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Press TV

Heavy bomb explosion hits eastern Afghan city of Jalalabad

May 11, 2012

A powerful bomb explosion has rocked Jalalabad Airport in Afghanistan's eastern province of Nangarhar, Press TV reports.

The incident occurred on Friday when a bomb planted in a fuel tanker detonated at the entrance of the airport, according to Afghan officials.

Jalalabad Airport, which is located five kilometers (three miles) southeast of Jalalabad, is currently used only for military purposes and is seen as the second largest US airbase in Afghanistan.

The explosion, apparently aimed at the US military personnel at the airport, exploded prematurely when the driver of tanker was waiting to be checked in.

The officials said there were no casualties in the bomb explosion and that the driver escaped the scene following the blast.

A NATO statement released earlier in the day said a man in an Afghan army uniform had opened fire on US-led foreign forces in eastern Afghanistan and killed one soldier.

The incident, which Afghan sources said took place in Kunar Province, came one day after three US soldiers were wounded in a rocket attack in the province of Logar, also in the east.

The growing death toll in Afghanistan has intensified opposition in the United States and other NATO member states against the protracted military presence and undermined public support for the US-led war in the country.