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Four Afghans killed in US-led nighttime operation

11/3/2013

US-led foreign soldiers in Afghanistan have killed at least four people in a nighttime operation carried out in the country's southern city of Kandahar.

All the victims of the Saturday operation were Taliban militants.

The incident occurred after Afghans held a demonstration in Asad Abad District of Kunar Province in protest against US night raids and assassination drone attacks in Afghanistan.

The night raids and drone strikes have sparked widespread anger among the local population with the residents threatening regional officials with protests if the raids continue.

Washington claims its operations across Afghanistan target militants. However, the deadly night raids have killed dozens of civilians in various parts of Afghanistan over the past few months.

Afghan President Hamid Karzai has called for the United States to end night raids that fuel anti-American sentiment across the country.

Civilian casualties have long been a source of friction between the Afghan government and US-led foreign forces.

Afghanistan remains gripped by insecurity more than a decade into the US-led invasion of the country in 2001.