

by UPI

BAGHDAD -- The fourth day of violence in Baghdad's Sadr City saw mortar attacks kill at least 11 people Wednesday, officials said. Six people died in skirmishes between U.S. and Iraqi forces and members of the Mehdi Army, the militia of rebel Shiite cleric Moqtada Sadr, CNN reported. Five people died and 14 others were injured when a tent of mourners was attacked. Amid security concerns, Sadr had called off an anti-American rally, the BBC reported. Wednesday marked the fifth anniversary since U.S. troops toppled a large statue of the late Saddam Hussein in the center of Baghdad. Mortars also landed in Baghdad's Green Zone, where diplomatic missions and Iraq's government is housed, but the BBC said no injuries were reported. Vehicular traffic has been banned from streets until midnight, Iraqi government officials said. In Basra, at least eight people were killed in a U.S. military raid on the southern city, al-Sumaria reported. Circumstances of the incident were not known.

Copyright © 2008, by United Press International. All Rights Reserved.

*Baghdad, Basra violence claim 19 by UPI*