

U.S. air strikes hit Somalia

by UPI

MOGADISHU, Somalia -- At least eight people were injured Monday in a U.S. airstrike on suspected al-Qaida terrorists in Somalia, it was reported. A Pentagon official confirmed the attack, saying the missiles hit a target in a community controlled by Islamic extremists, The Daily Telegraph reported. The official said missiles struck a building that was reputed to be a gathering place for terror suspects, but could not confirm whether the operation was successful, the British newspaper said. Islamist militants with alleged ties to the al-Qaida organization occupied the town of Dhoble last week. The BBC said 20 people were injured. Local officials told the BBC people were trying to escape the violence but Kenya closed its border with Somalia. U.S. officials say the Somali Islamists are protecting people linked to the 1998 attacks on the U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, something the Islamists deny.

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