

Iraq attack aimed at prison break

by UPI

MOSUL, Iraq - The biggest Iraqi insurgent attack in Mosul since October was an attempt to free hundreds of prison inmates, Iraqi and U.S. military officials said.

Last Wednesday, several bombs exploded in the northern Iraq city, killing 10 Iraqi police officers, one Iraqi soldier and two civilians, a U.S. military source told CNN.

Mosul police spokesman Gen. Saied al-Jabouri told CNN the attacks were apparently coordinated by al-Qaeda and the Islamic State of Iraq in an effort to free at least 300 inmates from the al-Faisaliya prison.

Al-Jabouri said that the attack included 10 car bombs, 10 roadside bombs and 20 mortar explosions.

A U.S. military official told CNN that the incident showed that Iraqi security forces were prepared to deal with the large insurgent attack.

"The ISF dealt with it, showing the people they are trained and ready," the official told CNN.

U.S.-backed Iraqi troops killed 15 insurgents and one Saudi national during the attack, Al-Jabouri said.

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