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## US-led attack kills 6 civilians in western Afghanistan

Tue Feb 5, 2013



At least six Afghan civilians have been killed in a military operation carried out by US-led troopers in Afghanistan's western province of Herat, local officials say.

Shindand district's legislator, Toor Mohammad Zarifi said on Tuesday that all of the six victims were women and children.

Security officials say the casualties resulted during clashes between US-led forces and militants.

They said that ten gunmen also were killed in the Tuesday operation.

Civilian casualties have long been a source of friction between the Afghan government and US-led foreign forces and have dramatically increased anti-US sentiments in Afghanistan.

*Similar incidents in the past have led to violent public protests.*

The United States and its allies entered the war in Afghanistan in October 2001 as part of Washington's so-called war on terror. The offensive removed the Taliban from power, but after more than 11 years, the foreign troops have still not been able to establish security in the country.