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Irag War News

mowhoush

Note:

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November 28, 2003 Friday, CHICAGO FINAL EDITION

SECTION: News; Pq. 4; ZONE: C

LENGTH: 471 words

HEADLINE: Iraqi council leader criticizes U.S. plan;

Changes sought in governing process

BYLINE: By Alissa J. Rubin, Tribune Newspapers: Los Angeles Times.

DATELINE: BAGHDAD

BODY:

A U.S.-backed plan to give Iraqis sovereignty over their country again quickly appeared to be unraveling Thursday as a leading politician backed complaints by Shiite authorities that the process was not democratic enough.

Jalal Talabani, the Iraqi Governing Council's president, said he agreed with the criticism of Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, the country's leading Shiite cleric, and expected revisions in the plan.

"I see the views of his grace as logical and reasonable, and I agree with them," said Talabani, a Sunni Muslim and leader of one of the two main Kurdish parties.

A Shiite leader said al-Sistani is concerned that the 15-member organizing committee, which will be instrumental in choosing each province's representatives to the new interim legislature, may be tainted and wants some elements of direct election in the selection process.

Al-Sistani's grievances are seen as a serious setback for the U.S.-led rebuilding effort. Renegotiating a deal could delay the handing over of sovereignty, jeopardize efforts to diminish the U.S. military presence in Iraq and undercut the White House's insistence that it is in control of the

situation.

Plans for a U.S.-financed media campaign to promote the agreement have been put on hold, said coalition officials.

Coalition officials and the Iraqis insist that they do not want a confrontation, but the situation puts two of the most powerful people in Iraq at odds: al-Sistani and Paul Bremer, the U.S. civilian administrator overseeing the reconstruction.

At issue is the agreement signed Nov. 15 by Bremer and the Governing Council. It calls for the creation of an interim legislature, relying on caucus-style elections in 18 districts across the country. The council would dissolve under the plan, and the interim government would serve until a constitution was approved and a permanent government was elected.

Bremer already made a major concession to al-Sistani by agreeing to put off the drafting of a permanent constitution until its writers could be elected.

Told that the concession is insufficient, Bremer is enormously frustrated with the council, according to one of its members.

Talabani's agreement with al-Sistani amounted to a complete turnabout in 24 hours. Earlier, he had supported keeping the plan in its current form.

Also Thursday, the U.S. military said a former Iraqi general died while under American interrogation, The Associated Press reported.

Maj. Gen. Abed Hamed Mowhoush, an air defense general captured Oct. 5 in a raid near the Syrian border, was being questioned Wednesday in Qaim when he lost consciousness after complaining about not feeling well, the military said in a statement.

He was pronounced dead by a U.S. military physician, and the case is under investigation.

THE OCCUPATION OF IRAQ.

LOAD-DATE: November 28, 2003

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Copyright 2003 Guardian Newspapers Limited The Guardian - Final Edition

November 28, 2003

SECTION: Guardian Foreign Pages, Pg. 17

LENGTH: 281 words

HEADLINE: Ex Iraqi general dies in US custody

BYLINE: Michael Howard, in Baghdad

BODY:

A former Iraqi general suspected of financing anti-coalition activities died yesterday While being interrogated by US forces in the town of Qaim, 200 miles north-west of Baghdad.

A statement by the coalition in Baghdad said Major-General Abed Hamed Mowhoush, who was in the Republican Guard, was captured near the Syrian border

on October 5. He fell ill yesterday morning during "an interview with US forces ", and died.

"Mowhoush said he didn't feel well and subsequently lost consciousness," the statement said. "The soldier questioning him found no pulse and called for medical authorities. A surgeon responded within five minutes to continue advanced cardiac life support techniques, but they were ineffective." He was pronounced dead by a US military physician.

According to the on-site surgeon it appeared Gen Mowhoush had died of "natural causes", the military said, adding that his death was being investigated. He was one of 112 people arrested during an anti-insurgency sweep around Qaim, which is about a mile from the Syrian border. At the time the US military suggested he was funding anti-coalition activities.

* Many of the 2,700 Iraqi doctors working in Britain are being asked to return to help rebuild their country's health service, Iraq's health minister, Khudair Abbas, said yesterday, writes James Meikle

Experts in childcare, psychiatry and psychology will be encouraged to take temporary posts. Iraq had about one doctor for every 2,000 people but they were not spread uniformly, Mr Abbas said in London yesterday. There were fewer than 100 consultant psychiatrists, and just one or two clinical psychologists.

guardian.co.uk/iraq

LOAD-DATE: November 28, 2003

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November 28, 2003 Friday Home Edition

SECTION: Main News; Part 1; Page 46; Foreign Desk

LENGTH: 141 words

HEADLINE: The World:

Ex-General Dies During Interrogation

BYLINE: From Associated Press

DATELINE: BAGHDAD

BODY:

A former Iraqi general died while under American interrogation, the U.S. military said Thursday.

Maj. Gen. Abed Hamed Mowhoush, an air defense general captured Oct. 5 in a raid near the Syrian border, was being questioned Wednesday while in custody in Qaim near the border when he lost consciousness after complaining he didn't feel well, the military said in a statement.

He was pronounced dead by a military physician. The cause of death and the interrogation techniques are under investigation, but Mowhoush's head was not hooded during questioning, the Army's 82nd Airborne Division said. The statement did not give his age.

Mowhoush, a major general in the Republican Guard, was captured in a raid in Qaim. A U.S. military spokeswoman said at the time that Mowhoush was believed to have been financing attacks on U.S. forces.

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Copyright 2003 The New York Times Company
The New York Times

November 28, 2003, Friday, Late Edition - Final

SECTION: Section A; Page 26; Column 6; Foreign Desk

LENGTH: 145 words

HEADLINE: A REGION INFLAMED;

Iraqi General Dies In American Custody

BYLINE: AP

DATELINE: BAGHDAD, Iraq, Nov. 27

BODY:

An Iraqi general has died while under American interrogation, the American military said Thursday.

Maj. Gen. Abed Hamed Mowhoush, an air defense general captured on Oct. 5 in a raid near the Syrian border, was being questioned Wednesday while in American custody in Qaim near the Syrian border when he lost consciousness after complaining he didn't feel well, the military said in a statement.

He was pronounced dead by a United States military physician. The cause of death and interrogation techniques are under investigation. His head was not hooded during questioning, a statement from the 82nd Airborne Division said.

General Mowhoush, who served in the Republican Guard, was captured in a raid in Qaim. An American military spokeswoman said General Mowhoush was believed to have been financing attacks on allied forces.

http://www.nytimes.com

LOAD-DATE: November 28, 2003

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Copyright 2003 Times Newspapers Limited The Times (London)

November 28, 2003, Friday

SECTION: Overseas news; 24

LENGTH: 181 words

HEADLINE: Captured Iraq general dies under questioning

BODY:

A FORMER Iraqi general has died while under interrogation, the US military

said yesterday.

Abed Hamed Mowhoush, a Republican Guard air defence major-general captured in a raid in October near the Syrian border, was being questioned on Wednesday when he lost consciousness after complaining that he did not feel well, the military said.

He was pronounced dead by a US Army doctor. The cause of death and interrogation techniques are under investigation, but General Mowhoush was not hooded during questioning, the 82nd Airborne said.

An extra 3,000 US Marines are being sent to Iraq by the Pentagon and a growing number of intelligence experts and linguists from the 1,600-strong US team sent to search for illicit weapons have been reassigned to the hunt for insurgents.

Signalling that seeking out insurgents has become more urgent than the search for illegal weapons, members of the Iraqi Survey Group have been told "to broaden their perspective and not to stay so focused on weapons that they miss the counter-insurgency stuff", a Pentagon official said.

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November 27, 2003 Thursday

SECTION: International News

LENGTH: 231 words

HEADLINE: Former Iraqi general dies under US interrogation

DATELINE: BAGHDAD, Nov 27

BODY:

A general of Saddam Hussein's dissolved armed forces has died under interrogation by US forces, in a death that a US military statement Thursday said "appeared" to be from natural causes.

Major General Abed Hamed Mowhoush, a former air defence commander, died Wednesday morning, said the statement issued from the western town of al-Qaim in the troubled Syrian border region.

"Mowhoush said he didn't feel well and subsequently lost consciousness. The soldier questioning him found no pulse, then conducted cardiac and pulmonary resuscitation and called for medical authorities," the statement said.

"A surgeon responded within five minutes to continue advanced cardiac life support techniques, but they were ineffective. According to the on-site surgeon, it appeared Mowhoush died of natural causes."

The statement said that coalition forces were cooperating with local tribal and religious leaders to "properly treat and transfer the body to their control while verifying the cause of death" which was "currently under investigation."

The general was a member of the Mahalowi tribe. The Sunni Muslim tribal belt in the middle Euphrates valley north and west of the Iraqi capital was a bastion of support for Saddam's regime.

The area around al-Qaim and the border town of Husaybah further west sees regular attacks on US troops.

kir/fm/mb

Iraq-US-custody-death

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The Associated Press

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November 27, 2003, Thursday, BC cycle

SECTION: International News

LENGTH: 141 words

HEADLINE: Former Iraqi general dies during interrogation

DATELINE: BAGHDAD, Iraq

BODY:

A former Iraqi general died while under American interrogation, the U.S. military said Thursday.

Maj. Gen. Abed Hamed Mowhoush, an air defense general captured Oct. 5 in a raid near the Syrian border, was being questioned Wednesday while in American custody in Qaim near the Syrian border when he lost consciousness after complaining he didn't feel well, the military said in a statement.

He was pronounced dead by a U.S. military physician. The cause of death and interrogation techniques are under investigation, but Mowhoush's head was not hooded during questioning, the 82nd Airborne said. The statement did not give his age.

Mowhoush, a major general in the Republican Guard, was captured in a raid in Qaim. A U.S. military spokeswoman said at the time that Mowhoush was believed to have been financing attacks on U.S. forces.

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November 27, 2003 Thursday

SECTION: INTERNATIONAL NEWS

DISTRIBUTION: Europe; Britian; Scandinavia; Middle East; Africa; India; Asia;

England

LENGTH: 117 words

HEADLINE: Former Iraqi general dies during U.S. interrogation

DATELINE: BAGHDAD, Iraq

BODY:

A former Iraqi general died while under interrogation, the U.S. military said Thursday.

Maj. Gen. Abed Hamed Mowhoush, an air defense general captured Oct. 5 in a raid near the Syrian border, was being questioned Wednesday in Qaim near the Syrian border when lost consciousness after complaining he didn't feel well, the military said in a statement.

He was pronounced dead by a U.S. military physician. The cause of death is under investigation, the military said.

Mowhoush, a major general in the Republican Guard's air defense branch, was captured in a raid in Qaim. A U.S. military spokeswoman said at the time that Mowhoush was believed to have been financing attacks on U.S. forces.

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November 27, 2003 Thursday

SECTION: INTERNATIONAL NEWS

DISTRIBUTION: Europe; Britian; Scandinavia; Middle East; Africa; India; Asia;

England

LENGTH: 142 words

HEADLINE: Former Iraqi general dies during interrogation

DATELINE: BAGHDAD, Iraq

BODY:

A former Iraqi general died while under interrogation, the U.S. military said Thursday.

Maj. Gen. Abed Hamed Mowhoush, an air defense general captured Oct. 5 in a raid near the Syrian border, was being questioned Wednesday while in American custody in Qaim near the Syrian border when lost consciousness after complaining he didn't feel well, the military said in a statement.

He was pronounced dead by a U.S. military physician. The cause of death and interrogation techniques are under investigation, but Mowhoush's head was not hooded during questioning, the 82nd Airborne said. The statement did not give his age.

Mowhoush, a major general in the Republican Guard's air defense branch, was captured in a raid in Qaim. A U.S. military spokeswoman said at the time that Mowhoush was believed to have been financing attacks on U.S. forces.

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November 27, 2003, Thursday

SECTION: WORLD NEWS; POLITICAL

LENGTH: 172 words

HEADLINE: Former Iraqi military commander dies when questioned by US forces

BODY:

BAGHDAD, Nov. 27 (Xinhua) -- A former Iraqi military commander died when he was questioned by an American soldier, the US military said in a statement Thursday.

The statement, issued from the western town of al-Qaim, said Maj. Gen. Abed Hamed Mowhoush appeared to die of natural causes Wednesday.

It said the former general suddenly felt uncomfortable and lost consciousness when he was under interrogation, and the soldier questioning him conducted a rescue operation.

Five minutes later, a surgeon came and continued advanced cardiac life support techniques which proved ineffective.

The on-site surgeon said Mowhoush "died of natural causes."

Coalition forces were cooperating with local tribal and religious leaders to properly treat and transfer the body while the cause of his death was under investigation, added the statement.

Mowhoush, a member of the Sunni tribe of Mahalowi, used to be a commander in the former Iraqi air defence force which was among the units dissolved by the US military in May.

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The Associated Press

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October 9, 2003, Thursday, BC cycle

SECTION: International News

LexisNexis(TM) Email Request (1842:0:24121265)

LENGTH: 1170 words

HEADLINE: Suicide car bomb kills eight, wounds dozens in Baghdad's Shiite slum

BYLINE: By HAMZA HENDAWI, Associated Press Writer

DATELINE: BAGHDAD, Iraq

BODY:

A suicide driver roared through the gates of a police station in Baghdad's biggest Shiite Muslim slum Thursday and detonated his car bomb in the courtyard, killing eight policemen and civilians and injuring up to 45 people, authorities reported. The driver and a passenger also were killed.

It was the latest in a string of bombings that have rocked Iraq since August, and like the others no one claimed responsibility for the attack.

Also on Thursday:

- A 4th Infantry Division soldier was killed in a rocket-propelled grenade attack on a U.S. convoy northeast of Baghdad, the military reported.
- A Spanish military attache was shot to death outside his residence in Baghdad in attack by four men, one dressed as a Shiite Muslim cleric, who knocked on his door.
- U.S. civilian administrator L. Paul Bremer marked six months since the ouster of Saddam Hussein by recalling the fall of the regime as "one of the most dramatic moments in Iraq's history."

The car bombing in the northeast Baghdad slum of Sadr City occurred about 8:30 a.m. as about 50 officers gathered outside the police compound to collect their pay, authorities said. A white Oldsmobile sped up, police opened fire on it, the bomber crashed into a parked vehicle, and the car exploded.

"I ran and got hit in the leg. When I looked back, all I could see was fire," officer Khalid Sattar Jabar said from his hospital bed.

Mangled police cars were scattered around the bomb site and debris filled the courtyard in front of the one-story building. The blast left a crater about 10 feet across and 4 feet deep, a U.S. Army officer said.

Three policemen and five civilians were killed, said Capt. Sean Kirley of the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment. Two people in the car also died, said Iraqi police Capt. Bassem Sami.

Ambulances ferried wounded through the jammed traffic.

Sami said 28 people were wounded. Officials at Qasim al-Mubarka hospital said they had at least nine. Police said they had reports of an additional eight wounded at Ibn Nafees Hospital.

"It was a huge blast and everything became dark from the debris and sand. I was thrown to the ground," said Mohammed Adnan, 35, who sells watermelons across from the station.

The police building has been undergoing repairs, and several dozen workers were believed to have been inside at the time of the blast, according to U.S. and Iraqi officials at the scene.

Angry residents thronged the area after the bombing, and scores of U.S. soldiers surrounded the police building in Humvees. An Iraqi policeman who pushed through the crowd was stabbed in the right arm after being set upon by the mob, which chanted "No, no to America!" U.S. military medics treated him at

the scene.

A nearby mosque, meanwhile, blared warnings for people to leave the area for fear of another booby-trapped car.

Some blamed the bombing on ultraorthodox Wahhabi Sunni Muslims, religious enemies of the Shiites; policemen said they had been threatened by a local Shiite imam; and others blamed Saddam's ousted Baathists and - indirectly - the Americans.

"This is all the fault of the Americans. They didn't catch Saddam," said a woman outside the Al-Mubarka Hospital.

Inside, a police sergeant who was wounded in the legs, Saad Drawal al-Dharaji, 29, said an imam had threatened to take action against the police station unless it turned over some officers for "punishment" for having served under Saddam.

"We will have our revenge for this," al-Dharaji said. He said he didn't know the name of the clergyman. A fellow sergeant, Jassim Mohsen, 31, confirmed that duty officers earlier this week recorded the threats, made in last Friday's sermon and in letters to the police.

Jabar, meanwhile, mentioned another possible motive for a bombing: the release of Shiite cleric Moayed al-Khazraji, arrested by the U.S. occupation force Monday and accused of unspecified "criminal and anti-coalition activities." Protesters had rallied at the police station Wednesday to demand his release but dispersed peacefully. "We didn't have the imam," Jabar said.

Sami said the attack was "aimed at obstructing police work at a time when the force was becoming more and more effective in combating crime."

Some in Iraq view police as sellouts doing the Americans' bidding. Others associate them with Saddam's regime or his Baath Party.

The police bombing was the latest in a series that began in early August with an attack on the Jordanian Embassy, which was followed by car and truck bombings at the U.N. headquarters in Baghdad and at a Shiite shrine in the southern city of Najaf. More than 120 people were killed, including a leading Shiite cleric.

The U.S. Central Command said Thursday's deadly convoy attack occurred about 2 a.m. in Baqouba, about 30 miles northeast of Baghdad. The American died of his wounds at the 21st Combat Support Hospital, the military said.

The death brought to 92 the number of U.S. soldiers killed in hostile fire since President Bush declared an end to major fighting on May 1. A total of 321 U.S. soldiers have died in Iraq since the war began on March 20.

The Spanish official, identified as Jose Antonio Bernal Gomez, was killed after four men knocked on his door about 8 a.m., according to a Spanish diplomat in Baghdad who spoke on condition of anonymity.

A school guard opposite Bernal's home said the men tried to drag him out of his house. Bernal escaped, tried to run away and was shot in the head. He died at the scene.

The Spanish Foreign Ministry said Bernal was an air force sergeant attached to Spain's National Intelligence Center.

In another development, officials said U.S. soldiers conducted a major raid Sunday near the Syrian border and detained 112 suspects, including a high-ranking official in the former Republican Guard.

The massive raid in Al-Qa'im, about six miles from the border, ended with the capture of a man intelligence officials said was a major general in the guard

air defense branch.

"The general officer that they captured, Abed Hamed Mowhoush al-Mahalowi, ... was reported to have links with Saddam Hussein and was a financier of anti-coalition activities, according to intelligence sources," a military spokeswoman said, on condition of anonymity.

Bremer, accompanied by Iyad Allawi, president of the Governing Council for October, spoke in central Baghdad's Paradise Square - where troops had pulled down a statue of Saddam on April 9, the day the capital fell.

"Of course I didn't realize that I would be here six months later with the president of the Governing Council, but it was a very exciting moment for lovers of freedom the world over, and as Dr. Allawi has pointed out, it's one of the most dramatic moments in Iraq's history," Bremer said.

Allawi said that with the help of the international community, the council "will proceed forward in very steady steps towards building democracy and a new Iraq, which will be contributing to peace and stability in the whole region."

GRAPHIC: AP Photos BAG101-106; XIAS101

LOAD-DATE: October 10, 2003

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October 9, 2003 Thursday

SECTION: INTERNATIONAL NEWS

DISTRIBUTION: Europe; Britian; Scandinavia; Middle East; Africa; India; Asia;

England

LENGTH: 150 words

HEADLINE: Coalition troops capture 112 detainees along Syrian border

DATELINE: BAGHDAD, Iraq

BODY:

U.S. soldiers conducted a big raid near the Syrian border and detained 112 suspects, including a high-ranking official in the former Republican Guard, officials said Thursday.

The massive raid Sunday in Al-Qa'im, about 10 kilometers (6 miles) from Iraq 's western border with Syria, ended with the capture of a man intelligence officials said was a major general in the guard air defense branch.

"The general officer that they captured, Abed Hamed Mowhoush al-Mahalowi ... was reported to have links with Saddam Hussein and was a financier of anti-coalition activities, according to intelligence sources," a military spokeswoman said, on condition of anonymity.

Troops from the 1st and 4th squadrons of the Third Armored Cavalry cordoned off sections of the town and searched 29 houses to find "subversive elements," including 12 of the 13 suspects they had targeted for capture, she said.

LOAD-DATE: October 10, 2003

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