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## 4 US soldiers killed in Afghanistan

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At least four U.S. soldiers have been killed in an attack on the Bagram Air Base near Afghanistan's capital Kabul.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, U.S. military officials have confirmed the death of four U.S. soldiers at or near Bagram Air Base, the Associated Press reported.

According to the unnamed officials, the U.S. troops were killed by indirect fire, likely a mortar or rocket.

At least 2,238 members of the U.S. military have been killed in the U.S.-led war in Afghanistan according to [icasualties.org](http://icasualties.org).

Former U.S. President George W. Bush announced the beginning of the war on Afghanistan in October 2001 and the U.S. war in Afghanistan has become the longest-running war in U.S. history.

There are about 66,000 U.S. occupying forces in Afghanistan. President Barack Obama has ordered about 34,000 home by early 2014 as part of his plan to hand over security control to Afghan security forces.

However, earlier this month it was reported that the Pentagon was considering a troop surge in Afghanistan after 2014 following recommendations by Gen. John Allen, the former chief of occupation forces in the country.

Some American officials have suggested that the U.S. should keep between 8,000 and 12,000 troops in Afghanistan beyond the Dec. 31, 2014, deadline for NATO operations there.

In February, the Geneva-based UN Committee on the Rights of the Child said in a report that the “attacks by U.S. military forces in Afghanistan, including air strikes, have reportedly killed hundreds of children over the last four years.”