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**NATO Strikes Kill Three Afghan Civilians, Three Police****Promises Investigations Into Deadly Incidents**

by Jason Ditz, August 21, 2010

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Top NATO officials are constantly warning that the most important part of their long term war strategy in Afghanistan must include avoiding killing civilians and building up the nation's police force, but they appear to have failed on both counts yesterday, launching a pair of attacks that killed three police and three civilians.

The [civilians were killed when NATO launched an air strike against a vehicle. Ground troops had previously killed six people who got out of the vehicle in the Farah Province then ordered an air strike against it. When they searched the scene they found a woman and two children had been killed in the strike.](#)

Meanwhile in the northern Jowzjan Province NATO helicopters were called in to attack "insurgents" that the area. [They fired a hellfire missile which killed at least three police and wounded several others.](#)

In both cases NATO officials expressed "deep regret" for the killings and promised "[step-by-step investigating into what went wrong.](#)" The attacks were just the latest in a series of strikes throughout the week that left a number of civilians dead.

On Wednesday hundreds of [Afghans launched a protest over the killing of three civilians](#) in a night raid. NATO also admitted to killing a farmer in Kandahar. [NATO also admitted to air strikes against a home on Sunday which killed at least five civilians](#)

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