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Press TV

Five Afghan civilians killed in US airstrikes in northwest Afghanistan

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At least five Afghan civilians have been killed and 15 others injured in airstrikes by US forces in Afghanistan's northwestern province of Badghis, Press TV reports.

American aircraft pounded certain regions in the Bala Murghab district in Badghis Province on Sunday evening, killing five civilians and injuring 15 others, Bala Murghab tribal leaders said.

The bombing occurred after a US-led military vehicle was detonated in a roadside bomb attack by Taliban forces in the region, Molavi Ishaq, a tribal leader explained.

Deputy Governor of Badghis Province, Abdolghani Saber, confirmed the US airstrikes in an interview with Press TV, but did not provide any information about the exact number of the casualties.

An investigation team has been dispatched to the scene of the incident, he went on to say.

Qari Yousuf Ahmadi, a Taliban spokesman, said the US airstrikes claimed the lives of 25 Afghan civilians and injured several others. He dismissed any reports of Taliban casualties in the attack.

NATO has failed to comment on the attacks.

The loss of civilian lives at the hand of foreign forces has dramatically increased anti-American sentiments in Afghanistan.

Afghan President Hamid Karzai has regularly condemned US-led foreign forces for civilian deaths.

The rising death toll for Afghan civilians as a result of NATO and US military operations in the country has increased tensions between President Karzai and the Western governments.

The United States launches airstrikes on Afghan residential locations under the excuse of combating terrorism. However, the main victims of the US-led offensives are civilians.