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Five oil tankers torched in N. Afghanistan

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Armed militants attacked fuel tankers supplying oil to NATO-led troops and torched five vehicles in Baghlan province, some 160 km north of capital city of Kabul, a local official said Friday.

"A group of militants opened fire on a line of oil trucks in Sya Chobak area of Dushi district late Thursday night, leaving five tankers on fire," district chief of Dushi Mohammad Khan told Xinhua on Friday.

He said two other vehicles had received bullets and damaged in the attack but attackers fled the area.

According to Khan the drivers and co-drivers of the vehicles escaped the firing luckily and no one was hurt in the incident.

On the other hand, Zabihullah Mujahid who claims to talk for Taliban militants claimed of responsibility and in talks with media from undisclosed location via cell phone said the militants torched the tanker to punish people who provide help for foreign forces.

The frequent attacks on the NATO supply convoy in neighboring country of Pakistan over the past couple of years has forced U.S. and NATO forces to decide in mid 2010 on opening another new logistic route from the north into Afghanistan through central Asian countries.

Both security forces and Taliban fighters have intensified activities to consolidate positions since spring, known as " fighting season" in the war-ravaged Afghanistan.