

Body in Iraq river may be U.S. soldier

by UPI

BAGHDAD - The U.S. military in Baghdad received a body of a western-looking man Iraqi police pulled from a river Wednesday near where three U.S. soldiers were abducted.

An unidentified U.S. military source in Iraq told CNN the body recovered was wearing U.S. military-issued pants and boots when it was recovered from the Euphrates River in Mussayab, about 20 miles south of Mahmoudiya.

That's where four U.S. soldiers and their Iraqi translator were killed in an insurgent ambush on May 12 and the three missing soldiers were abducted.

A police spokesman said the floating body also had bullet wounds to the head and a tattoo on its left arm, the BBC reported.

About 4,000 U.S. soldiers and 2,000 Iraqi soldiers have been involved in a massive search for the men since the attack.

An umbrella group of militants led by al-Qaida claimed responsibility for the ambush and posted a warning on an Islamist Web site about their fates, saying, "If you want them safe, do not search for them."

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