

5 U.S. soldiers killed, 9 wounded in Iraq

by UPI

BAGHDAD - The fight to restore order to civil war-torn Iraq has left another five U.S. soldiers dead and nine more wounded, U.S. military officials said Friday.

Three soldiers were killed and two were hurt Friday in Diyala Province when a bomb exploded near their vehicle, The Washington Post reported. Two more soldiers were killed and nine were injured in other attacks Thursday in southern Baghdad, the newspaper said.

Meanwhile, U.S. forces Friday detained six men in Baghdad they suspected were smuggling weapons and explosives from Iran into Iraq and also taking Iraqis into Iran for "terrorist training."

The U.S. military continued searching for three soldiers abducted by insurgents last Saturday. Four U.S. soldiers and an Iraqi interpreter were killed in that attack. Three of the dead soldiers were identified earlier and Friday the fourth soldier was identified as Sgt. Anthony J. Schober, 23, a former resident of Gardnerville, Nev., CNN reported.

Also Friday, the bodies of 21 Sunni and Shiite torture victims were found in Khalis, a police source told the Post.

Iraqi army Capt. Abdul Hussein Muhammad said a dozen more people were kidnapped Friday about 70 miles south of Kirkuk.

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