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## IRAQ TIGHTENS UP SECURITY AROUND BALLOT BOX WAREHOUSES

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BAGHDAD

Iraqi forces on Tuesday tightened up security measures around ballot box warehouses in a number of provinces.

The move comes after a huge fire broke out on Sunday in a major storage space for ballot boxes in the capital Baghdad.

Police have deployed extra patrols around the storage space for ballot boxes in the southern Wasit province, police chief Major-General Qasim Rashid told reporters.

Similar measures were taken in Basra, Maysan and Al-Diwaniyah in southern Iraq.

Sundays fire came shortly after the Iraqi parliament adopted a resolution for a manual recount of votes in the May 12 election, in which Shia cleric Muqtada al-Sadrs Sairoon coalition won most seats.

Iraqi judicial authorities have ordered the arrest of four suspects over the fire, which the authorities believe was not accidental.

Reporting by Ali Jawad:Writing by Mahmoud Barakat

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/iraq-tightens-up-security-around-ballot-box-warehouses/1172699>

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