

RELEASE IN FULL

From: Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>
Sent: Sunday, April 3, 2011 8:31 AM
To: H
Subject: Fw: Two Afghan police killed, 20 wounded in protests, official says (Reuters)

From: OpsNewsTicker@state.gov [mailto:OpsNewsTicker@state.gov]
Sent: Sunday, April 03, 2011 07:50 AM
To: NEWS-Mahogany
Cc: SES-O_Shift-II; SES-O_OS
Subject: Two Afghan police killed, 20 wounded in protests, official says (Reuters)

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan, April 3 (Reuters) - Two policemen were killed and 20 people wounded in the southern Afghan city of Kandahar on Sunday during the second day of violent protests in the city against the burning of a Koran by a radical fundamentalist U.S. pastor, a senior official said.

"The information I have is that two policemen have been killed and 20 others including police, protesters and citizens, have been wounded," Ahmad Wali Karzai, head of the Kandahar provincial council, told Reuters.

Another 14 people, including two children, were wounded when a gas cannister taken from a shop was set on fire, causing an explosion, the spokesman for the Kandahar provincial governor said.

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