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www.afgazad.com

afgazad@gmail.com

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Press TV

Two US-led soldiers killed in southern Afghanistan

5/30/2012



At least two US-led soldiers with the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) have been killed in two separate attacks in southern Afghanistan, Press TV reports.

On Wednesday, NATO said in a statement that a foreign trooper was killed in an "insurgent attack" in southern Afghanistan.

Earlier in the day, the Western military alliance announced the death of another US-led soldier by a homemade bomb explosion in the southern part of the war-torn country.

NATO refused to provide further details about the nationalities of the soldiers or the exact location of the attacks.

The fresh deaths raised the number of foreign troops killed in Afghanistan to 174 since the beginning of 2012.

Roadside bombs and IEDs are by far the most lethal weapons the Taliban militants have used against Afghan forces and occupying foreign troops in recent years.

A total of 566 US-led troops lost their lives in Afghanistan in 2011. However, 2010 remains the deadliest year for foreign military casualties, with a death toll of 711.

The high number of military casualties in Afghanistan has intensified opposition in the United States and other NATO member states against the protracted war in the country.

US-led troops have been fighting in Afghanistan since 2001. Their initial offensive removed the Taliban from power, but insecurity continues to rise across the country despite the presence of about 130,000 foreign forces.