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Eight Pakistani Paramilitary Troops and Seven Militants Die in Separate Clashes

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ISLAMABAD – July 22, 2025 A series of coordinated militant attacks in Pakistan's restive northwest and southwest regions have left eight paramilitary personnel and seven militants dead, highlighting the growing threat posed by insurgent groups across the country's border provinces.

In the Ghunda Mela area of Orakzai district, militants linked to Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) launched a heavy assault on a Frontier Corps (FC) convoy. The attack, which began on the evening of July 21, triggered an hours-long gunbattle.

According to security officials, eight FC personnel were killed, and eleven were injured, with three reported in critical condition. Four militants were also killed in the operation. Authorities report that the militants used sophisticated weapons, indicating a high level of coordination and planning.

The TTP has stepped up attacks in the region since 2021, exploiting the porous Pakistan-Afghanistan border to launch cross-border assaults.

Meanwhile, in Kalat district of Balochistan, a group of militants attacked an FC checkpoint approximately 150 kilometers south of Quetta in the early hours of the morning. The Baloch Liberation Army (BLA) is believed to be behind the attack.

Seven paramilitary soldiers were killed, and eighteen others injured in the confrontation. The attack is part of a wider escalation in Balochistan, where separatist groups continue to target security forces and infrastructure, particularly sites linked to the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

The recent incidents reflect Pakistan's ongoing battle against dual insurgencies—Islamist extremists in the northwest and ethnic separatists in the southwest. Security forces remain on high alert across both regions, with reinforcements deployed to sensitive areas.

Officials emphasize that while recent operations have resulted in militant casualties, the losses among security personnel continue to mount, demanding stronger intelligence-sharing, surveillance, and border control.

Despite the challenges, security forces continue to carry out targeted operations against militant strongholds, underscoring the state's resolve to restore order and protect national sovereignty.