

# *CIA-trained Forces in Afghanistan Kill Civilians*

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Washington, December 5 (RHC)-- A highly secretive CIA-trained paramilitary unit, known as the Khost Protection Force (KPF), operating in eastern Afghanistan, has been implicated in civilian killings, torture and resorting to excessive force under the guise of counter-terrorism activities, according to a new report released in Washington.

Paid, equipped, and directed by the U.S. Intelligence Agency to allegedly fight against the Taliban and al-Qaeda militants in the mountainous province of Khost, the covert Afghan militia killed at least six civilians during the past month only. The group also made arbitrary arrests and conducted controversial night raids, according to a detailed report published in *The Washington Post*.

The report, which is based on accounts provided by local officials and civilians, former commanders of KPF, and Western advisers, uncovered the tragic incidents of killing a husband and wife on November 20, and a 50-year-old man with his 26-year-old son on November 11, among others.

In another incident around six months ago, a 17-year-old student named Javedullah was shot dead crossing a KPF checkpoint in Khost city because he was listening to his earphones and did not hear the KPF fighter who had ordered him to stop.

In December 2014, 14 KPF members also stormed into the house of a man named Meerajudin and gunned down his 14-year-old son in the back as the boy was fleeing for cover.

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