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Press TV

Afghan general talks US troops killing

July 21, 2010

One day after an Afghan soldier killed two US trainers at a military camp in northern Afghanistan, an Afghan official reveals the details of the deadly incident.

The Afghan government confirmed that the two Americans were killed during a weapons training exercise for Afghan recruits in Mazar-i-Sharif in the northern Afghan province of Balkh.

General Samiul Haq, the deputy in charge of the Camp Shaheen army base, told a Press TV correspondent that violence erupted as the soldier and the American military trainers got into a verbal fight, as a result of which both side opened fire on each other.

The Afghan official said two American soldiers including the shooter were killed in the cross-fire.

A NATO soldier and an Afghan service member were also wounded.

The Afghan general added that investigations into the fatal incident were carried out by both sides.

Tuesday's attack came just a week after an Afghan soldier killed three British troopers in southern Helmand Province.

Meanwhile, Afghan President Hamid Karzai announced on Tuesday that he expected the country's armed forces to take full control of the security situation in war-torn Afghanistan by 2014.

Some 140,000 US-led troops are currently stationed in Afghanistan. A further 10,000 troops are expected to be deployed to the war-ravaged country in the coming weeks.

The troop surge will be implemented despite a dramatic decline in public support for the Afghan war across Europe and the US due to NATO's mounting death toll in the country.

Foreign forces are experiencing some of their deadliest days in Afghanistan since the start of the US-led invasion of the country in 2001.