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## Blast kills 6 French soldiers, injures 6 more in Kapisa Province

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At least six French soldiers have been killed and six others injured in a blast in eastern Afghanistan's Kapisa Province, Afghan police officials say.

The casualties come after a bomber targeted a NATO convoy in Nijrab district in Kapisa Province.

However, the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in a statement announced that only four foreign troopers were killed.

ISAF did not disclose the nationalities of the soldiers targeted in the attack, but Afghan police forces confirmed that "six French soldiers were killed and six more injured."

The recent violence brings the total number of French soldiers killed in Afghanistan since the beginning of the US-led war to 89.

As part of the US-led NATO coalition in Afghanistan, France has around 3,400 troops mainly stationed in the provinces of Kabul and Kapisa

Earlier on the same day, another US-led serviceman was killed in a roadside bomb attack in eastern Afghanistan.

The attack came amid French President Francois Hollande's initiative to pull back French soldiers from the war-torn country.

The growing 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 thousands of foreign forces.