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Taliban claim to kill five US-led soldiers in south Afghanistan

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The Taliban militants claim to have killed at least five US soldiers in the troubled southern Kandahar Province of Afghanistan as foreign forces experience their deadliest days in the war-ravaged country, Press TV reports.

The deadly incident happened in an adjacent area of Panjwaii district of Kandahar Povince on Saturday evening.

Taliban spokesman Qari Yusuf Ahmadi said the militant group targeted the soldiers in a remote-controlled bomb attack during a foot patrol in the troubled region.

Ahamdi added that several foreign soldiers serving with the US-led Western military alliance were also injured in the attack.

Kandahar is a traditional Taliban stronghold and the spiritual birthplace of the militant group.

This is while Afghan officials have confirmed that one foreign soldier died and another as injured in the bomb explosion in the region.

According to the website *icasualties.org*, over 378 foreign troops, mostly US personnel, have lost their lives in Afghanistan in 2012.

The increasing number of military casualties in Afghanistan has caused widespread anger in the United States and other NATO member states, undermining public support for the Afghan war.

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

The US-led invasion of Afghanistan was launched in 2001. The offensive removed the Taliban from power, but insecurity continues to rise across the country, despite the presence of thousands of foreign troops.

The US-led war in Afghanistan, which has caused record-high civilian and military casualties, has become the longest military conflict in the American history.