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Tajik Leader in Restive Area

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DUSHANBE, Tajikistan — Tajikistan's president is visiting a mountainous region on the Central Asian nation's border with Afghanistan for the first time since dozens were killed there in battles between armed gangs and government troops.

Emomali Rakhmon said Wednesday in the eastern town of Khorog that the unrest had been provoked by the impunity of criminal organizations in the area.

Government forces unleashed a massive operation in July in the Gorno-Badakhshan province in what they said was an effort to capture the killers of a top security official.

(AP)

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