

## Turkish bombing of Kurds raises concerns

*by UPI*

WASHINGTON -- Talks were held Monday in Washington and the Middle East among U.S., Turkish and Iraqi leaders about Turkey's recent bombing of Kurdish Rebels. President George W. Bush and Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan held a phone conference while two senior Iraqi officials spoke with the head of the country's Kurdish region in a separate meeting, CNN reported. The push for diplomacy stemmed from Turkish warplanes bombing Kurdish separatist targets in northern Iraq during the weekend and week before. The White House confirmed that Bush and Erdogan talked about the dangers of the Kurdish separatist rebels along the Turkish-Iraqi border. In the Kurdish Iraq city of Sulaimaniya, Iraqi President Jalal Talabani, who is Kurdish, and Vice President Tariq al-Hashimi, who is Sunni Arab, met with Kurdish Regional Government President Massoud Barzani. The Iraqi Kurdish officials have denounced the Turkish bombing campaign.

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