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US troops, 3 local policemen killed Jalrez clash

March 11, 2013

Two US troops and three Afghan local policemen were killed during a clash apparently sparked by a suspected insider attack in the Jalrez district of central Maidan Wardak province, officials said on Monday.

An Afghan security official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the US Special Forces and the local policemen were conducting a joint operation in the district when a policeman turned his gun on the Americans, killing two of them and injuring four others.

Three local police members were killed when the troops returned fire, he said, adding the Jalrez district police chief, Col. Alauddin, was also wounded in the incident.

ISAF media office in a statement confirmed that a man in Afghan local police uniform opened fire at US soldiers. Both sides suffered casualties in the trade fire, the statement said, but gave no details.

The governor's spokesman Attaullah Khogyani confirmed the incident, saying it was being investigated.

The latest apparent insider attack comes as a deadline imposed by President Hamid Karzai for the US troops to leave the central province passed on Monday.