

## **U.S. military acknowledges dozens of Afghan civilian deaths in the past week**

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The U.S. military acknowledged today that 37 civilians were killed and 35 injured during fighting this week in Kandahar province between insurgents and coalition forces.

Although the American statement stopped short of taking direct blame for civilian casualties in a southern province that is one of the country's most active battlefields, it represented an unusually swift public response to claims of mass casualties made by Afghan officials.

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