

Afghanistan: NATO Troops Shoot Women in Home Raid

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In-depth Report: AFGHANISTAN

Official's house raided, woman killed in Paktia

GARDEZ (PAN): NATO and Afghan forces raided the house of a senior counternarcotics official, arresting him along with two sons and killing a female family member in the capital of southeastern Paktia province, relatives said on Saturday.

Another four women were injured during the overnight raid on the house of Paktia Counternarcotics Department head, Dr. Hafizullah Ahmadzai, who was arrested along with his two sons, a relative, Yusuf Ahmadzai, told Pajhwok Afghan News.

He said the joint forces opened fire at the family during the raid that came at around 2:30am last night.

Five female members of the family received bullet wounds and later one of the injured died of her wounds, the relative said, adding a second woman was still in a coma.

Ahmadzai said one of the detained sons was student and the other had a medicine shop in Gardez city.

Deputy police chief Col. Syed Zakria said the operation was conducted against suspected militants, but stopped short of giving further details

However, the deputy governor, Abdul Rahman Mangal, confirmed the raid was carried out on the house of Hafizullah Ahmadzai.

He said an investigation team had been sent to the scene and more details would be provided to the media after the investigation was completed.

The International Security Assistance Force (<u>ISAF</u>) media office in Kabul said its troops had carried out an operation targeting a rebel commander in Gardez last night. In a statement, the force said the incident was still being investigated.

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