

Colombian rebels snatch 6 new hostages

by UPI

BOGOTA -- Six tourists were kidnapped from a Colombian beach by leftist rebels who robbed another dozen people before escaping, it was reported Monday. The abductions occurred at a beach in Choco Province on Colombia's Pacific coast, the BBC reported. One of the abducted tourists reportedly is a Norwegian national and the other five are Colombians, the British network said. The kidnappings took place just days after Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, released two other hostages it had held for more than five years. A Colombian navy spokesman said the military was pursuing the guerrillas. "A group of armed men, who identified themselves as members of the FARC, fled kidnapping six of the tourists after stealing fuel from the boat, cash and cell phones from the passengers," the navy said in a statement. FARC, which has battled the Colombian government for decades, holds about 700 hostages.

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