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US Strikes in Afghanistan Kill 100, Mostly Civilians

Posted By [Jason Ditz](#) On May 6, 2009 @ 7:35 am In [Uncategorized](#) | [8 Comments](#)

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Afghan police are saying today that [over 100 people were killed in this week's US air strike in Farah Province](#). 25 to 30 are suspected Taliban, while the vast majority were civilians. A Red Cross investigative team confirmed the findings, [saying they had seen "dozens" of bodies in two separate locations](#) and that civilians were still digging through the rubble of their mud-brick homes looking for others.

The [US military is still conducting its own investigation](#) of the killings, and President Obama [has expressed "regret" for the deaths](#), promising (as has been so often the case) to make every effort to avoid a repeat. Yet General David McKiernan is not so certain, he and other officials [are claiming that the entire incident may have been manufactured by the Taliban](#).



The incident stands as the largest civilian toll in Afghanistan since August, 2008, when the US [killed at least 90 civilians in the neighboring Herat Province](#). In that case the US [angrily denied the allegations](#) for months, finally admitting to killing many civilians but insisting it was [legitimate](#).

Afghan President Hamid Karzai, in Washington DC today for a summit with US President Obama and Pakistani President Zardari, has ordered his own probe into the incident, and [promises to once again bring up the issue of mounting civilian casualties with Obama](#). Karzai's repeated complaints about the massive civilian toll of the US operations [has soured his relationship with the international forces](#), still prosecuting their already eight year long war with no end in sight.

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