Border guards foil bid to smuggle weapons from Afghanistan to Pakistan

Quetta - Pakistani border guards exchanged fire with men attempting to smuggle rocket launchers, anti-aircraft guns and other munitions from Afghanistan to Pakistan, a spokesman said Friday.

(02.04.2004)
The weapons were seized after the shootout late Thursday near Chaman, a border town about 135 kilometres northwest of Quetta, said Col. Basil Rana, spokesman for the Frontier Constabulary.

Border guards stopped the men as they travelled in a van carrying five rocket launchers, two anti-aircraft guns, five assault rifles and other munitions into Pakistan "for some terrorist activity," he said, without giving further details.

The men slipped back into Afghanistan on foot after the gunfight. There were no reported injuries in the clash.

It is the second time this week Pakistani authorities have seized weapons from remote areas in southwestern Pakistan.

On Tuesday, police raided a home in the village of Kakar Khorasan, 200 kilometres northwest of Quetta, seizing one rocket launcher, 43 rocket shells, 90 mortar shells, 1,800 anti-aircraft shells, 65 grenade and land mine fuses.

Pakistan's north and southwestern border regions are believed to be lucrative routes for arms and narcotics traffickers. Also, Taliban and al-Qaida militants are active along the Afghan border.

Von: 2 April 2004, Associated Press/The Canadian Press. All rights reserved.

<<< zurück zu: News

© 2016 Landmine.de