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www.afgazad.com

afgazad@gmail.com

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Xinhua

Gun battle leaves 7 Taliban insurgents

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Gun battle between Taliban militants and security forces in western Farah province 695 km west of capital Kabul left seven Taliban fighters dead and injured 8 others including five militants on Wednesday, police said.

"The clash erupted when a group of Taliban militants ambushed a private local security company that was escorting logistic convoy of NATO-led forces in Gilistan district during which seven oil tankers were also destroyed," a senior highway police officer namely Bismillah Khan told Xinhua.

Both the guards of the private security and police returned fire killing seven Taliban fighters on the spot and eight others including five militants and three guards of the local security company were injured, Khan said, adding all the victims are Afghans.

The oil tankers destroyed in the gun battle belonged to private Afghan companies supplying fuel to NATO-led forces in Afghanistan.

Taliban militants have yet to make comment.