

Quote of the Day

The world stands aside to let anyone pass who knows where he is going.

David Starr Jordan

General Abdul Rashid Dostum

We Were Aware about Threats against Kunduz

KABUL - General Abdul Rashid Dostum, First Vice President, who this weekend returned home from a trip to Russia, India, Chechnya, UAE and Turkey, said that government had been aware of the heightened threats against Kunduz ahead of the Taliban's attack.

He said government also knows of plans against other provinces. Dostum said the government did however work to prevent insurgent attacks on Kunduz and are working at preventing the same in other provinces.

"We knew that they had plans for Kunduz, Faryab, Helmand and Kunar province... we have done a lot to prevent the attacks



and Kunduz residents should know that we are not careless," he said.

He also says that during his visit to Moscow the Russian government promised to provide military assistance to Afghanistan if needed and said Russian officials have expressed their concerns about the presence of insurgents in northern parts of the country.

Dostum emphasized that the Russian Defence Minister General Sergey Shoigu was asked to provide necessary equipment for the Afghan security forces, especially for army troops, in order to fight Daesh and Taliban insurgents. ...*(More on P4)...(1)*

Germany Pledges Continued Support to Afghan Forces



KABUL - The commander of NATO-led Resolute Support Mission in northern Afghanistan Brigadier General Andreas Hanneman said on Monday that alliance forces have struggled to boost war capability of the Afghan National se-

curity Forces (ANSF) in an effort to enable them handle insurgent threats. He said that Germany will however, continue to provide support and assistance to Afghanistan for the next ten years. As Taliban's insurgency gathers ...*(More on P4)...(2)*

Task Team to Probe Fall of Kunduz Starts Work



KABUL - President Ashraf Ghani's fact-finding team ordered to probe the fall of Kunduz city officially started their work on Monday.

Based on President's order, the commission has three weeks in which to complete its investigation, the members told a press conference in Kabul.

The five-member team is made up of independent experts and former government officials. They include former NDS chief

Amrullah Saleh, former education minister Farooq Wardak, Fazel Karim Emaq, Ayoub Rafiqi and Abdullah Mohammadi.

"The commission is non-government, however, we will report to the president," said Saleh, who was the former Afghan intelligence chief. "The president has promised to take action based on the findings of this commission."

The team members as ...*(More on P4)...(6)*

UNHCR Chief EU must Further Support Greece in Managing Refugees

ATHENS - The European Union (EU) has an obligation to provide Greece with further support in the management of the escalating refugee crisis, the UN's High Commissioner for Refugees Antonio Guterres said here Monday. The Portuguese official held talks with Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras and visited reception centers on the island of Lesbos and Athens during his official visit. ...*(More on P4)...(3)*

All Taliban Militants Driven out of Kunduz: Police Spokesman

KUNDUZ CITY - Afghan forces have taken control of all parts of Kunduz as they have purged Taliban militants from the city, a provincial Afghan law enforcement official announced on Monday.

"Kunduz was cleaned of Taliban militants yesterday and the Afghan forces have been stationed in many parts of the city," Spokesman of Kunduz Police Seyed ...*(More on P4)...(4)*

Abdullah Asks Pakistan to Stop Backing Taliban

KABUL - Presiding over the weekly Council of Ministers (CM) meeting on Monday, Abdullah Abdullah, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the National Unity Government (NUG), once again accused Pakistan of harboring militancy, and asked them to stop funding and assisting insurgents.

"We expect that funding to the Taliban is halted. Mutual trust will be built when funding to the Taliban ends," Abdullah said.

At the meeting, Abdullah also praised Afghan troops who managed to push back insurgents and retake control of the strategic city of Kunduz in the northern province.

"Progress has been made regarding the clearance operation in Kunduz. Some of the people have



returned to their homes, however, we want more security measures for Kunduz to be considered," he said.

While the Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif renews Islamabad's commitment to work at resuming the Afghan peace talks which stalled following the reported death of Taliban's reclu-

sive leader Mullah Omar, Abdullah called on Pakistani officials to stop backing the militants in an effort to rehabilitate mutual understanding and trust between the two nations.

Referring to Pakistan's controversial role in the war, some Afghan political commentators on Monday asked ...*(More on P4)...(5)*

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