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Photos: U.S. Soldiers Kill Children in Cowardly Attack by combat Wednesday, Mar. 15, 2006 at 8:08 AM

After coming under fire in the village of Ishaqi, American soldiers ran away and called in the bombs. Five children and two women were among the dead.

Frightened after being fired upon during one of their infamous pre-dawn raids on the village of Ishaqi, U.S. troops ran back to the safety of their armored vehicles and called in an airstrike. Five children, two women, and two men were slaughtered as their house collapsed under American bombs.

U.S.-led raid kills civilians north of Balad

Police, American military differ on number of casualties

Wednesday, March 15, 2006 Posted: 1526 GMT (2326 HKT)

BAGHDAD (CNN) -- A U.S.-led raid on a suspected site of terror network al Qaeda in Iraq killed 11 civilians -- including five children -- according to Iraqi police, but the U.S. military said the death toll from the strike north of Balad was four.

In addition to the children, the youngest of whom was 6 months old, the dead included four women and two men, police said.

A U.S. military spokesman said a suspected insurgent, two women and a child were killed.

U.S.-led forces came under fire as they raided the building, said Maj. Tim O'Keefe. Air support fired on the site, and the targeted building and a vehicle were destroyed, O'Keefe said.

A man suspected of being a "foreign fighter facilitator" was taken into coalition custody and is being questioned.

Police Capt. Laith Mohammed told The Associated Press that U.S. warplanes and armor were involved in the strike, which flattened a house and killed the 11 people inside.

An AP reporter at the scene said the roof of the house collapsed, three cars were destroyed and two cows killed.

AP photographs showed the bodies of two men, five children and four other covered bodies arriving at a hospital in Tikrit accompanied by grieving relatives.



Iraqis pray during the funeral of victims after a U.S. raid in the village of Ishaqi, March 15, 2006. REUTERS/Sabah Al-Bazee

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Iraqi soldiers sift through the rubble of a destroyed house after a U.S. raid in the village of Ishaqi, March 15, 2006. REUTERS/Sabah Al-Bazee



ISAHAQI , IRAQ MARCH 15: The bodies of two children allegedly killed in a U.S raid lay on the ground before burial on March 15, 2006 in the village of Ishaqi about 50 miles north of Baghdad, Iraq. Eleven people were killed when a house was allegedly bombed during an early morning U.S military raid. The dead were mainly women and children. (Photo by Getty Images)



(Getty Images: Same caption as above)



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