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## 2 coalition members among 5 killed in suicide attack

Bashir Ahmad Naadem

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Two foreigners and three National Directorate of Security (*NDS*) agents were killed as a result of a suicide attack in the southern province of Kandahar on Saturday, an official said.

The attack took place around noon, when the bomber exploded his suicide vest near an NDS convoy in Maroof district of the province, the governor's spokesman, Javed Faisal, told Pajhwok Afghan News.

He said three intelligence operatives were killed and four others wounded in the blast, which did not harm civilians. The spokesman offered no more details of the incident.

But the International Security Assistance Force (*ISAF*) said one coalition forces service-member and one coalition soldier and a civilian employee also died in improvised explosive device (IED) attack.

Some coalition personnel, civilians and Afghan security personnel were injured and evacuated to ISAF medical facilities for treatment, a statement from the *NATO*-led force said.

"Afghan and coalition officials are gathering facts about this incident and will release more information as appropriate," the statement added. "Currently, unconfirmed reporting indicates that this was a suicide-vest IED attack."

As usual, the Taliban claimed responsibility for the bombing. The group's spokesman, Qari Yousuf Ahmadi, a member of the insurgent movement attacked a joint patrol, inflicting casualties on Afghan and foreign troops.