and Convergence campaign team -- politicians and former politicians – were among the protestors.

Abdullah’s Stability and Con- vergence Team has stated the follow- ing: “The tribal team, the interna- tional community, and the elect- ion commission should hear the people’s… (More on P4)”

Afghan, Kazakhstan Bilateral Relations Growing

KABUL - Embassy of Afghanistan on November 19 held a round ta- ble discussion with media repre- sentatives on the occasion of two national celebrations of Kazakh- stan; Kazakhstan first president’s birthday and Kazakhstan Independ- ence day.

Ali Khan Yessengeldiyev, Ambas- sador of Kazakhstan in Kabul, pointed to the growing economic relations between the two coun- tries, said the trade volume be- tween the two countries in 2018, and increased 1.5 percent com- pared to 2017. Based on the cultural coopera- tion agreement between the two countries in 2010, he said, he believes the Taliban wants a ceasefire.

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15 Afghan Pilots, Trainers and Door Gunners Complete Training for Black Hawk Helicopters

KANDAHAR - A group of 15 Afghan pilots, trainer pilots and door gunners completed their training for UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters in southern Kandahar province.

The statement further added that 2 trainer pilots, 8 pilots and 5 door gunners received their graduation certificates during a ceremony in Kandahar Airfield on Wednesday.

"Speaking during the ceremony, Gen. Sherzai is the assigned commander of the AFROTCU said that the Afghan pilots graduated air force personnel are well trained to thwart all plans of the enemies by providing air support to ground forces."

Gen. Sherzai further added that the Afghan pilots will demonstrate their capabilities which they have learned during the 3-month training course. (Khaama Press)

Special Forces Destroy Taliban Tunnels, Kill 7 Militants in Kandahar Raids

KANDAHAR - The Special Forces killed 7 Taliban militants during separate raids in southern Kandahar province, the Afghan military said.

According to a statement released by 205th Airl Corps, the Special Forces conducted the raids in Sar Bahlal, Qaibre Malal and Deh Mawad villages of Mansud district.

The statement further added that the Special Forces also destroyed 15 lighting positions, 8 tunnels and 2 components of the group during the operations.

The Special Forces also discovered and destroyed 17 killed, Wounded in Failed Attack on Darqad District

TAKHAR - The Afghan forces repulsed a major Taliban attack on Darqad district of Takhar province in the North-east, killing or wounding at least 9 Taliban including two key commanders of the group.

The Ministry of Defense in a statement said the Taliban militants launched a coordinated attack on Qara Tepa area of Darqad district late on Wednesday night.

The statement further added that the Afghan forces effectively repulsed the attack, killing or wounding at least 11 militants including Qari Qadir and Qulami, the two key commanders of the group.

Premature Car Bomb Explosion Damages 10 Houses, Injures 13 Civilians in Sar-e Pul

SAR-E PUL - A Taliban car bomb went off prematurely in a residential area in southern Sar-e Pul province of Afghanistan which damaged 10 houses and injured 13 civilians, the Afghan military said.

According to a statement released by 205th Shomshin Corps in the North, the Taliban militants were looking to carry out a car bomb attack using a jeep loaded with explosives.

However, the Afghan forces identified the car bomb before the militants could drive it to the residential capital where they wanted to detonate it. (More on P4)

Thirteen Afghan Civilians Killed in Roadside Bomb Blast in Kunduz

KUNDUZ - Thirteen Afghan civilians were killed when the car they were travelling in was struck by a roadside bomb in Afghanistan's northern Kunduz province on Wednesday, police said.

The incident happened at 404th km in Taloqan-controlled Imadul din area as the car was travelling toward Imam Sahib district, said Abdul Rashid Bashir, the provincial police chief.

Thirteen people who were killed in the blast included seven children, five women and one man, he said.

Two others including one man and one child were injured in the explosion, according to the official. The injured man said that he lost his five children, his wife, and mother in the blast.

He said that they had been travelling to attend a wedding ceremony when the blast happened. There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the bombing. A statement from Afghan police inspectorate blamed the Taliban for the attack, saying it showcased the group's hostility toward civilians.

UN mission in Afghanistan also condemned the incident. "Use of such weapons, which are interred in international law, is illegal," UNAMA said. (TIV NEWS)

Outlook Horsplice

Kabul Police EOD Team Defuse Bomb Planted Close to a School Building

Afghans in 13 Civilians Injured in Roadside Bomb Blast in Darqad District

THIRTEEN Afghan civilians were injured after a roadside bomb went off in Darqad district of Takhar province on Wednesday, police said. (Khaama Press)
Why Democracy is not Successful in Third World Countries

by: Mohammad Zahir Akbari

November 30, 2019

Indemnity democracy is the most important factor in stabilizac and development of all countries, but it has never been successfu in Afghanistan. Afghanistan has been suffering a senseless war for quarter of a century, and this war has brought a lot of sou to the Afghan people. The Afghan government has not been able to consolidate itself and has been unstable. The country's media should also cover the positive aspects of democratic gains and strides made by women. The government should try to implement national laws about women, reduce sexual violence, and protect their rights and freedoms. Afghan women are now more aware of their legal rights and more well-informed about their social and political role have been discussed in the national media, including the social media network. The Taliban outfit created barriers before women's social and political activities in their dominated areas, it could neither prevent the adoption of democratic constitution nor hamper women's progress. Achieving remarkably within the past 18 years, Afghan women for the first time in their history have been able to participate in the political process and their achievements must not be sacrificed at the negoti
violence and terrorism.” Kumar said. Kaushik also said that the Taliban had killed 6,000 Afghan soldiers and contributed 330 projects throughout Afghanistan. When asked whether a return of a Taliban Emirate to Afghanistan would be tolerated by India, Kaushik said that India is committed to maintaining a sovereign and secular state, which means that the kind of government they want.

Kumar also said that India has contributed $3 billion to Afghanistan, which the Taliban had killed 6,000 Afghan soldiers and contributed 330 projects throughout Afghanistan. When asked whether a return of a Taliban Emirate to Afghanistan would be tolerated by India, they said that India is committed to maintaining a sovereign and secular state, which means that the kind of government they want.

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Global Climate Protests Begin Ahead of Madrid Meeting

BELGIUM – Australia's largest-ever national protest against global warming has kicked off with thousands of schoolchildren marching across cities nationwide to demand emergency action on climate change. The rallies, which mark the first day of the United Nations climate conference in Madrid, are expected to draw millions of participants in more than 125 countries around the world, including the United States, Australia, Brazil, Germany, Italy, Spain, and the United Kingdom.

India's Upper Chamber Tells Government: 'No Worries'

NEW DELHI - India's upper chamber of parliament has told the government that there is no reason for it to worry about the safety of the country's nuclear infrastructure. The chamber is currently sitting to discuss the government's plans for the country's nuclear power plants, which have come under scrutiny in recent months due to concerns about their safety and sustainability.

Malta Government Rejects Immunity Bid by Businessman in Journalist Murder

VALLETTA - The Maltese government turned down a request from one of the island's richest men on Friday for a pardon in return for his cooperation in the investigation into a journalist's murder, after finding that a top official had been implicated. After two years of stalled investigations, the authorities have moved rapidly in recent days in the case of journalist Daphne Caruana Galizia, who was blown up with a car bomb in 2017 while reporting on official corruption. His family has sought with fury to the decision overnight to set free Keith Schembri, who quit this week as chief of staff to prime minister Joseph Muscat after being arrested in the case. After a cabinet meeting that ended shortly before 3:00 a.m., Muscat's government decided in the case. (More on P.17)

UK PM Johnson Imposes Trump: Please Keep Out of Election

LONDON - Prime Minister Boris Johnson said it was bad if U.S. President Donald Trump did not get involved in Britain's upcoming election when he visited London for the first time next week. “What we don’t do traditionally as loving allies is use our friendship to get in each other’s business,” said Johnson, who is Conservative Party leader and a commanding figure in the British opposition. The UK is for neither side to get involved in each other's elections,” he said. Johnson also said that the US and the UK have a strong relationship, but the US is not ready to be involved in the UK's election. (More on P.18)

Top Iraq Cleric Urges Lawmakers to Reassess Government After 400 Killed

IRAQ - The Iraqi Shi’ite Muslim cleric on Friday condemned attacks on parliament by pro-government and Baath lawmakers, who support the Iraqi prime minister. He accused the government of attempting to change the leadership of several provinces to stem electoral violence in the war-torn country.

Security forces were overwhelmed by 16 all-out attacks on the parliament by pro-government and Baath lawmakers, who support the Iraqi prime minister, during Thursday's session. The attacks are the latest in a series of violence that has plagued Baghdad and other areas of the country.

The cleric, who is a leading figure in the country, said he was shocked by the violence and warned that the situation was rapidly deteriorating. He called for a peaceful resolution to the crisis.

Malta government officials, who have been involved in negotiations with the opposition, have said that the attacks were an attempt by the government to prevent the opposition from participating in the upcoming general election. (More on P.17)

Russian Security Service Detains Suspected Ukrainian Spy

MOSCOW - The Russian Federal Security Service has detained a woman suspected of collecting sensitive military information for Ukraine's defense ministry, it said in a statement on Friday. The woman, a Ukrainian citizen, was detained in Sevastopol, the largest city in Ukraine, in the middle of April 2014 following a referral to the Russian FSB. The statement gives no further details about the detainee. (More on P.18)

Turkmenistan, Bahrain Discuss Joint Projects

ASHGABAT - Meetings between the business communities of Turkmenistan and Bahrain have been successful, according to a statement by Bahrain's Foreign Minister Abdullatif bin Rashid Al-Zayani. Bahrain and Turkey are working on the construction of a number of joint projects, including the expansion of oil and gas export routes, the development of petrochemical industry and tourism infrastructure. (More on P.18)

Qureshi Lauds Malaysia Over Firm Stance Against Kashmir Curfew

ISLAMABAD - Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi lauded the Malaysian government for taking a firm stance against India's curfew in Kashmir. Qureshi appreciated the Malaysian government's support for the Kashmiris, saying the Malaysian government had always shown solidarity with the Kashmiri people. (More on P.18)

Meeting on International North-South Transport Corridor Project Held

TASHKENT - The international conference on the North-South Transport Corridor project was held on Monday in Tashkent. The conference was attended by representatives of 15 countries, including Russia, India, China, and Turkey. (More on P.18)

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North Korea's Thanksgiving Day Test Shows Improving Speed for Missile Crews

SEOUL - North Korea fired two medium-range projectiles from its east coast on Thursday, the second such shot in less than two months, raising concerns about the country's nuclear and missile programs. North Korea fired two medium-range projectiles from its east coast on Thursday, the second such shot in less than two months, raising concerns about the country's nuclear and missile programs. The United States of a year-end deadline and Kim Jong-un's shift toward the West, North Korea's nuclear weapons program is poised to reach new levels of capability. The series of tests since May 25 have raised serious concerns about the potential for an attack on the United States. (More on P.18)

Italy Police Uncover Plot to Form New Nazi Party, Authorities Say

Rome - Italian police said Thursday that they had seized weapons and far-right propaganda material from the homes of 19 suspected ex-Nazis who have been arrested in a plot to form a new Nazi party in the country. The police said that searches took place in 16 towns and cities, including Roma, Padua, and Venice. (More on P.18)

Compliance A Key Concern as HIV Epidemic Persists in Africa

KAMPALA, Uganda — AIDS has become averted to in East Africa — but some people are forgetting that. These are some of the bold messages Uganda’s leader is emphasizing as health officials try to stem stubbornly high infection rates among young people in this East African country that years ago won praise as a global leader in fighting the epidemic. Uganda’s 13 million people live in one of the few countries that are now showing a significant decrease in the number of people living with AIDS. (More on P.18)
KABUL - The vote recount and audit process has been completed in 27 provinces, while decision regarding the remaining seven provinces would be taken soon, the Independent Election Commission (IEC) said on Thursday.

IEC Head Haseb Alam Nuristani told reporters here the vote recounted and audit process has been completed in 27 provinces, but in seven provinces, the process would not be conducted due to the absence of the partners of some election teams.

She explained the IEC was ready to talk to protesting teams and asked them to respect the law and allow the IEC teams to start the recount and audit process. Nuristani warned the IEC would take decision in the light of law and regulations, if the protesting election teams continued their resistance and did not allow the process to begin.

Earlier, on November 9, the IEC announced the recount and audit process of total 6,259 polling stations in the country, but in some provinces the recount was faced with strong opposition from some candidates which forced that IEC to halt the audit and recount process and resumed the process two days after it addressed the reservations of some candidates.

The vote recount and audit process forced that IEC to delay its announcement of preliminary election results on November 14. IEC Commissioner Mandana Ahadiullah said no one has the right to announce the election result if the recount process is not completed in all constituencies.

He termed suspending 280 additional forms to Kandahar province and 25 to Kapisa province by the IEC uninterested and as illegal and said the move should be investigated.

In line with the IEC presidential election schedule, the preliminary result should be announced on October 19 while the final result was set to be announced on November 7, but the process suffered delay due to late transfer of biometric data to the central servers.

IEC had said to announce the preliminary result on November 9, but failed. "More than 60% of the central servers were down, but now all are working normally," the IEC said.

KABUL - President Ashraf Ghani has asked the Taliban to renounce war, otherwise they would be crushed.

Ghani issued the warning hours after the killing of 15 civilians, including women and children, in a bomb blast in northern Kunduz province.

Ghani vehemently condemned the deadly bomb attack, his official said in a statement. "Such actions by Taliban against children, women and ordinary people amount to clear enemieship," Ghani said.

The president added the security forces would continue their crackdown on the Taliban until they change their behaviour.

KABUL - A Model United Nations Conference was organized in Kabul to encourage youth participations in decisions and their familiarity with the UN and international diplomacy.

Mohammed Yarbaq, the organizer of UN Model Conference in Kabul, said he had invited 300 students from 30 provinces to discuss peace, higher education curriculum and discrimination in Afghan society.

He said the conference since 2016 encouraged youth engagement in national and international issues and sharing their thoughts for change.

Liana Rifat, in charge of UNAMA’s political affairs, said youth efforts and roles in areas of commerce, governance and others in the country was unprecedented during the last one decade.

Zaman, Botsali Discuss OIC Role in Afghan Peace Process

KABUL - Acting Foreign Minister Ishraq Zaman met with the Ambassador of Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) to Kabul Husein Amin Botsali on Thursday, a statement from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) said.

The meeting focused on peace process in Afghanistan and the role of OIC in peace and post peace settlement process.

Ambassador Botsali assured Minister Zaman of the OIC Secretariat General’s full support of the peace efforts. The two sides also exchanged views on establishing a university in Nangarhar province per OIC plan. (Pajhwok)

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