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US-led airstrikes kill 8 in central, southern Afghanistan

10/22/2012



At least eight people have been killed in new US-led airstrikes in the Wardak and Kandahar provinces respectively situated in central and southern Afghanistan, Press TV reports.

Six people were killed in a pre-dawn strike in the Wardak province on Monday. The provincial police said the assault had targeted a house.

Some local sources said that militants had been killed in the raid, but there has not been an official statement from any militant group confirming the accounts.

In a separate raid, two people were killed in the Kandahar province's Panjwai district in late Sunday.

Pre-dawn attacks on civilian houses have been a source of tension in Kabul's ties with Washington and the Western military alliance of NATO, with the Afghan side repeatedly calling for an end to the controversial operations.

Afghan authorities have launched investigations into US-led raids against civilians and the witnesses' accounts of the attacks.

The United States invaded Afghanistan in 2001 under the pretext of combating terrorism.

The offensive removed the Taliban from power, but insecurity continues to rise across Afghanistan, despite the presence of thousands of US-led troopers in the violence-scarred country.