

SAUDI ARABIA IN FOCUS

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TERRORISM

Al Qaeda leader Aloafi confirmed dead in Madinah raid

Saudi security forces killed al-Qaeda's leader in Saudi Arabia, Salih Aloafi, who was on the list of most-wanted militants issued on December 6, 2003, and Majed Hamid Abdullah Alhasiri, No. 14 on the Kingdom's most-wanted list issued June 28, 2005. The two terrorists were killed in simultaneous raids in Madinah and Riyadh August 18. A third terror suspect who was also killed was identified as Saudi national Mohammad Abdullah Mohammad Owaidahi.

Saudi forces had launched a number of surprise raids in Riyadh and Madinah targeting suspected al-Qaeda hideouts. The raids also resulted in the arrest of numerous suspects as well as caches of weapons, explosives and incriminating documents.

HEALTH

WHO praises Saudi Arabia's efforts to combat polio

The World Health Organization (WHO) in its annual report issued on Friday praised Saudi Arabia's efforts to contain polio. WHO said that the measures taken by Saudi Arabia prior to the Hajj each year play a positive role in combating polio and help prevent the spread of the disease.

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