Decision on Troop Adjustment Soon: John Kerry

WASHINGTON - The US President, Barack Obama, would make his decision on troop adjustment, the US Secretary of State, John Kerry, told lawmakers on Tuesday ahead of his visit to the Afghan President, Mohammad Ashraf Ghani.

Kerry told lawmakers during a Congressional hearing that "the President is in the right place at this point to make his withdrawal of troops from Afghanistan. The evaluation that is going on now with respect to the adjustment on the troop is appropriate. And the President will make his decision shorty."

"Do you support a conditional withdrawal in Afghanistan, of our military forces?" Kerry was questioned by Senator Thad Cochran. Such a statement from the US Secretary of State comes in the wake of repeated requests from the new Afghan President, that the US should reconsider its decision on complete withdrawal of troops from Afghanistan by the end of 2016.

During his maiden trip to Afghanistan, the US Defense Secretary, Ashton Carter, said that he would consider on the pace of withdrawals of troops from Afghanistan based on conditions on the ground. A day earlier, gunfire abducted 30 passengers from a 230 model bus on Kabul-Kandahar Highway in Spakhe district of Zabul. Local officials said on Pajhwok.

Musharraf

Kabul Must Share Power with Talibain Group

PLASAMAD - The former Pakistani President, Pervez Musharraf has said that the Afghan government must share power with the Taliban militants group in a bid to bring peace and stability in the country. Musharraf has also said that the government of Afghanistan must black Indian influence in the country if it wishes to see peace.

Speaking during an interview with The Wall Street Journal, Musharraf insisted that both Pakistan and India must stay neutralized in the Afghan conflict to stop the involvement of India and Pakistan.

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Land Allocated for Teachers’ Township Awarded to AISA

PUL-LOM - Educa-
tion officials of the Afghan
northern city of Aqcha, the
province's education depart-
ment and the district's rural
education department head and a former director of the dustbin have been hailed as "heroes" for their efforts. The two officials were reportedly among those who helped the students to continue their education.

Tainted Urzughan Officials Yet to be Suspended

QARGOZ - A total of four
out of five former education
officials who were implicated in a scandal were not suspended by the Aqcha district education department. Official sources said that the officials had been removed from their posts on temporary grounds.

ANA Rescues Badghis Trapped Residents

BADGHSI - Last week, 180 people were rescued from the village of Abshir in the Badghis province. The rescue mission was conducted by the Afghan National Army (ANA) and the Afghan National Police (ANP).

AP Correspondent Wounded in Afghanistan to Receive Medal for Courage

KABUL - The Associated Press correspondent in Afghanistan, FarzanaCallback, will receive the Afghan National Police’s Medal of Honor for Courage during a ceremony on Monday. The award is given to those who risk their lives to report the truth.

Outlook Horizon

Politics (Sep 23, 20/4)

You may have the best of intentions, but today’s world isn’t one where you can always expect success. It’s easy to fall into despair when things don’t go your way. Remember, though, that even in the face of failure, you have a chance to learn from your mistakes and grow stronger.

Economy (Aug 24, 20)

You have the opportunity to control your spending today. Make a budget and stick to it. You don’t have to save all your money, but try to avoid overspending. This will help you stay within your means and avoid financial stress.

Health (Jan 28, 20)

You need to be careful about your diet. Eating healthy foods and staying active can have a big impact on your overall health. Make sure to get enough sleep and exercise regularly.

Sports (Dec 21, 20)

You have a strong desire to succeed, but you may be lacking the discipline needed to achieve your goals. Focus on setting clear, achievable objectives and working hard to reach them.

Diplomacy (Nov 20, 20)

You are well-equipped to handle complex issues today. Use your communication skills to navigate challenging situations and build strong relationships with others.

Flash Floods, Avalanches Leave 23 People Dead

JALALABAD - At least eight people have died after a flash flood occurred in a number of rural areas in northern Nangarhar, Laghman and Kunar provinces and 35 people lost their lives in four avalanches in central Farah, official
calls said Wednesday.
The floods triggered to continue downstream - More on PAGE 26

13 Welfare Projects to be Launched

KHOST CITY - At least 13 development projects in the southern Khost province have been suc-
scessfully launched, officials said on Wednesday. Acting Governor Ali
Abdul (former Nailer) announced the launch of the projects at a gathering attended by tribal elders, a statement from the acting governor said.
The projects financed by the SRG organization will be launched, he said, adding that the government would continue to implement regional projects.

5 NSF Soldiers Dead in Blasts

KHOST CITY/TARAKI - Afghanistan security forces were targeted in two separate blasts in southeastern Khost and Kunar provinces, officials said.
Capt. Abdulrahman, spokesman of the 1st Afghan National Police Division (ANA), Khost Police Force, told Panjshir Radio, a military vehicle carrying police personnel was targeted in Khost province, the police force said.
Three soldiers died on the spot and another was killed in the explosion, he confirmed. Surprisingly, his death meant that four soldiers, including the director of Khost Civil Police, were killed in the latest incident - More on PAGE 26

Deh Sabz Residents Resist Relocation of Factories

KABUL - The residents of Deh Sabz village, a district of Kabul, have protested against the government's plan to relocate heavy industries near the area.
"We will not allow factories to pollute our environment and harm our health," one of the residents said - More on PAGE 26

Suicide Bombs Arrested in Women’s Dress

The Afghan National Army prevented a suicide bomber wearing a woman’s dress from entering a government building in Kabul.
A spokesperson for the Afghan National Army (ANA) Commando Unit, Capt. Amin Reza, said the two suicide bombers, including a woman, were detained in the city of Kabul.

Captains (Dec 21, 20)

There’s nothing wrong with asking for help today, judging from a difficult interaction with a customer. Even if you can talk a greater deal is being held at the corner, you don’t know how to work with the situation. You may find it difficult to separate yourself from the situation when you stand up for your rights. Fortunately, you avoid a radical argument and decide to re-
together and carry a compromise.

Politics (Nov 20, 20)

You have significant goals that you must work to achieve today. You may find it difficult to stay on your path in a_Box, yet your efforts toward success show you that you can succeed. Focus on your personal goals.

Economy (Oct 27, 20)

You enjoy a strong sense of discipline today. Use your organization skills to stay on track with your tasks. You may find it easier to prioritize your responsibilities if you set a plan and stay focused.

Health (Sep 24, 20)

You like to focus on the present moment. Even though you can face challenges, you use your energy to overcome them. You may need to take time to assess your goals and priorities to make the most of your abilities.

Sports (Aug 24, 20)

You have a strong desire to succeed, but you may be lacking the discipline needed to achieve your goals. Focus on setting clear, achievable objectives and working hard to reach them.

Diplomacy (Aug 23, 20)

You are well-equipped to handle complex issues today. Use your communication skills to navigate challenging situations and build strong relationships with others.

Defense (Aug 23, 20)

You feel confident and capable of handling any situation today. Your energy and enthusiasm make you a strong leader in any group.

Environment (Jul 20, 20)

You are aware of the importance of the natural world. You may have a strong desire to protect the environment or take action to address environmental issues.

 reflight (May 23, 20)

You have the opportunity to control your spending today. Make a budget and stick to it. You don’t have to save all your money, but try to avoid overspending. This will help you stay within your means and avoid financial stress.

Health (May 23, 20)

You need to be careful about your diet. Eating healthy foods and staying active can have a big impact on your overall health. Make sure to get enough sleep and exercise regularly.

Sports (May 23, 20)

You have a strong desire to succeed, but you may be lacking the discipline needed to achieve your goals. Focus on setting clear, achievable objectives and working hard to reach them.

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Sectarianism Targets Afghans

By Behjatullah Zia

A number of Afghan refugees returned from Iran with genuine hope to seek a better livelihood in their homeland. The fact is that an increasing number of Afghan refugees in the country and the region are being discriminated against and are faced with an uncertain future. This is because of the dominance of sectarianism in Afghan society, which is reflected in every aspect of interstate relations and domestic politics.

The situation in Pakistan is no better. The government has been unable to provide a lasting solution to the problem of Afghan refugees. The recent incident in which a group of Afghan refugees was attacked by demonstrators in Karachi is just one example of the growing sectarianism in the region. The refugees are being treated with little respect and dignity, and their basic human rights are being violated. The government should take immediate steps to address this issue and ensure the safety and well-being of the Afghan refugees.

The situation in Afghanistan is also严峻. The recent conflict between the government and the Taliban has led to increased sectarian violence. The government should work towards reducing tensions and promoting peace and stability in the country.

In conclusion, the issue of sectarianism in Afghanistan and Pakistan is a serious concern that needs to be addressed urgently. The government should take decisive action to prevent sectarian violence and ensure the rights and freedoms of all citizens in the region.
(1) Decision on Oil
Year in the Middle East, the white House has indicated that it will be up to the Afghan government to decide whether to extend the time frame for the withdrawal of foreign forces. The US administration has offered to support the Afghan government in its efforts to stabilize the country and strengthen its institutions.

(2) Released
Officials with the Afghan government said that the released prisoners are expected to be transferred to the Afghan government for further processing. The officials added that the release of prisoners is part of the broader efforts to reduce tensions and promote peace in the region.

(3) Afghanistan Urges
The Afghan government has called for an immediate end to all hostilities and a peaceful resolution to the ongoing conflict. The government has also called for the release of all prisoners and the cessation of all military operations.

(4) Kabul
US forces in Afghanistan have come under attack from terrorist groups.

(5) New Kabul
The UN Security Council has adopted a resolution condemning the attacks in Kabul.

(6) Historic Politics
The Afghan government has announced that it will hold early elections in the coming months.

(7) Flash Floods
The Kabul government has declared a state of emergency in the areas affected by the floods.

(8) AnSF Soldiers
The Afghan National Army (ANA) has started to deploy troops to the south.

(9) Civilian Airports
The Afghan government has announced that it will close two airports due to security concerns.

(10) Anti-Corruption
The Afghan government has launched a comprehensive anti-corruption campaign.

(11) Kabul Team
A team of international experts has arrived in Kabul to assess the situation and provide recommendations.

(12) Afghanistan Peace Process
The Afghan government has expressed its commitment to the peace process and called for an immediate end to the conflict.

(13) The original report from November 30, 2013, stated that the US government had announced that it would withdraw its forces by the end of 2014. The report also noted that the Afghan government had failed to achieve its promise of hosting a democratic election.

(14) The latest update from December 1, 2013, indicates that the US government has reaffirmed its commitment to withdraw its forces by the end of 2014. The report also highlights the challenges faced by the Afghan government in terms of security and governance.

(15) The updated report from December 1, 2013, provides a comprehensive overview of the current situation in Afghanistan and the ongoing efforts to stabilize the country.

(16) The updated report from December 1, 2013, highlights the importance of international cooperation in achieving a peaceful resolution to the conflict in Afghanistan.

(17) The updated report from December 1, 2013, underscores the urgent need for a comprehensive and inclusive political process.

(18) The updated report from December 1, 2013, stresses the critical role of regional and international partners in supporting the Afghan government's efforts.

(19) The updated report from December 1, 2013, emphasizes the importance of addressing the root causes of the conflict in order to achieve a sustainable peace.

(20) The updated report from December 1, 2013, highlights the need for a comprehensive approach that addresses both security and governance issues.

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Moscow Calls an OSCE to Monitor Ukrainian Insurgents' Weapon Withdrawal

WASHINGON—A top American official has briefly touched on a proposal that would involve the Ukrainian government in a new round of talks on weapons withdrawals in eastern Ukraine. The proposal, which was discussed during a telephone call between Secretary of State John Kerry and Ukrainian Foreign Minister Yuriy Diniy, was made public on Wednesday.

"We are prepared to engage the OSCE as a monitor of weapon withdrawals," Kerry said in a statement.

"The American government is likely to be the final brake before the agreement," he added.

In the statement, Kerry said that the OSCE would play a role in verifying the withdrawal of weapons, including those under command of the separatists, as well as in facilitating a dialogue between the Ukrainian government and the insurgents. Kerry also noted that the OSCE could serve as a platform for further negotiations on the status of the Donbas region.

"The OSCE is well placed to play a role in this process," he said. "We will continue to work with the OSCE and other partners to support a peaceful settlement of the conflict.

"In addition, Kerry said that the United States would continue to support Ukraine, and that the country's security and defense capabilities were important to the stability of the region. He also reiterated the United States' commitment to supporting Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Kerry's comments come as Ukraine continues to negotiate with separatists over the withdrawal of weapons from the conflict zone. The latest round of talks between the two sides was held on Tuesday in Minsk.

"We are hopeful that the OSCE can help facilitate these discussions and help to ensure that the agreement is implemented," Kerry said. "We remain committed to working with our international partners to achieve a lasting and just peace in the Donbas region.

"The United States will continue to be a strong and reliable partner for Ukraine, and we will continue to support Ukraine's efforts to promote peace and stability in the Donbas," he added.

Kerry's statement was welcomed by Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko, who expressed gratitude for the United States' support.

"The United States is a strong ally of Ukraine, and we are grateful for its continued support," Poroshenko said in a statement. "We will continue to work with our partners to achieve a lasting and just peace in the Donbas.

Meanwhile, the separatists have rejected the United States' proposal, calling it a "predatory economic aggression" against them. The separatists have also threatened to launch new attacks if the United States continues to support Ukraine.

"We do not accept the United States' proposal, and we will not sign any agreement that compromises our interests," the separatists said in a statement. "We will not allow the United States to dictate our terms.

"We will continue to fight for our independence and our right to self-determination," they added.

The latest round of talks between the United States and the separatists was held on Tuesday in Minsk. The talks were attended by representatives of the United States, the European Union, and the OSCE.

"We are committed to finding a peaceful solution to the conflict," Poroshenko said at the end of the talks.

ANALYSIS:

The proposal by the United States to involve Ukraine in negotiations on weapon withdrawals is a significant development in the ongoing conflict. The United States has been a major supporter of Ukraine, and its involvement in the talks could provide an opportunity to advance the peace process.

"The United States' proposal is a positive step toward resolving the conflict," Poroshenko said.

"We welcome the United States' commitment to working with Ukraine and the separatists to achieve a lasting peace," he added.

However, the separatists have rejected the proposal, and it remains to be seen whether the United States' efforts will be successful. The conflict in the Donbas region has been ongoing for more than four years, and the sides have been-resistant to any compromise.

Meanwhile, the issue of weapons withdrawal continues to be a major challenge for the United States and its partners in the region.

"The withdrawal of weapons is critical to achieving a lasting peace," Poroshenko said.

"We will continue to work with our partners to implement the ceasefire and to ensure that the withdrawal of weapons is verifiable.

"We will continue to support Ukraine's efforts to achieve peace and stability in the Donbas region," he added.

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US Embassy
Horns Bleed in Support of ANBIS

KABUL - The US Embassy Kabul hosted a blood drive in support of the Afghan National Blood Safety and Transfusion Service (ANBIS), a statement from the US Embassy said. The blood would be distributed to hospitals in Kabul and to provincial medical treatment facilities, the statement added. Afghan hospitals rely on blood donations for trauma victims and for patients undergoing other bleeding medical treatments. The US Embassy holds two blood drives each year to benefit the local community. This year,... [More on P4,09]

KP Govt. to Expel Nearly 300 Afghan Clerics

PESHAWAR - The Home and Tribal Affairs Department of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Wednesday ordered all commissioners and DENGs to expel Afghan clerics from the province and submit a report over the implementation within seven days. A Home Department source said that there were 394 Afghan Muslim Imams (prayer leaders) in the province and their documentation had been sent to relevant commissioners as part of the National Action Plan. The KP government plans to deport Afghan clerics from the province. [More on P4,09]

Kabul Team in Nangarhar to Probe Graft, Insecurity

JALALABAD - A powerful delegation from Kabul on Tuesday arrived in eastern Nangarhar province to investigate administrative corruption and identify factors contributing to insecurity. Led by Interior Minister Noor-ud-Haq Ulumi, the delegation met local officials and members of a gathering in Jalalabad, the provincial capital. President Ghani, who directed the delegation two weeks ago during a video conference with provincial governors of eastern provinces to investigate problems in these provinces and find solutions to them, welcomed the move and said Nangarhar's military and security forces... [More on P3,12]

IS Group Strength Reaches 400 in Farah

FARAH CITY - The strength of fighters claiming allegiance to the Islamic State (IS) group from 60 to 80 people over the past one and a half months in the Khwajabad district of western Farah province, the district chief said on Tuesday. Abdul Khtaj Noorani told Farah Times the Islamic State group had established a training camp in Mizar Kala area, where they had hosted Black Eagle. Local officials say the group is running another training camp in the district's Bereshkab area. [More on P4,18]

UNAMA Welcomes NUG Commitment to Eliminate Detainees' Torture

KABUL - Reporting a 14 percent decrease in ill-treatment and torture of detainees compared to the previous period, the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) welcomed the Afghan government's commitment to improve investigation mechanisms in the country's detention facilities. In its third report covering 2014-15 released on Wednesday, UNAMA stated that despite a decrease in the events, conflict-related facilities were still being tortured and treated badly in the government detention centers. [More on P4,20]

All Except Salang Highways Open to Traffic Mangal

KABUL - The Ministry of Public Works and Rural Development said on Wednesday that all except the Salang Highway were open to traffic across the country and urged drivers to avoid travelling on snow-bound roads. Acting Public Works Minister Naqib Gol Mangal told reporters in Kabul the Salang,... [More on P4,24]

Afshah Ahmad Sherpa,
Historic Opportunity for Kabul and Islamabad

JALALABAD - Eliminating the war for improved relations between Kabul and Islamabad, Afshah Ahmed Danish Saheen, an influential Pakistani politician, has urged both the countries to seize the "historic opportunity" being created in the past few months. In an exclusive interview with... [More on P3,12]

Haji Gulram Bilour
Islamabad
Compelled to Cooperate with Kabul

KARUL - Prominent Pakistan's Awami National Party (ANP) leader Haji Gulram Bilour says he is optimistic about Afghanistan's reconciliation process and that Islamabad has been left with no option but to cooperate with Kabul. Bilour, a former ANP vice-president and former federal railways minister, is in Kabul as part of a delegation to attend a seminar... [More on P4,30]

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