

Iraqi insurgents post executions on Web

by UPI

BAGHDAD - The apparent executions of 20 Iraqi security officers an insurgent group claims it kidnapped last week was posted on the Internet Thursday.

The video shows the men crouching on their knees lined up in a field as a masked gunman shoots each of them in the back of the head. A photographer follows the gunman, and two other masked men holding guns can also be seen in the footage, CNN reported.

Audio of the late leader of al-Qaida in Iraq, Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, was dubbed over the footage which carried a caption identifying him and blessing him as he said such things as "decide which side you want to be on." Zarqawi was killed last year in a U.S. air raid.

On Tuesday, the umbrella group called The Islamic State of Iraq posted a notice saying it had executed the men, who worked for the Interior and Defense departments. The Iraqi government has not confirmed any staff is missing, and CNN said it wasn't possible to corroborate the men's identities.

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