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Antiwar.com

Over 700 NATO Troops Killed in Afghanistan in 2010

By Jason Ditz

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Another year is coming to a close in Afghanistan, and once again we reflect on the record toll of the war, as over 700 NATO troops have been killed in Afghanistan in 2010. The number is far higher than the figure for 2009, and more than double the toll of 2008, the highest death toll during the Bush Administration.

The figures since 2003 have shown a consistent increase in casualties every year, as the US and its NATO allies pour more and more troops into an ever worsening war. The dramatic escalations of the Obama Administration were spun as a major strategy change, but the end result was just a much faster rate of increase in NATO deaths.

All told, some 1,230 NATO troops have died since January 1, 2009, more than the entire death toll from the 2001 US invasion through the end of 2008. Once again, the NATO toll was overwhelmingly US troops, with nearly 500 Americans slain in 2010, and 317 slain in 2009.

Despite some claims of non-specific progress from the Obama Administration, most experts a projecting that 2011 will be an even deadlier year than 2010, meaning that the trend toward ever increasing deaths will continue unabated.