



Afghanistan - Researched and compiled by the Refugee Documentation Centre of Ireland on 20 and 23 January 2012

Information on a bomb blast at a checkpoint entrance to an airport in between mid-August 2011 and mid-October 2011

A report issued in December 2011 by the *United Nations Security Council* states:

“There were 13 suicide attacks in September, 14 in October and 9 in November 2011, of which 9 were complex attacks. Although this is consistent with previous trends, the locations and individuals targeted generated significant publicity. Among the more notable were the attack on the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) Provincial Reconstruction Team in Panjshir Province, a suicide car bomb attack on ISAF in southern Kabul that killed 13 military and civilian personnel, and a complex suicide attack against an international logistic company contracted by ISAF located alongside the Herat airfield, which caused the temporary closure of the airport.” (United Nations Security Council (13 December 2011) *The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security : report of the Secretary-General*, p.3)

A publication by *Pajhwok news agency* in October 2011 states:

“A magnet bomb attached to a fuel tanker went off near the Bagram Airport in central Parwan province, but there were no casualties, an official said on Wednesday. The explosion occurred late on Tuesday [11 October] at the eastern gate of the airport, Bagram district chief, Abdul Kaber Rahil, told Pajhwok Afghan News” (Pajhwok news agency (12 October 2011) *Bomb destroys fuel tanker near Afghanistan's Bagram Airport*).

It is noted by *Afghan Islamic Press news agency* in October 2011 that:

“A suicide attack has been carried out on the Kandahar airport. A suicide attack in Kandahar airport killed only the suicide bomber. According to reports, a suicide attack was carried out inside Kandahar airport where many foreign and Afghan forces are based at around 1300 hours [0830 gmt] this afternoon. Only the suicide bomber was killed. Gen Abdol Razaq Sherzai, the commander of the air brigade in Kandahar, told Afghan Islamic Press [AIP]: ‘A suicide bomber managed to bring an explosive-laden vehicle into the airport. When security forces suspected and asked him to stop, he detonated the explosives, killing himself alone. No one else was hurt.’ Gen Sherzai added that as the explosion occurred far from the military buildings and establishments, it could not inflict financial damage either. No one has yet claimed responsibility for this attack. It is worth pointing out that suicide attacks were yesterday also carried out inside Security Station No 3 and Military Corps No 205 in Kandahar, inflicting casualties on 23 people, including the national army soldiers.” (Afghan Islamic Press news agency (4 October 2011) *BBC Monitoring Afghanistan Briefing 05 Oct 2011*)

In October 2011 *Afghan Sharq TV news* states:

“Five members of a family, including two girls, were injured in a missile attack near Jalalabad airport in Nangarhar Province.” (Afghan Sharq TV news (4 October 2011) *Programme summary of Afghan Sharq TV news in Pashto 1530 gmt 4 Oct 11*)

A report published in October 2011 by the *Afghan Islamic Press News Agency* notes:

“A suicide attack has been carried out on the Kandahar airport. A suicide attack in Kandahar airport killed only the suicide bomber. According to reports, a suicide attack was carried out inside Kandahar airport where many foreign and Afghan forces are based at around 1300 hours [0830 gmt] this afternoon.” (Afghan Islamic Press News Agency (4 October 2011) *Suicide bomber blows himself up at Kandahar airport in Afghan south*)

In September 2011 *Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty* notes:

“Reports from Afghanistan say three people, including at least one policewoman, have been killed by a remote-controlled mine that blew up the vehicle taking them to work at an airport in the west of the country. Officials said 10 people were also wounded in the blast, including police officers and civilians, near the civilian airport serving the city of Herat.” (Radio Free Europe (29 September 2011) *Bomb Kills Three In Herat*).

Afghanistan National TV in September 2011 notes:

“...another suicide attacker wanted to carry out a suicide attack close to the checkpoints and police units in the direction of the airport.” (Afghanistan National TV (13 September 2011) *Afghan police chief details Kabul attack*)

The *United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan* report from an Afghanistan source in September 2011 that:

“Two rockets landed in Bagram airport, said local security officials.” (United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (12 September 2011) *Today's Afghan Headlines*)

In September 2011 a news report published by *The Guardian* states:

“Militants also attacked the US military's main airport in Afghanistan with rockets. The attack on Bagram airfield killed two Afghan security guards and wounded seven other people, including three US soldiers, a military source said.” (The Guardian (11 September 2011) *Nato military base attacked by suicide bomber in Afghanistan*)

The *Afghan Islamic Press news agency* in September 2011 states that:

“The ISAF press office in Kabul has confirmed the explosions in Kandahar and Konar provinces and the missile attack at the Bagram airport, but said that these attacks did not inflict casualties or material losses.” (Afghan Islamic Press news agency (9 September 2011) *Taliban attack coalition forces in different Afghan provinces*)

In August 2011 *Afghan independent Tolo TV* states:

“Officials in Kandahar [southern Afghanistan] have said that three suicide attackers carried out an attack on the Supreme company at Kandahar airport at 2100 [local time, 1630 gmt] last night and engaged in fighting with the guards of this company.”

(Afghan independent Tolo TV (16 August 2011) *BBC Monitoring Afghanistan Briefing 16 Aug 2011*)

A report issued in August 2011 by *CNN News* points out:

“Afghan authorities on Tuesday raised the number of those killed by a suicide attack at a fuel depot near Kandahar International Airport to four people. Eight people were also wounded in an attack carried out by three militants at a compound run by an international contractor called Supreme Group, according to a provincial government spokesman.” (CNN News (16 August 2011) *Death toll in Kandahar suicide attack upped to four, 8 wounded*)

No further information could be found on this issue among sources consulted by the RDC within time constraints.

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This response was prepared after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the Refugee Documentation Centre within time constraints. This response is not and does not purport to be conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim to refugee status or asylum. Please read in full all documents referred to.

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