WASHINGTON - U.S. President Donald Trump proclaimed talks with Afghanistan’s Taliban dead on Monday, while the general in charge said the U.S. military is likely to ramp up operations in Afghanistan to counter an increase in Taliban attacks.

“They’re dead. They’re dead. As far as I’m concerned, they’re dead,” Trump told reporters when asked about the talks as he left the White House for a trip to North Carolina. Trump had hoped to cap months of U.S. negotiations with the Taliban militants, who control large parts of Afghanistan, with a secret meeting at Camp David that would include Afghan President Ashraf Ghani and was aimed at securing an agreement to pull U.S. troops out of America’s longest war of 18 years.

Despite the Afghan government’s wariness of negotiating with the Taliban, Trump had hoped having both parties at the presidential retreat could produce a deal.

A draft accord agreed last week would have seen about 5,000 American troops withdrawn over coming months in exchange for guarantees that Afghanistan would not be used as a base for militant attacks on the United States or its allies.

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Bringing U.S. troops home from Afghanistan has been one of Trump’s main foreign policy objectives, and the republicans president said his administration was still thinking about a drawdown of the 14,000 U.S. soldiers in the country.

“We’d like to get out but we’ll get out at the right time,” he said.

The Taliban had stepped up attacks violence across Afghanistan.

However, the end of the talks has sparked fears of a further increase in violence across Afghanistan.

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Pakistan’s Foreign Minister Khawaja Asif on Monday the U.S. military is likely to ramp up operations in Afghanistan to counter an increase in Taliban attacks.

Meanwhile, the Afghan government said the U.S. military is likely to ramp up operations in Afghanistan to counter an increase in Taliban attacks.

The Afghan government is ready to pick up peace negotiations with the Taliban after they were abruptly called off by President Donald Trump over the weekend of hope is sufficient to cause a cease-fire, Wang Yi said.

“The current Afghan government has always supported, understood and trusted each other. The Chinese side’s unremitting efforts and complex risks and challenges. The Chinese side will continue to fully respect Afghanistan’s sovereignty and independence as well as the will of the Afghan people, and firmly support the Afghan-led and Afghan-owned peace and reconciliation process in Afghanistan.

Afghanistan's economic and social opportunities and complex risks and challenges.

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Salahuddin Rabbani expressed his congratulations on the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People’s Republic of China. China has always been a good friend and a good partner of Afghanistan. The Afghan side thanks the Chinese side for its long-term and strong support for Afghanistan in various fields including peace, development and stability, and appreciates the Chinese side’s unwavering efforts and important role in advancing reconciliation and peace in Afghanistan and Afghanistan's economic and social development and improvement of people’s livelihood.

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