

Roadside bombs hit U.S.-led coalition convoys in central and southern Iraq



US army soldiers stand near military vehicle in the town of Bartella, east of Mosul, Iraq. (Photo: File Reuters)

Baghdad, February 5 (RHC)-- Roadside bombs have reportedly struck two separate convoys of trucks carrying logistical equipment belonging to the U.S.-led coalition in Iraq's central province of Babil and the southern province of Basra.

A security source, speaking on condition of anonymity, told Arabic-language al-Sumaria television network that a blast took place on Thursday afternoon when the convoy of vehicles was moving along the main expressway in Babil province. The source added that the attack did not result in any injuries or serious damage to the trucks.

Separately, an explosion occurred in the al-Lahis district of the Basra province when a roadside bomb went off near a vehicle belonging to the US-led military coalition. The attack apparently did not cause any casualties.

The Thursday blasts are the latest in a string of such attacks in the Arab country in recent weeks.

The attacks come amid rising anti-US sentiment, which has intensified since last year's assassination of top Iranian anti-terror commander General Qassem Soleimani in Baghdad.

General Soleimani, the commander of the Quds Force of Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC), and his Iraqi trenchmate Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis, the deputy head of the Popular Mobilization Units, were targeted along with their companions on January 3, 2020 in a terror drone strike authorized by former U.S. president Donald Trump near Baghdad International Airport.

Currently, there are approximately 2,500 American troops in Iraq.

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