

Bombs rock Baghdad during Blair's visit

by UPI

BAGHDAD - At least 25 Iraqi Kurds died Saturday when insurgents attacked villages in northern Iraq.

Insurgents dressed as police officers attacked villages in the northeastern Kirkuk province of Mandali, killing 25 civilians and wounding many others, reported KUNA, the Kuwait news agency.

In Baghdad, explosions rocked the city Saturday during what was likely to be Tony Blair's final visit to Iraq as British prime minister.

Three explosions hit the heavily fortified Green Zone within hours of Blair's arrival for meetings with his Iraqi counterpart, Nuri al-Maliki, and President Jalal Talabani, CNN reported. One person was injured.

It was not immediately known if Blair was near the explosions. He steps down as prime minister on June 27.

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