

18 December 2015

At about 3:00am local time, on Wednesday 16 December 2015, "an armed group in dozens of pickup trucks kidnapped at least 28 Qatari hunters from their camp in the area of Busaya in Samawa desert near Saudi borders", according to Samawa regional governor Falih al-Zayady.

 A police colonel quoted by Reuters said: "We are talking about at least 100 gunmen armed with light and medium weapons, who broke into the Qatari camp and abducted the hunters at around 3am local time on Wednesday." The hunting party was accompanied by a small group of Iraqi security forces who surrendered in the face of the larger militant force.

The occurrence of the above incident has been verified by the United Nations Organization.