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Australian forces killed Afghan boy and his father during night raid

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According to reports, Australian forces have been accused of civilian casualties during a military operation in southern Uruzgan province of Afghanistan.

A young Afghan boy and his father were reportedly killed after Australian forces carried out an operation on a residential house where a suspected militant was hiding.

The raid was carried out late in September in Tarinkot city and dead bodies of a young boy and his father were found after Australian forces opened fire through the roof while entering the house, Australia's Fairfax Media reported.

The six-year-old boy and his father had bullet wounds and were lying under a blanket in a bed. There was also evidence that the two civilians had received medical attention.

This comes as Australian defense ministry earlier had confirmed that civilian casualties were feared during the operation and investigations have been launched in this regard.

"The government of Afghanistan and Isaf [International Security Assistance Force] headquarters have been informed of the incident," spokeswoman for the Australian Department of Defense quoted by Guardian said.

“The ADF takes all reasonable steps to ensure its operations do not put the lives of civilians and non-combatants in jeopardy. Deployed ADF personnel operate under strict rules of engagement designed to minimise the risk to civilians,” she said.