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Press TV

'US mission in Afghanistan a failure'

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The current commander of US and NATO forces in Afghanistan, General David Petraeus, has not accomplished his mission, an American university professor says.

California State University Professor Paul Sheldon Foote told Press TV's US Desk that Petraeus has failed to "accommodate the Afghan situation."

"There are many factions in Afghanistan that want the United States removed from the country so he has not been able to employ the same strategy he [later] used in Iraq," Foote said.

Petraeus gained fame for his so-called "surge strategy" in war-torn Iraq in 2007, which the United States claimed was a success.

The American university professor thinks, however, the success was not due to the strategy.

"It was a success because the United States essentially paid the [Iraqi] Sunni insurgents to stop attacking the United States," he further explained.

The surge strategy refers to former US President George W. Bush's 2007 increase in the number of American troops to provide security in the Iraqi capital, Baghdad, and Al-Anbar Province.

Reports are circulating that Petraeus plans to leave his post in war-wrecked Afghanistan as the Pentagon plans to introduce changes.

In 2003, United States troops, under the administration of former President George W. Bush, accompanied by British troops, administered by former Prime Minister Tony Blair, attacked Iraq, saying that the possibility of Iraq employing weapons of mass destruction threatened their security in the region.

Back in 2001, the United States also invaded Afghanistan following the collapse of the twin towers of the World Trade Center on September 11, and currently has around 100,000 troops in the Asian country.