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Explosion kills Afghan intelligence operatives in Khost

November 7, 2013



At least five Afghan intelligence – National Directorate of Security (NDS) operatives were killed or injured following a roadside bomb blast in the eastern Khost province of Afghanistan on Thursday.

Provincial governor spokesman, Baryalai Rawan confirming the report said the incident took place in Khost city on Thursday afternoon after a vehicle of the Afghan NDS operatives struck with a roadside bomb.

Mr. Rawan further added that three NDS operatives were killed and two others were injured following the explosion.

Another security official speaking on the condition of anonymity also said that three NDS operatives were killed after a motorcycle packed with explosives went off near the vehicle of the intelligence operatives in Khost.

Taliban group claimed responsibility behind the incident. A spokesman for the Taliban group Zabiullah Mujahid said in a statement that five intelligence operatives were killed following the explosion in Beland Manzil area of Khost city.

Khost is among the restive provinces in eastern Afghanistan which has border with the tribal regions of Pakistan. The province is also considered to be a stronghold for the Haqqani terrorist network.