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NATO troops kill 3 Afghan civilians in Logar, ISAF deny report

January 27, 2013



[1]

According to local authorities in eastern Logar province of Afghanistan, at least three Afghan civilians were killed by NATO-led coalition security forces in Baraki Barak district.

Provincial security chief Raes Khan Abdul Rahimzai confirming the report said the incident took place on Saturday evening while three brothers were on their way towards their home.

Mr. Rahimzai further added coalition security forces opened fire on the motorcycle of the three civilians due misperception believing that the three brothers were suspected militants.

In the meantime NATO-led International Security Assistance Force denied the report and said at least three suspected IED emplacers were killed by a member of the Afghan local police.

“According to operational reporting, last night in Logar Province an Afghan Uniformed Police patrol, operating independently and without support from ISAF troops, killed three suspected IED emplacers when they failed to stop their vehicle at a checkpoint. There were no ISAF forces involved in this shooting. The AUP found a weapon and IED-making material in the vehicle,” said an ISAF spokesman.

Night raids by special forces and civilian casualties have been major points of friction between Afghan President Hamid Karzai and his Western allies. According to NATO figures, insurgents were responsible for 84% of civilian casualties last year, injuring or killing 3,500 Afghans.