

Downtown Baghdad suicide bomber kills 12

by UPI

BAGHDAD - A suicide bomber struck central Baghdad on Thursday, killing 12 people, injuring 28 others and setting off explosions in a truck loaded with gas cylinders.

The blast was close to a police checkpoint in the Jadriyah district, and two of the dead were police officers, the Alalam news network reported.

Mortar shelling also killed three people in southern Baghdad, Alumaria reported.

Southeast of Baghdad in Nasiriyah, officials reported finding a mass grave close to a military base. There were dozens of skeletons and local officials said the people had likely been killed in 1991, when the late Saddam Hussein's Baath party was in power.

Thursday's Baghdad bombing came a day after a bombing blitz killed 190 people and injured hundreds of others.

Alalam reported the city morgue was jammed Thursday with people looking for missing relatives among stacks of frozen corpses.

The U.S. military said in a statement three U.S. soldiers had been killed in the Baghdad area on Wednesday.

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