

Pentagon admits 34 U.S. troops suffered traumatic brain injuries after Iran strike



Washington, January 25 (RHC)-- The Pentagon now says that 34 United States service members had been diagnosed with traumatic brain injury following missile attacks by Iran on a base in Iraq earlier this month. Donald Trump and other top officials initially said Iran's attack had not killed or injured any U.S. troops.

Last week, the U.S. military said 11 U.S. troops had been treated for concussion symptoms after the attack on the Ain al-Assad airbase in western Iraq and this week said additional troops had been moved out of Iraq for potential injuries.

The January 8th attack was retaliation for a U.S. drone strike in Baghdad on January 3rd that killed Qassem Soleimani, the commander of the elite Quds Force of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC).

Pentagon spokesman Jonathan Hoffman told reporters on Friday that eight service members who had been previously transported to Germany had been moved to the United States. Hoffman said the soldiers were transported earlier on Friday and would receive treatment at either Walter Reed military hospital or

their home bases. He added that nine service members remain in Germany and are undergoing evaluations and treatment.

On Wednesday, Trump appeared to play down the injuries, saying he "heard that they had headaches and a couple of other things."

Pentagon officials have said there had been no effort to minimise or delay information on concussive injuries, but its handling of the injuries following Tehran's attack has renewed questions over the U.S. military's policy regarding how it deals with suspected brain injuries.

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