

Central Baghdad hit by three car bombs

by UPI

BAGHDAD -- Iraqi police said Monday three blasts in central Baghdad killed 11 people and injured 19 others. Earlier reports had suggested 13 people were killed in the blast, KUNA, the Kuwait News Agency, reported Monday. Police said the blasts left 15 cars in flames. Also on Monday, five Iraqi soldiers were killed in Badra -- on the Iraqi-Iranian border -- when an improvised explosive device detonated near their vehicle. The U.S. military announced Monday nearly 51 militants were killed or arrested in a wide-scale military operation in Anbar city. Statements from the U.S. military Monday said a soldier had been killed by a roadside bomb Saturday, bringing the U.S. death toll in the war to 3,633, CNN reported. Another statement said security raids targeting the al-Qaida terror network in Iraq and its suppliers had been conducted in the cities of Mosul, Yusifiya, Tarmiya and south of Baghdad, resulting in 12 arrests. KUNA quoted a U.S. statement saying its troops witnessed an abduction of two civilians in Samara and gave chase. Four men were arrested at a house and a third captive was freed with the two civilians, the report said.

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