

## Two al-Qaida attacks kill 34 in Iraq

by UPI

BAGHDAD -- Two al-Qaida attacks in Baghdad and Baquba killed at least 34 people Thursday, Iraqi officials reported. In the Baghdad attack, 15 Iraqi soldiers and militia allied with U.S. forces were killed and eight others were injured, a BBC correspondent reported. Insurgents overran a military checkpoint, stole a Humvee armored vehicle, changed into Iraqi army uniforms and attacked the headquarters of the Sunni militia, police said. In the attack on a Shiite village outside Baquba, 19 militants and two civilians were killed by gunfire, police said. Elsewhere, the Kuwait News Agency, KUNA, reported militants gunned down the secretary of the Iraqi Interior Ministry, Capt. Hassan Eidan Al-Maliki, in northeast Baghdad Wednesday night. Police said gunmen in three cars ambushed Maliki's convoy. Two of his aides were seriously injured in the attack, the report said.

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