
Taliban claim killing 17 soldiers

TEHRAN: Seventeen NATO and Afghan soldiers were killed in southern Afghanistan.

Claiming responsibility in a brief message addressed to Pushto Service of Radio Tehran, a Taliban spokesman Qari Yousaf said 17 NATO and Afghan troops were killed during clashes with their fighter in and around Musa Qala district of Helmand province. He admitted that three Taliban also lost their lives in the clashes.

The Afghan security forces claim to have taken siege of Musa Qala.

Meanwhile a military statement said that Taliban have been driven out of district and were forced to retreat toward the neighbouring province of Baghlan. It added that the fleeing Taliban suffered heavy loss of life.

Mean while the Taliban also claimed to have destroyed several tanks of Afghan army in separate incidents in Afghanistan.

End.