

10 insurgents involved in U.S. kidnapping

by UPI

BAGHDAD - CNN reports the apparent kidnapping of U.S. troops during the weekend in Baghdad was a well-orchestrated operation involving at least 10 insurgents.

Quoting a senior U.S. military official, CNN said the kidnapping was part of a "complex attack," involving numerous types of weapons, on a "stationary observation post" in the so-called Triangle of Death.

The kidnapping of three U.S. troops occurred Saturday. Four others were killed. All were from Fort Drum, N.Y.

A massive search involving some 4,000 troops was under way Tuesday. U.S. Army Lt. Col. Christopher Garver said 11 of the more than 460 people questioned have been detained.

The Sunni insurgent coalition, the Islamic State of Iraq, claimed on an Islamist Web site it is holding the troops and demanded the search be called off but offered no proof of its claim.

"What you are doing searching for your soldiers will be in vain and lead to nothing but fatigue and unrest," the group, which includes al-Qaida, said in the posting.

"Your soldiers are in our hands. If you desire safety do not look for them."

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