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US-led soldier killed in Afghan war

March 13, 2011

A bomb blast has claimed the life of a US-led soldier in southern Afghanistan amid a significant increase in the number of assaults on Western troops stationed in the war-torn country.

The International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) said on Sunday that the soldier was killed on Saturday, bringing the death toll of foreign soldiers in the country close to 80 so far this year.

NATO has not yet released the nationality of the soldier.

On Saturday, the ISAF said that one US-led soldier was killed by a roadside bomb and another one lost his life in a separate incident in the volatile southern Afghanistan on Friday.

Some 150,000 NATO troops are currently fighting in war-torn Afghanistan with plans to stay in the country beyond 2014.

Last year was the deadliest of the nearly decade-long Afghan war for the US-led international troops with more than 700 killed, compared to the previous record of 500, set in 2009.