

Mauritania gunmen may have been al-Qaida

by UPI

NOUAKCHOTT, Mauritania -- Mauritania police were investigating whether gunmen who killed four French tourists were affiliated with al-Qaida. Francois Tollet, the only survivor of the attack, was recovering Wednesday in a Mauritania hospital, Euronews.net reported Wednesday. Three members of his family and a friend were killed at the side of a road Monday after the group had stopped for a picnic. Police initially suspected robbery as the motive for the attack but the car the tourists were traveling in and its contents weren't disturbed by the attackers. Police are investigating whether the men were Islamic militants with al-Qaida ties. Authorities said they have made a number of arrests and are searching for three men who are thought to have fled to northern Senegal.

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