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NATO convoy attacked in northwest Pakistan

March 4, 2014

Pakistani officials say gunmen have opened fire on a NATO supply convoy in the country's northwest.

Jehangir Azam Wazir, a senior local administration official, said the convoy of four vehicles came under fire on Tuesday in the tribal Jamrud region, located 40 kilometers northwest of the city of Peshawar.

The vehicles were transporting supplies to US-led NATO forces in neighboring Afghanistan.

“The four containers were on their way to Afghanistan when four gunmen riding two motorbikes opened fire at them in Jamrud, killing two helpers and wounding one driver and one helper,” said Wazir.

The gunmen reportedly fled from the scene and no group has claimed responsibility for the incident.

The attack comes less than a week after the ruling party in Pakistan's northwest ended a three-month blockade of NATO supply route to Afghanistan.

The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party had blocked the vital supply line in protest at US drone strikes, which have claimed thousands of lives on Pakistani soil.

The United States says the CIA-run drone strikes primarily kill Taliban militants who threaten the US-led international forces in neighboring Afghanistan, although casualty figures show that Pakistani civilians are often the victims of the attacks.

The slaughter of Pakistani people, including women and children, in US drone strikes has strained relations between Islamabad and Washington, and Pakistani officials have complained to the US administration on numerous occasions.

In September 2012, a report by the Stanford Law School and the New York University School of Law gave an alarming account of the effects that US killer drone strikes have on ordinary people in Pakistan's tribal areas.