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## Taliban attack US air base in Kandahar

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A group of Taliban militants have launched a ground attack on the Kandahar US air base in Afghanistan, setting off a spate of deadly clashes with foreign troops.



Some of the Taliban forces blew themselves up in front of NATO's largest base in southern Afghanistan after having failed to infiltrate into the base while others began firing at US-led forces with rocket propelled grenades, a Press TV correspondent reported on Tuesday.

The gun firing between the Taliban and the US forces has not come to a halt, but the American and Afghan security forces have now taken control of issues at the base.

According to Taliban spokesperson Qari Yousuf Ahmadi, the fresh round of attacks is waged as part of a stepped-up campaign against US-led troops in Kandahar province.

Meanwhile, Maj. Fred De Mos, a spokesman for NATO forces told AFP that the number of casualties during the fight is still unknown.

Taliban forces made a similar attempt on May 22, just a few days after militants sent a number of bombers to raid the Bagram Air Field near the capital.

The incidents come as the number of attacks against US-led troops in Afghanistan has soared significantly over the past months amid public outcry over the prolonged war in the war-crippled country.

The latest development also comes as July set the record as the deadliest month for US-led forces stationed in the country since 2001.

Kandahar air base is considered the largest US base in southern Afghanistan, and is used by American, Canadian and Afghan soldiers.

Some 140,000 NATO and US soldiers are stationed in Afghanistan-30,000 of whom are deployed in the southern Taliban heartlands of Helmand and Kandahar provinces.