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## Four NATO Troops, Afghans Killed in Attacks

Aug 01, 2012

Kabul - Four soldiers with the NATO-led military alliance and seven Afghans were killed on Wednesday in separate incidents, officials said.

The alliance said in a statement that two soldiers and an interpreter died in a bomb attack in eastern Afghanistan. It gave no further details.

Two other soldiers died in two separate roadside bombs in the south, the military coalition said. It did not give the exact locations of the incidents.

At least 46 foreign troops were killed in July, according to iCasualties.org, an independent tally website that tracks death of US and NATO troops in Afghanistan. This is the highest death toll in a single month this year.

Last week, NATO said there was an uptick in violence in the second quarter of this year. The number of "enemy-initiated attacks" increased by 11 per cent between April and June this year, compared to last year, it said.

In the southern province of Uruzgan, a local police chief and his two bodyguards were killed Wednesday in a roadside bomb.

Shah Khan, police chief for Shamalzai district of the southern province of Uruzgan, and his two bodyguards were killed when their vehicle struck a roadside bomb in the district, said Sharifullah Naseri, spokesman for the provincial governor.

He blamed the Taliban for the attack, adding that the police chief had been on his way to the provincial capital Qalat on official business.

Meanwhile, Taliban militants kidnapped and killed four civilians in the central province of Wardak, the spokesman for the governor there said.

"These people were travelling from Kabul to a remote area in Jalrez district of Wardak province when they were kidnapped by the insurgents late Tuesday," Shahidullah Shahid said. "Their bodies were found this morning in the area."

A Taliban spokesman said he was unaware of the incident but said the Taliban would not kill anyone "unless they were related to the Kabul government or foreign troops."

The governor of the neighboring district of Chak was killed this week along with his son, in an attack claimed by the Taliban.

Five people working at a NATO base in Wardak also were kidnapped and killed about two weeks ago.