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Afghans Say NATO Troops Killed 8 Civilians in Raid By THE NEW YORK TIMES

August 23, 2010

Afghans Say NATO Troops Killed 8 Civilians in Raid

August 23, 2010— Officials and residents of Baghlan Province, in northern Afghanistan, accused NATO troops on Monday of killing eight civilians during an early morning raid. Mohammed Ismail, the governor of the Talah wa Barfak District, said troops entered a district house at 2 a.m. and killed 8 civilians, injured 12 and took 9 prisoners. The province's governor, Munchi Abdul Majid, confirmed the attack, but could not provide details...

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KABUL, Afghanistan — Officials and residents of Baghlan Province, in northern Afghanistan, accused NATO troops on Monday of killing eight civilians during an early morning raid.

Mohammed Ismail, the governor of the Talah wa Barfak District, said troops entered a district house at 2 a.m. and killed 8 civilians, injured 12 and took 9 prisoners.

The province's governor, Munchi Abdul Majid, confirmed the attack, but could not provide details.

Maj. Michael Johnson, a spokesman for the International Security Assistance Force, as the NATO force is known, said NATO authorities were unaware of any such attack.

Also on Monday, five NATO soldiers were killed — two French, one Hungarian, one American, and one whose nationality had not yet been released. The deaths took place in eastern, northern and southern parts of Afghanistan. On Sunday, four NATO soldiers were killed.

The killing on Monday of the two French soldiers brought the total number of French troops killed in the Afghan war to 47, The Associated Press reported. There are about 4,000 troops in the French contingent of the NATO-led international force.

The Hungarian Defense Ministry said that the Hungarian soldier had been killed when his convoy was hit by a bomb, then strafed by gunfire from all sides. The attack occurred 12 miles northwest of the town of Pul-e Khumri in Baghlan Province. Hungary administers development projects in the province.

In all, 47 international troops have been killed in Afghanistan this month, including 30 Americans, The Associated Press reported.

In July, 66 Americans were killed in the country, making it the deadliest month for the United States since the 2001 invasion

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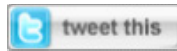
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