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Constitution's draft imposes Islamic law

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BAGHDAD - Intense deliberations are under way to forge a new constitution by an Aug. 15 deadline. A draft copy published Tuesday in a government newspaper said Islam would be designated as the main source of legislation in a departure from the model set down by U.S. authorities during the occupation.

A statement by the U.S. command said four soldiers from Task Force Baghdad died Sunday night when their vehicle ran over a roadside bomb southwest of the city.

Jim Driscoll, a spokesman for the Georgia National Guard, said the victims were assigned to the 48th Infantry Brigade. They were the unit's first combat casualties since World War II.

Sixteen Iraqi government employees were killed Tuesday evening on the western edge of the capital when gunmen fired at a pair of buses taking them from an Industry Ministry facility to their homes. Gunmen in two cars followed the buses and opened fire, also wounding 27 passengers, officials said.

U.S. and Iraqi officials hope that the new constitution and the government to be elected in December will help take the steam out of the insurgency, especially if the Sunni Arab community accepts the formula. Most of the insurgents are Sunni Arabs.

The draft, published in *Al-Sabah*, not only states that Islam is the main source of legislation but also that no law will be approved that contradicts "the rules of Islam."

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