

## U.S. helicopter crash in Iraq kills 14

by UPI

BAGHDAD -- A U.S. helicopter apparently malfunctioned and crashed in the northern Iraqi city of Tikrit on Wednesday, killing all 14 soldiers aboard, the military said. The statement said the dead were members of the Army's Task Force Lightning and included four crewmembers and 10 passengers, CNN reported. "Two UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters were on a night operation when one of the aircraft crashed," the statement said. "Initial indications are that the aircraft experienced a mechanical malfunction. There were no indications of hostile fire." Tikrit police also said a roadside bomb outside the city apparently targeting a police patrol killed two civilians and wounded seven police officers and five civilians. Elsewhere in northern Iraq, a suicide fuel truck bomber targeted a police station in Baiji and killed at least 20 people and injured 45 others, police told the network. Iraqi Interior Ministry officials said a car bomb exploded in the residential Mansour district of Baghdad, injuring four people.

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