

Hosted by 

Pakistani Taliban say chief Baitullah Mehsud dead

(AP) – Aug 25, 2009

DERA ISMAIL KHAN, Pakistan — Two commanders of the Pakistani Taliban acknowledged Tuesday that the militants' top leader, Baitullah Mehsud, was killed by a U.S. missile strike.

It was the first time the militants acknowledged Mehsud's death, first reported shortly after the CIA missile strike Aug. 5 near the Afghan border.

Hakimullah Mehsud and Waliur Rehman called The Associated Press on Tuesday evening on the same phone to make the announcement and spoke to an Associated Press reporter who recognized both their voices.

Each said Baitullah Mehsud died only on Sunday, though they acknowledged it was from wounds in the missile attack.

"He was wounded. He got the wounds in a drone strike and he was martyred two days ago," Hakimullah Mehsud said. Rehman later repeated the same statement.

The pair, who had served as top aides to Mehsud, said they were calling together to dispel reports of disunity in the Taliban leadership, and both said Hakimullah Mehsud now leads the Pakistani Taliban.

Copyright © 2009 The Associated Press. All rights reserved.

Related articles

Washington hopes to exploit Taliban power struggle
Independent - Aug 22, 2009

Pakistan's Taliban wracked by deadly feuds
SmartBrief - Aug 24, 2009

Now Pakistan must strike while the iron is hot
This is London - Aug 24, 2009

[More coverage \(282\) »](#)

[Teach English Overseas](#)

Accredited certificates with job placement abroad
www.transworldschools.com

[English Volunteer Wanted](#)

Live and Work Abroad, 1-12 Weeks. Support the Community, Enroll Now!
CrossCulturalSolutions.org/English


[Oxford Seminars](#)

TESOL/TEFL courses across the US including job placement & guarantee
www.OxfordSeminars.com



Map



 Add News to your Google Homepage