



Weekly News Update

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The RAPID Weekly News Update is a weekly collection of unclassified news bulletins focused on noteworthy improvised explosive attacks and trends in the IED/C-IED community. For additional information or to be added to the RAPID network, please request a RAPID login at <https://rapid.trancite.com> using your government (.mil or .gov) email account.



A soldier and policemen inspect the site of a bomb attack at a police station in Baghdad's Hurriya district October 12, 2011. Two suicide car bombers and a car bomb hit police in separate districts of the Iraqi capital Baghdad on Wednesday, killing at least 14 people and wounding around 60, interior ministry and police sources said. (Reuters/Stringer)

[See [Suicide Bombers, Attacks Hit Baghdad Police, 28 Dead](#)]

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1. [Trend] **Rebuilding Soldiers Transformed By War Injuries** (NPR)

Thursday, 13 October 2011

<http://www.npr.org/2011/10/13/141266015/rebuilding-wounded-soldiers-when-they-return>

Improvements in medical care and equipment mean fewer troops are dying on the battlefield. But more troops are returning home severely wounded, with injuries that require lifelong care and cost millions of dollars in medical bills.

On Thursday's Fresh Air, veteran combat reporter David Wood talks about some of the challenges that severely wounded soldiers face when they return from Afghanistan and Iraq. Wood is the author of a new 10-part series for The Huffington Post called "Beyond the Battlefield" that examines some of those challenges and setbacks.

Wood tells Fresh Air's Terry Gross that fewer U.S. troops die outright on the battlefield — because of protective equipment and better medical care. But more Americans are being wounded, and their injuries are more "severe and complex." The number of American soldiers who lost at least one limb doubled from 2009 to 2010, and the number of triple amputees has nearly doubled, he says. Almost all of the severely injured troops return to the U.S. with traumatic brain injuries (TBI).

"It's so tragic to see these young men and women struggling not only to master prosthetic legs, for example, but to try to fight their way through the fog that descends into your brain when you have a brain injury like that," says Wood. "It's often very hard for them to think clearly, to recall words, to do small problems, to remember to take their medication and make their appointments. Surprisingly, there's been so much advancement in physical medicine during this war — but it's only been in recent years that the military has recognized TBI as a combat wound, and it's pretty clear that no one knows what the best treatment is."

A Soldier's Story

One of the soldiers Wood profiles is Lance Cpl. Tyler Southern. Southern was 19 when an improvised explosive device, or IED, blew up underneath him in Afghanistan. The blast tore up both of his legs and one arm, and mangled his remaining left arm. Southern was taken to an intermediate battlefield medical facility where he flat-lined.

"He was bleeding so heavily that they could not keep blood in him, and the blood was pouring out of him," says Wood. "As soon he came off the helicopter and they rushed him into an operating room, doctors slashed off the side of his chest and reached in and clamped off all of the veins leading to the lower part of his body in an effort to squeeze what little remaining fluid was left up to his brain to keep his brain alive."

After he had stabilized, Southern was transferred to Walter Reed Army Medical Center's amputee center, where wounded veterans learn how to adapt to their injuries. He faces years of rehab, after having endured dozens of surgeries to clean and repair his limbs. But he manages to make light of his situation — he has handed out T-shirts to other Marines on his floor that say "I had a blast!" and spends most of his days working out to try to build muscle in his remaining limb.

"He's an extremely active, very funny, very bright, very quick person," says Wood. "It's hard to get him to stand still to talk to him. He's constantly moving."

'People Who Are Wounded In War Are Wounded Forever'

But not all of the soldiers Wood writes about have thrived as much as Southern. Jimmy Cleveland Kinsey II, a Marine, returned from Iraq after driving over an IED. The blast tore through his leg, leaving him with

shrapnel wounds, burns, post-traumatic stress disorder and TBI. When he returned home, Kinsey was in chronic pain.

"He was a good Marine, a fun-loving guy. I never knew him, but he's the kind of guy you'd like to hang around with," says Wood. "He got drugs to control the pain. His leg got worse and worse, and they had to take it off. ... That set him into a depression. His addiction to pain medication and anxiety medication got worse. Jimmy was a strong guy, but in the end his wounds and the effects of them did him in. He died in a PTSD clinic of an overdose of [the pain killer] fentanyl."

It's not clear whether Kinsey's overdose was intentional or accidental, but what is clear, says Wood, is that Kinsey didn't get the help he needed. And he's not alone. Wood writes that 18 veterans kill themselves every day. (That figure includes veterans from Vietnam and other wars.)

"When you think about it, one of the things that we as a country are learning is that people who are wounded in war are wounded forever," he says. "Even though there are many cases like Tyler Southern, people who seem to almost thrive on the challenge of their new life, even with Tyler Southern, he'll be dealing with his wounds for the rest of his life. They don't go away."

Interview Highlights

On IEDs

"IEDs are designed to create mayhem on the human body. For dismounted troops especially, stepping on or near an IED when it explodes beneath you, it tends to traumatically amputate one or both limbs, very often it severs the genitals and on up through the body, slashing through flesh and bone, ripping off cartilage — and on top of that, there's a fireball that burns away the damaged flesh that's left. ... Trying to clean out the wounds, trying to prevent infections, is often the first order of business, and a lot of the wounded who arrive at Walter Reed [Army Medical Center] in suburban Maryland or the Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas, spend many, many days having their wounds gently cleaned and cleaned and cleaned over and over again."

On troops losing their genitals after stepping on IEDs

"The Army sent a team of doctors to Afghanistan earlier this year to talk to soldiers about IEDs [and the] kinds of injuries [that result]. One of the things they reported back is that soldiers and Marines are signing do-not-resuscitate pacts — in the event that they lose their genitals, they don't want to live. ... It does reflect a deep fear among many troops that they, in essence, lose their manhood."

On getting vets the care they need

"The [Department of Veterans Affairs] is an amazing place. They do a lot of great stuff and almost everyone I've met there has been smart and creative and dedicated, and I have a lot of admiration for the people who work there. At the same time, it's a gigantic bureaucracy and it's hard to transform that bureaucracy to take care of the unique problems that we're seeing among the wounded coming back from Iraq and Afghanistan. There's been a gigantic demand for mental health services, which the VA has scrambled to keep up on, not always successfully. A lot of veterans have difficulty getting services. The wait times are sometimes very, very long. Things got so bad that a federal appeals court in California ruled that the VA was denying veterans their constitutional rights by not providing good services on time."

On being a Quaker and a conscientious objector who has been embedded with troops on and off for the past 35 years

"I got interested in telling the stories of people who were caught up in conflict. People who were fighters, people who were refugees, people who were victims — the vast number of people who work constantly to resolve conflict and to get sides talking. I never felt that by reporting the stories of people in conflict that I was endorsing conflict in any way. ... Being a conscientious objector is a very personal thing. The way I thought about it: Do you want to spend the next several years killing people, or do you want to spend it doing something more productive? And that's really the way I came at that."

"I'm terrified when I'm out on a battlefield. Telling these stories, I think it's important that people understand what it's like out there, what people go through, who are the people who are doing this in Afghanistan on our behalf. Most of us have sat this war out. I want them to know what it's like and who is in the middle of it and what the consequences are. Beyond that, I don't really have an agenda. I think that's really important, especially in a democracy. We need to know who is doing it and what it's like for them."

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2. [Trend] **Afghan Civilians: Wrong Place, Wrong Time** (RT)

Saturday, 8 October 2011

<http://rt.com/news/afghan-civilians-casualties-servicemen-367/>

The Afghan war is now into its second decade, but its original aims - to crush Al-Qaeda and bring the Taliban to its knees - are no closer to completion amid an escalating nationwide insurgency.

This year is already shaping up to be the deadliest in the conflict, not only for coalition troops, but for Afghan civilians as well.

Every day on Afghanistan's southern battlefield brings more casualties. Despite official claims that the war is being won, 2011 is lining up to be the deadliest yet for US forces fighting to tame the decade-long Taliban insurgency.

But thanks to improved medical capabilities, casualties who would have perished in previous conflicts are surviving. And it is not gunshots that are causing most of the damage – roadside bombs armed to assault patrols and convoys of the allied forces cause a great deal of concussions and fragment wounds among the servicemen.

The trauma ward at Kandahar Airfield is one of the busiest in Afghanistan and when the engagement occurs, the wounded are brought to the place by helicopter Medevac in the shortest time possible.

When the injuries are bad, but not extreme, the wounded will most-likely stay on base until they have recovered. More severe cases – such as amputees – are flown to Germany for treatment.

The Kandahar trauma facility was built to save critically-injured American troops, fresh from the front lines. But doctors here also treat Afghan civilians caught in the war's crossfire, who have nowhere else to go for help.

Nine-year-old Wali was shot in the head by a stray bullet earlier this year, when US Marines got into a firefight with the Taliban in his village in Helmand province.

The bullet shattered part of his skull, and would have killed him if not for emergency surgery.

In six months, Dr Min Park says he has treated more than a fair share of Afghan bystanders, mostly gunshot and bomb blast victims.

In this follow-up operation, he and his team are reconstructing the boy's forehead with a titanium mesh that will restore Wali's appearance.

“It's always harder to work on kids. You think, ‘What do they have to do with anything that's going on here?’ It's also gratifying when you can make a difference,” Dr Min Park says.

In the recovery ward, Wali's father, Muhammad, says that while he is sure it was a US Marine bullet that hit his son, he is grateful for the first-class treatment he has received.

“I'm just happy that he is OK. The shooting was a mistake, and so it is forgiven,” Muhammad acknowledges. Accident or not, the enduring insurgency suggests that no amount of goodwill can compensate for civilian casualties that continue to climb each month, in a war that grinds on.

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3. [Tech] **Camp Pendleton Expands Help For War Wounded** (Newswise)

Sunday, 93 October 2011

http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2011/10/as-the-war-in-afghanistan-enters-its-tenth-year-the-marine-corps-has-announced-two-new-efforts-at-camp-pendleton-to-help-wou.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+lanowblog+%28L.A.+Now%29

As the war in Afghanistan enters its 10th year, the Marine Corps has announced two new efforts at Camp Pendleton to help wounded and injured Marines and sailors.

On Thursday, the \$29-million, 30,000 square-foot Warrior Hope and Care Center was opened to provide counseling and reconditioning for Marines and sailors. The facility has space for chaplains, education specialists, representatives of the Department of Veterans Affairs and family-readiness employees.

Earlier, the Marines announced that the Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton had launched a study of mild traumatic brain injury, a common injury for combatants in Afghanistan and Iraq, where the enemy's weapon of choice is the roadside bomb.

The study will test the effects of a hyperbaric oxygen chamber in aiding troops who have experienced the common symptoms of concussion: memory loss, confusion, headaches and an overall "spacey" feeling.

And at Camp Leatherneck, the Marines' base in Afghanistan, a Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) machine arrived last week on a Russian-built cargo plane. It is the first MRI machine in Afghanistan, officials said.

The MRI "will help to diagnose and understand the head injuries that troops are experiencing," said Navy Capt. Jeffrey Timby, a surgeon deployed with Marines.

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4. [Tech] **US Soldiers In Midst Of Equipment Revolution** (AFP)

Sunday, 9 October 2011

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5hkvD25xfvcN0ZRhTdfv6hAOjIItg?docId=CN.G.342b2fda95ff676d661cfb8393d151f9.2a1>

Kevlar underwear, enhanced night-vision goggles and portable solar panels: the US military is seeing a gear revolution, thanks to the lessons learned during 10 years of war in Afghanistan and Iraq.

The M4 rifle remains the basic firearm of the American GI, but the addition of many gizmos now makes the soldier look more like Inspector Gadget than GI Joe: the typical gear kit includes 73 items, from clothes to weapons.

Program Executive Office Soldier, the military unit responsible for inventing and producing army equipment, says some items are designed to better protect soldiers on the ground, while others help them understand the terrain.

Since 2004, every soldier has been issued a bulletproof vest with extra protection panels. But the increased use of improvised explosive devices (IEDs), responsible for more than half the deaths of US soldiers in Afghanistan, has led to the development of new protective gear.

Over the next two months, "tens of thousands" of Kevlar outer garments to protect the pelvic area will be sent to US soldiers in Afghanistan, according to Colonel William Cole, who is part of the PEO Soldier unit. "It protects soldiers if they step on an anti-personnel IED. It can really mitigate their injuries," he told reporters. The protective outer garment is worn over the soldier's fatigues.

Soldiers in Afghanistan also will have a Kevlar undergarment, similar to a pair of biker shorts, which helps protect them against infections caused by dirt and stones kicked up in a blast. "When you keep the wound area clean, you prevent follow-on infections," Cole said.

To combat the frequent traumatic brain injuries suffered by troops in both Afghanistan and Iraq, which doctors say often lead to cases of post-traumatic stress disorder, helmets are being tricked out with sensors. "When a soldier is caught in an IED event, we will be able to immediately download the data from his helmet to determine what kind of impact the helmet got to help the medical community correlate that to what kind of brain injury he might have," Cole said.

Colonel Stephanie Foster, the program manager for the unit's Soldiers, Sensors and Lasers project, expresses her pride in the new "Individual Gunshot Detector" system, which will help soldiers locate hidden snipers. "You can wear it on the shoulder or other parts of your equipment," Foster said of the IGD sensor, 5,000 of which are already being used on the ground. "Basically you have the ability to have counter-sniper situational awareness. With its acoustic device, you'll be able to get the range and direction of the incoming fire."

For night-time combat, modern armies have the upper hand over insurgents thanks to night-vision goggles. The new-generation eyewear, which is just reaching the field, will allow troops to more easily detect enemy fighters.

Other gadgets in the works -- like the lightweight Joint Effects Targeting System -- will allow soldiers to use a laser target to guide an air strike. The US military currently uses a laser designator weighing several kilos (pounds) which is mounted on a tripod. The use of too many electronic gadgets can be cause for concern. "When you're in an hostile environment, how do you recharge your batteries?" wonders Bill Brower, a deputy project manager, displaying a box as big as a pack of cigarettes.

"It's basically a power manager. With it, I can take power from virtually any source. If I come across an old car battery, I can plug this in."

If there are no power sources around, soldiers can always use a portable solar blanket covered with mini-solar panels, which can be used to charge up a small computer.

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5. [Attack: Zhari] **Bomb Blast Kills 6 Afghan Police, 1 Tribal Elder** (AP)

Wednesday, 12 October 2011

http://articles.boston.com/2011-10-12/news/30271581_1_afghan-police-roadside-bomb-zhari-district

Officials say a roadside bomb in southern Afghanistan has killed six police officers and a local tribal elder.

The governor's office says in a statement issued Wednesday that a police truck struck the bomb on Tuesday while driving in Kandahar province's Zhari district.

Provincial government spokesman Zalmay Ayubi says the police were escorting tribal elder Abdul Wali Khan back to his home from nearby Kandahar city.

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6. [Attack: Kunar] **Explosion Kills 5 Civilians In Kunar Province** (Kaama Press)

Monday, 10 October 2011

<http://www.khaama.com/explosion-kills-5-civilians-in-kunar-province-997>

According to local officials in eastern Afghanistan, at least five people including a child was killed following a roadside bomb explosion in eastern Kunar province.

The officials further added, the incident took place around 10:30 am local time after an Improvised Explosive Device went off near a vehicle in Dangam district of Kunar province.

According to Mohammad Neman, third party battalion operating chief in Kunar province, the civilian vehicle struck with a roadside bomb in Anzor-Kot area of Dangam district.

The source further added, at least five people including a seven year old child and the driver of the vehicle was killed following the explosion.

No group including the Taliban militants have so far claimed responsibility behind the incident.

But local authorities blame Taliban for the incident as the group frequently use Improvised Explosive Device to target Afghan and coalition forces which sometimes lead to civilian casualties.

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7. [Attack: Multiple] **Insurgent Attacks In Afghanistan Kill 3 NATO Troops** (BNO)

Thursday, 13 October 2011

<http://channel6news.com/2011/10/insurgent-attacks-in-afghanistan-kill-3-nato-troops/>

Three coalition service members were killed in eastern and southern Afghanistan on Thursday as a result of three separate attacks, the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) said on Friday.

ISAF said one service member was killed as a result of an improvised explosive device (IED) attack in southern Afghanistan. Another service member also died in southern Afghanistan as a result of an insurgent attack while a third service member died in eastern Afghanistan as a result of an IED attack.

As usual, the multinational force gave no other details about the incidents, including the exact locations and the nationalities of the service members involved. "It is ISAF policy to defer casualty identification procedures to the relevant national authorities," a brief statement said.

Coalition casualties in Afghanistan have been rising sharply in recent years with a total coalition death toll of 709 in 2010, making it the deadliest year for international troops since the war began in response to the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States.

There are currently more than 130,000 ISAF troops in Afghanistan, including some 90,000 U.S. troops and more than 9,500 British soldiers. U.S. President Barack Obama previously ordered a drawdown of 10,000 American troops later this year, with another 23,000 U.S. troops to return home next year.

So far this year, at least 480 coalition service members have been killed in Afghanistan. Most troops are American and are killed in the country's south, which is plagued by IED attacks on troops and civilians. The deadliest incident happened in August when a U.S. helicopter crashed in eastern Afghanistan, killing 30 U.S. troops, seven Afghan troops and an Afghan interpreter.

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8. [Security: Helmand] **IED Facilitator Captured In Helmand** (Wakht News Agency)
Tuesday, 12 October 2011
<http://www.wakht.com/en/022268.php>

The Afghan and International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) captured an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) facilitator in Lashkargah city the center of the southern Helmand province, the ISAF said in a statement.

“The man was responsible of attacks on the Afghan security forces and the government of Afghanistan,” says the statement, adding that some light weapons, ammunition and \$ 6,000 from his haven.

In another report, the Afghan and ISAF forces captured a Taliban local commander along with his two associates in Kandahar city.

The ISAF says the arrested commander manufactured IEDs for use in attacks against the Afghan and international forces.

Meanwhile, the ISAF reports of seizing a big weapon cache of the insurgents in the northeastern Kapisa province.

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9. [Security: Pakistan] **US Missile Kills Haqqani 'Coordinator' In Pakistan** (AP)

Thursday, 13 October 2011

<http://news.yahoo.com/us-missile-kills-haqqani-coordinator-pakistan-054354131.html>

An American missile strike killed a ranking member of the militant Haqqani network on Thursday in northwestern Pakistan, striking a group that Washington claims is the No. 1 threat in Afghanistan and is supported by Pakistani security forces, local intelligence officials said. The strike came as U.S. special envoy to Afghanistan and Pakistan Marc Grossman arrived in Pakistan to improve ties between Washington and Islamabad that have been severely strained by stepped-up American claims of Pakistan assistance to the Haqqanis.

Two other militants were killed in the attack close in the Haqqani stronghold of North Waziristan, the group's main sanctuary along the Afghan border, said the Pakistani officials in the region. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the media.

They identified the Haqqani member as Jalil and said he was a "coordinator" for the group. The men were walking down a street when the drone-fired missile hit, the officials said. One said Jalil was related to Sirajuddin Haqqani, the leader of the network. The missiles hit close to Dande Darpa Khel village, which is home to a large seminary with links to the Haqqanis.

Later Thursday, a second volley of drone-fired missiles hit a militant position on the hills close to the frontier in South Waziristan, killing three people, intelligence officials said. The officials said the militants were firing rockets and mortars across the border at an American base in Machadad Kot in Afghanistan. U.S. officials do not talk about the CIA-led drone program. NATO and U.S. officers in Afghanistan were not immediately available for comment.

The al-Qaida-allied Haqqani network is one of most organized insurgent factions fighting the U.S. presence in Afghanistan, and it has been blamed for high-profile assaults against Western and Afghan targets in the Afghan capital, Kabul. Washington has long urged Islamabad to attack the fighters, who live undisturbed in North Waziristan despite the region being home to several thousand Pakistani troops. At the same time, the U.S. is pursuing the possibility of peace talks with the Haqqanis and other Taliban factions, reflecting the fact that the insurgency can't be defeated militarily.

In brief remarks to reporters, Grossman, whose mission is to promote the peace process, talked about his confidence that the U.S. and Pakistan can "can make a commitment to future work" together, suggesting work still needs to be done to restore the relationship. Last month, senior American officials accused Pakistan's spy agency of assisting the Haqqani network in attacks on Western targets in Afghanistan, including a strike last month on the U.S. Embassy in Kabul. Pakistani officials have denied the charges. They were the most serious allegations yet of Pakistani duplicity in the 10-year war in Afghanistan and sent already strained ties between Islamabad and Washington plunging further. Obama administration officials have since backtracked somewhat on the claims.

Most independent analysts say Pakistan is either tolerating or supporting the Haqqani network to some degree because it foresees chaos in Afghanistan once America withdraws, and wants to cultivate the group as an ally there against the influence of India, its regional enemy.

Since 2008, the United States has regularly unleashed unmanned drone-fired missiles against militants in the border region, which is home to Pakistani militants, Afghan factions like the Haqqanis and al-Qaida operatives from around the world, especially the Middle East. This year, there have been around 50 drone strikes, most of them in North Waziristan. Pakistani officials protest the strikes, which are unpopular among many Pakistanis, but the country is believed to support them privately and makes no diplomatic or military efforts to stop them.

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U.S. leverage against Pakistan to get it to fight the Haqqani group is limited because it relies on the country to truck much of its war supplies into Afghanistan. The supplies of non-lethal material arrive in Pakistan's port of Karachi by sea before traveling into Afghanistan by land. The convoys are occasionally attacked by insurgents, especially close to the border, where the militants are strongest.

On Thursday, gunmen opened fire and set ablaze five tankers carrying oil for NATO and U.S. troops in Sindh province, some 1,200 miles (2,000 kilometers) from the border, said police officer Khair Mohammad Samejho. The tankers were parked outside a restaurant in Shikarpur district when they were attacked, he said.

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10. [Trend] **Bomb Detection in Iraq is Risky Business** (Centre Daily Times)

Friday, 7 October 2011

<http://www.centredaily.com/2011/10/07/2941264/bomb-detection-in-iraq-is-risky.html#ixzz1am1OcB9w>

It's easy to complain about heavy traffic congestion that clogs roadways around so many American cities. The next time you're about to pound on the steering wheel, however, be thankful that part of your job doesn't involve driving over bombs.

From 2006 to 2007, Sgt. Jacob Probst was driving a "Husky" mine detection vehicle around an incredibly dangerous part of Iraq. "That was just absolutely amazing," Sgt. Probst told The Unknown Soldiers. "We got to see Anbar province, Iraq, go from literally the worst place in the world to being the light for Iraq."

When the Army reservist arrived in western Iraq, the war had reached an absolutely critical phase. Terrorists in Anbar province were threatening to change the course of the entire bloody conflict, as al-Qaida wantonly murdered troops and civilians throughout the region.

On Sept. 1, 2008, the U.S. military formally transferred Anbar province to the Iraqi government, which would have been unthinkable just two years earlier. While violence in Iraq did not end with the handover and the conflict continues to this day, Probst knows he and his fellow troops helped change the course of history. "It all started shifting while we were there," the soldier said.

When asked what Iraq was like when his deployment started, Probst, speaking by phone from Wisconsin's Fort McCoy, let out a sigh so deep it was louder than the machine gun fire from training in the background. "Iraq 2006," he said in jest, before a serious pause.

"My job, specifically, was to drive over a bomb," Probst said. "You're driving about two or three miles an hour on the side of a road or on a road, and I have a metal detector mounted on my vehicle, basically right underneath me."

With a naked eye, Probst tried to spot improvised explosive devices, the leading killer of American troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. At the same time, under intense pressure, he would listen for a buzzing sound from his vehicle's metal detector.

"Then you basically stop, back up and pinpoint exactly where you got the hit on the metal detector and spray-paint the bomb," he said.

After explosive ordnance disposal technicians eventually blew up the terrorist-planted device, either on site or in a secure location, Probst would go back to his base with an incredible feeling.

"If you found even one, that's at least three Marines' lives saved, because we worked with the Marines almost exclusively over there," he said. "But then also, you always kind of forget that the Iraqis — they got hit with IEDs almost all the time too."

Probst, a native of Watertown, Wis., joined the Army Reserve after high school — when the United States was in the midst of two wars. The soldier admits that despite knowing the risks, he wasn't exactly sure what was coming next.

"I wanted to go to school, but I felt like I could serve my country," Probst said. "I didn't know exactly where that would lead me."

Today, with memories of a year driving over bombs, Probst is enrolled at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, where he is pursuing a degree in high school special education. I spoke to him in the middle of

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the Army's "Best Warrior Competition," which pits soldiers against each other in everything from academics and athletics to being able to perform under the pressure of battle or without sleep.

Sgt. Jacob Probst still enjoys the challenges of the military and says he feels very fortunate to be home safely, pursuing his dreams with a wife of three years.

"I'd love to have some kids," he said.

In a difficult economy, those of us who have jobs to go to each morning are lucky. But before we grumble about choking traffic and high gas prices, we should also feel fortunate that we don't have to worry about bombs being buried beneath the road.

The valiant men and women of the U.S. military, serving with honor in Afghanistan and Iraq at this very moment, make life at home a lot less complicated.

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11. [Attack: Basra] **Bomb Blasts Target Iraq Oil Pipeline** (AFP/Reuters)

Saturday, 8 October 2011

<http://www.voanews.com/english/news/middle-east/israel-and-palestinians/Bomb-Blasts-Target-Iraq-Oil-Pipeline-131381628.html>

Two bombs have struck an oil pipeline in southern Iraq sparking a fire and temporarily halting production.

The attack occurred late Friday evening at the Rumaila oil field near the southern port city of Basra.

Officials say the blast damaged the pipeline, temporarily cutting production.

Rumaila is being developed by Britain's BP and China's CNPC.

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12. [Attack: Baghdad] **Suicide Bombers, Attacks Hit Baghdad Police, 28 Dead** (Reuters)
Wednesday, 12 October 2011
<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/10/12/us-iraq-violence-idUSTRE79B16P20111012>

Suicide bombers and roadside blasts targeted police across Baghdad Wednesday, killing at least 28 people and wounding dozens on the second day of serial bombings in the Iraqi capital in less than a week. The string of apparently coordinated assaults heightened worries about the ability of Iraq's security forces to contain a stubborn insurgency, despite a drop in violence as the last U.S. troops prepare to withdraw by the end of this year.

One bomber rammed an explosives-filled vehicle into a police station in central Alwiya district, killing 14 including 8 police and wounding 28, and another blew up his car at a police building in northwestern Hurriya, killing 8 people and wounding 27, police and hospitals said. "A car approached and... the driver smashed through the checkpoint and exploded the car when he hit a concrete barrier," Police Lt. Nadeer Adel told Reuters. "Smoke was everywhere, we all took cover. Minutes later we found a crater and some of our police were dead."

The Hurriya blast burned out police vehicles and damaged the station's blue protective blast walls next to the large crater in the road. In other districts blasts blew out windows from nearby homes and shops, scattering streets with debris.

A car bomb also targeted a police patrol in southern Ilaam district, killing at least three, while a roadside bomb hit an army patrol in Hurriya, killing one civilian and injuring 12 people, mostly soldiers, police said.

Two police officers were killed and seven people wounded when a roadside bomb hit another police patrol in the mainly Shi'ite Washash district in western Baghdad. None of Iraq's insurgent or militia groups claimed responsibility for the attacks, but suicide bombings are usually the hallmark of Iraq's al-Qaeda affiliates who often target local authorities. At least 10 people were killed Monday in three successive blasts in Washash district. The first blast was followed by two more when emergency services arrived at the site to tend to the wounded.

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The two days of Baghdad attacks came just after the government said it was postponing the army's handover of security in the cities to the police because it was concerned over their readiness. The number of bombings and attacks in Iraq has fallen sharply from its peak during the sectarian slaughter in 2006-2007, but Sunni Islamists tied to al-Qaeda and radical Shi'ite militias are still a threat in the OPEC producer.

Insurgents this year have increasingly targeted local security forces and local government offices outside the capital in what Iraqi officials say is an attempt to show that the government cannot provide security as U.S. troops leave.

More than eight years after the invasion that toppled Saddam Hussein, the last 44,000 U.S. troops are preparing to pull out of Iraq when a bilateral security pact expires, though Baghdad and Washington are in talks about whether some will stay on as trainers.

Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki said this week U.S. troops might stay on as trainers but would not be given the legal immunity Washington demands and should find other ways to be involved in training. U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton insists on full protection for any U.S. personnel.

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13. [Attack: Baghdad] **8 Injured In 2 Explosions In Baghdad** (Aswat al-Iraq)

Monday, 10 October 2011

http://en.aswataliraq.info/Default1.aspx?page=article_page&id=145206&l=1

Eight people were injured in two explosions in central and southeast Baghdad, police sources said today.

The source told Aswat al-Iraq that the two explosives were planted near car showrooms in the center of Baghdad and exploded against a police patrol, which led to three cops being injured as well as two civilians.

In a similar explosion in southeast Baghdad, near a petrol station, three civilians were injured, in addition to damages afflicted to adjacent cars.

No other details were given.

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14. [Attack: Abu Ghraib] **6 Wounded In Abu Ghraib Explosion** (Aswat al-Iraq)

Tuesday, 11 October 2011

http://en.aswataliraq.info/Default1.aspx?page=article_page&id=145220&l=1

Six were wounded in an attempt to blow up their houses with explosives planted by unknown persons south of the Abu Ghraib area, security sources said today.

The source told Aswat al-Iraq that unknown gunmen implanted the explosives which were remotely detonated.

The result of the explosion was 6 persons, all members of the same family, wounded, including a woman and a child.

The explosion damaged the house and neighboring residences.

No other details were given.

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15. [Security: Basra] **3 Bombs Dismantled In Basra** (Aswat al-Iraq)

Tuesday, 11 October 2011

http://en.aswataliraq.info/Default1.aspx?page=article_page&id=145221&l=1

Three bombs that had been planted beneath oil pipelines were dismantled yesterday night, the South Oil Police Commander announced today.

General Musa Abdul Hussein told Aswat al-Iraq that there were no casualties.

A security source told Aswat al-Iraq last Saturday that two bombs exploded in a sabotage attempt, that led to stopping oil pumping.

Basra city, center of the province, lies 590 km south of the capital, Baghdad.

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16. [Security: Kut] **Car Bomb Dismantled In Kut** (Aswat al-Iraq)

Wednesday, 12 October 2011

http://en.aswataliraq.info/Default1.aspx?page=article_page&id=145236&l=1

The Iraqi Army in Wassit managed to dismantle a car bomb in the center of the province, while police sources announced strict security measures following the explosions in Baghdad.

The Middle Euphrates Military Command, stationed in Diwaniya, announced these precautionary measures.

Commander Qais al-Muhamadawi told Aswat al-Iraq that the car was discovered, carrying great quantities of explosives, near a popular market in Hay County.

On the other had, police sources said to Aswat al-Iraq that Kut witnessed strict security measures today following Baghdad explosions which led to a great number of casualties.

Baghdad witnessed today a series of car explosions directed against police stations.

Kut, the center of Wassit province, lies 180 km southeast of the capital, Baghdad.

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17. [Attack: Baghdad] **16 Dead, 50 Wounded In 2 Baghdad Explosions** (Aswat al-Iraq)

Wednesday, 12 October 2011

http://en.aswatiraq.info/Default1.aspx?page=article_page&id=145240&l=1

The toll from the two Baghdad explosions in Karada and Hurriya districts resulted in 16 dead and 50 wounded, according to police sources.

The source told Aswat al-Iraq that the two explosions were directed against police stations and resulted in heavy damages in the areas.

The two explosions were carried out by two suicide bombers.

No other details were given.

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18. [Attack: Baaquba] **6 Injured In Baaquba** (Aswat al-Iraq)

Friday, 14 October 2011

http://en.aswataliraq.info/Default1.aspx?page=article_page&id=145270&l=1

Six were wounded in a bomb blast in the center of Baaquba city, security sources said today.

The source told Aswat al-Iraq that the bomb exploded in a main street.

Iraqi security forces began immediate search in the nearby area.

No other details were given.

Baaquba, the center of Diala province, lies 57 km northeast of the capital, Baghdad.

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19. [Security: India] **Hizbul Commander Planted Delhi HC Bomb** (Zee News Limited)

Friday, 7 October 2011

http://zeenews.india.com/news/nation/hizbul-commander-planted-delhi-hc-bomb-sources_735338.html

A suicide bomber has been killed, while wearing an explosive belt in his house east of the city of Mosul, the In a significant breakthrough in the Delhi High Court blast case, The National Investigation Agency (NIA) arrested one Dr Wasim from Kishtwar who is said to be one of the key conspirators of the September 7 blast that killed 15 persons and injured 80.

Highly placed sources told Zee News on Friday that Wasim's arrest is crucial as his brother Junaid is said to be the planter of the bomb that ripped through the crowded reception area that busy Wednesday morning.

Junaid is a commander of terror outfit Hizbul Mujahideen. He is believed to be operating from Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK).

Wasim's arrest is the third arrest by the NIA in the case.

Earlier, two other Kishtwar residents – Aamir Abbas and Abid Hussain – were arrested in connection with the case. It was Abid who sent the terror e-mail three hours after the incident – reportedly on being asked by Aamir to do so.

NIA has announced a reward of Rs 10 lakh for anybody giving information about the perpetrators of the blast.

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20. [Security: Belarus] **No Trace Of Explosives Found On Konovalov's Clothing And Body** (Telegraf) Thursday, 6 October 2011
<http://telegraf.by/en/2011/10/na-odejde-i-tele-konovalova-ne-nashli-sledov-vzrivchatki>

The process on the case of Vladislav Kovalev and Dmitri Konovalov, accused of committing terrorist attacks in the subway on April 11 and several other high-profile crimes, is underway in the Supreme Court of Belarus. The evaluation data, read out on October 6, showed that there had been found no traces of explosives on their clothing or body.

The experts found no traces of "substances of organic origin, relating to explosives," on clothing, shoes, hair fragments, subungual contents, swabs from defendants' face and nasal meatus, BelaPAN. There were also found no traces of explosives after examination of clothing, household appliances, construction tools and swabs from the floor and furniture, seized from the apartment on Klumov street in Minsk, rented by Kovalev.

In addition, examination confirmed the absence of any fingerprints on the plastic container with some yellow liquid, sticky tape and some equipment for chemical experiments, seized in the basement №52 of house 8, building 1 in Repin Street in Vitsebsk, where, according to the investigation, the defendant had been preparing explosives.

Kovalev Puts Blame on Konovalov

October 6, it was reported that May 10, Vladislav Kovalev wrote a letter to the KGB head, Zaitsev, sauing that he "realized the severity of the crime," was repentant and ready to testify about the explosion in the subway.

Kovalev voluntarily stated he knew about the crimes, committed by Dmitri Konovalov - explosions in Vitsebsk in 2005 and in Minsk in 2008. He explained that he had not informed earlier about these crimes to law enforcement authorities through the "fear of criminal liability."

As for the explosion in Minsk subway, Kovalev said that he knew of the impending crime and the place where Konovalov was preparing explosive devices. He was also aware that Konovalov brought the explosives in Minsk on April 10 and headed to the station "to make an explosion." Later, at a hearing on October 6, Kovalev said that he had written the statement under pressure.

Kovalev said he Wanted to Make Explosives himself, but was Scared.

Vladislav Kovalev said that he wanted to synthesize explosives himself for the Vitsebsk event, but in the end got scared, BelTA informs.

"In 2006, Dima learned to get acetone peroxide - the explosive," said Kovalev in court. He admitted that he had even taken one of the components of the explosives, but failed to end the case as he got "scared." When asked about the reasons for such an action, Kovalev said: "I do not know. I was just fascinated."

Kovalev also acknowledged the purchase of TNT: two pieces of 75 grams and half the pieces of 400 grams. At that time he was about 19 years. The defendant couldn't recall the exact date, but suggested that it was in 2005. At trial, he was asked why he needed TNT. "It was fun, we did firecrackers So I decided. Cool. TNT," said Kovalev. After a while Kovalev buried the explosives, but a year later "Dmitri asked to give TNT, and I agreed," said the accused.

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21. [Security: Indonesia] **Police Search North Jakarta Church After Bomb Threat** (Jakarta Post)
Friday, 14 October 2011
<http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2011/10/08/police-search-north-jakarta-church-after-bomb-threat.html>

Six officers from the North Jakarta Police's bomb squad have finished Tampak Siring Indonesia Bethel church (GBI) in Kelapa Gading on Saturday after it received a bomb threat.

"We have checked all the rooms. We declare the premises clear so far from any explosives," North Jakarta Police representative Comr. Maskur Bujang Chaniago said.

Maskur said the church reported the bomb threat on Friday evening after receiving a telephone call from a person who said a bomb would go off in the church complex in 10 minutes. The threat turned out to be a hoax.

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22. [Security: Indonesia] **At Least 4 Nabbed For Cirebon Bombing** (Jakarta Post)

Saturday, 8 October 2011

<http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2011/10/08/at-least-4-nabbed-cirebon-bombing-links.html>

The National Police arrested at least four people in Jakarta and Bekasi, West Java, on Saturday in connection to April's suicide bombing of a mosque in Cirebon, West Java.

"We arrested a suspect at 1 a.m. at Senen market in Central Jakarta," National Police spokesperson, Insp. Gen. Anton Bahrul Alam said on Saturday as quoted by tribunews.com.

Following the arrest of the suspect, identified as Heru Komarudin aka Haekal aka Udin, officers arrested three of Heru's friends in Bekasi, including a couple, Bekasi Police chief Sr. Comr. Priyo Widiyanto said. "According to the neighborhood unit head and their neighbors, they are husband and wife," Priyo said as quoted by kompas.com.

Officers also detained a man staying with the family during the arrest.

Muhammad Syarif detonated a bomb inside a mosque in the Cirebon Police complex during Friday prayers on Apr. 15, killing himself and injuring several others, which the police believe was planned by the same network that arranged a suicide bombing of a church in Surakarta, Central Java, on Oct. 25.

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23. [Security: Poland] **Suspects In Ikea Store Blasts Detained** (Media Corp)
Saturday, 8 October 2011
http://www.channelnewsasia.com/stories/afp_world/view/1158064/1/.html

Two men suspected of masterminding a series of bomb blasts at several European stores of Swedish furniture giant Ikea from May to September have been arrested in Poland, police confirmed Saturday.

"Police from the Central Investigations Bureau (CBS) have taken in for questioning two men responsible for a series of explosions in Europe. The aim of their criminal action was to obtain a ransom of six million euros (eight million dollars) from the Ikea hypermarket chain," a police communique said.

The two men, both 39 and identified as Adam K. and Mikolaj G., were picked up in northwest Poland.

"Adam K. is an ex-manager who has worked for several big corporations. He is fluent in four languages and has extensive technical and computer skills. His accomplice Mikolaj G. has a police record for drug trafficking," the police said on its website.

Booby-trapped alarm clocks blew up at Ikea stores in Belgium, France and the Netherlands on May 30, while a blast in the kitchen equipment department of a store in Dresden, Germany, reportedly left two customers needing hospital treatment on June 10.

On September 2 police evacuated two stores in the Czech Republic, defusing a booby-trapped device found near one of them.

"At the beginning, all these incidents were investigated separately in each of the countries concerned. Information gathered by the CBS enabled us to establish that those responsible were in Poland and were sending their ransom demands in different languages from this country," police said.

The men have been charged with "endangering the lives and health of many people", which carries up to 10 years prison if they are convicted.

A court in the southwestern Polish city of Wroclaw decided Saturday to remand the pair in custody for three months.

"I cannot at this stage of the investigation tell you whether the two men will plead guilty. They have testified extensively," prosecutor Wieslaw Bilski told reporters.

Ikea spokeswoman Charlotte Lindgren said in Sweden the group had been informed of the arrests and had been working with the police, following their recommendations, during the hunt for the culprits.

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24. [Security: Michigan, US] **Officials Cite Progress On Bombing Of Lawyer's Car** (Toledo Times)
Saturday, 8 October 2011
<http://www.toledoblade.com/Police-Fire/2011/10/08/Officials-cite-progress-on-bombing-of-lawyer-s-car.html>

Although no arrests have been made in the nearly three-week old car bombing that injured a Sylvania lawyer and his two sons, authorities said Friday they are investigating several "persons of interest."

Authorities also officially confirmed that the device that went off that day -- causing a horrific explosion that injured Erik Chappell, 42, and sons Grant, 13, and Cole, 11 --was indeed a type of bomb.

Special Agent Donald Dawkins of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms said at a news conference in Monroe, outside the Monroe Police Department, that investigators are trying to narrow the pool of possible suspects.

"There is information we need that we don't have yet," Mr. Dawkins said.

Since the last time the agency addressed the media, shortly after the incident, investigators have received results from the evidence collected after Mr. Chappell's Volvo station wagon exploded on East Elm Avenue near I-75 in Monroe on Sept. 20.

The family, who lives in LaSalle Township, was on its way to football practice when the bomb exploded.

The evidence, which was sent to ATF headquarters in Washington, has provided investigators with new information, although Mr. Dawkins declined to say what type of bomb was used, how it was detonated, and where in or on the car the device was placed by the person -- or people -- who did it.

The agent said the investigators are "confident on what the device was," and what activated it, he said. He would not comment on a potential motive for the attack.

Although Mr. Chappell and his sons were not killed by the blast, Mr. Dawkins said, "make no mistake, ... it could have" killed them.

Whoever made the bomb, Mr. Dawkins said, "knew what they were doing," although it's unknown if the perpetrator has institutional knowledge of explosives or read a book on making bombs.

Part of the reason there is a large person-of-interest pool, is because authorities are not ruling out anyone, even Mr. Chappell's client base. "Anything that's possible to look at, we've looked at," Mr. Dawkins said.

He said there could be new information to release sometime within the next week.

Mr. Dawkins said that Mr. Chappell's sons, who were more severely injured than their father, are "both doing a lot better" and are "getting around, which is very encouraging."

Most of the technical work in the investigation is done, Mr. Dawkins said; now it's up to footwork and continuing to interview people.

The agency is asking that the public remain willing to help by phoning in tips on the case. The agency has received several hundred phone calls so far, but it would like more, Mr. Dawkins said.

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25. [Attack: Yemen] **Bomb Blast Hits Police Station HQ In Aden, 9 Injured** (Xinhua)
Saturday, 8 October 2011
http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/world/2011-10/08/c_131179454.htm

A powerful bomb blast rocked a police station headquarters on Saturday morning, injuring eight security members and a high-ranking police officer in Yemen's southern port city of Aden, a security official said.

The local security official told Xinhua on condition of anonymity that a powerful bomb blast hit the police station headquarters of al-Gulwah district, injuring eight security members and a high-ranking criminal police officer.

The violent blast shattered the windows of some residential buildings near the police station, he said, adding that suspected al-Qaida militants were believed to be behind the attack.

Local residents said that smokes rose from the center of the building following the blast and the eight injured security troops were taken out by ambulances to a military hospital.

The police station headquarters located near the coastal highway of al-Gulwah, where an al-Qaida suicide car bomber detonated his explosives-packed vehicle near the passing convoy of Yemen's Defense Minister General Mohammed Nasser Ahmed, who survived the attack late September.

A number of Aden's military intelligence offices and government buildings experienced during the past three months a series of bomb blasts and suicide attacks, which killed and injured dozens of military members. The government accused militants of the al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula of masterminding the attacks.

Meanwhile, the country has seen sporadic violence after Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh returned from Saudi Arabia, where he recuperated from serious wounds he sustained in an explosion in his presidential mansion early June.

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26. [Security: India] **Blast Confounds People, Police** (DHNS)

Sunday, 9 October 2011

<http://www.deccanherald.com/content/196554/blast-confounds-people-police.html>

An explosion took place in a stormwater drain near the Mico Factory at Adugodi on Saturday evening.

It was found that some chemical used in the marble industry was thrown in the drain, which after mixing with the polluted water, triggered the explosion. However, there is no official confirmation on this.

Police said three youth in their early twenties threw a packet in the stormwater drain. Moments after it was dumped, a loud explosion took place rattling the people in the area. Windowpanes of some buildings reportedly cracked due to the impact.

Passersby, who noticed them running from the spot, chased and caught one of them as he could not run fast due to injuries. They handed him over to Adugodi police who identified him as Mrityunjay, a native of Uttar Pradesh who was working in a marble factory.

On interrogation he said the packet was given to him by Moinuddin of Marble Centre to throw it in the stormwater drain. He was accompanied by his co-workers Jamil and Mehta, said police.

An eyewitness, M L Roy, said: "The explosion was heard half-a-kilometre away from the site." A bomb disposal squad, a dog squad and forensic experts reached the spot and took samples of the chemical that led to the blast.

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27. [Security: Denmark] **2 Killed In Denmark Barracks Explosion** (CRI English)
Sunday, 9 October 2011
<http://english.cri.cn/6966/2011/10/09/2743s661808.htm>

At least two persons have died in an explosion at a former military barracks in the town of Store Andst in southern Denmark, police here confirmed Saturday evening.

Speaking at a press meeting in Store Andst late Saturday, a police spokesman said the police are investigating the area as a potential crime scene.

They could not say whether there would be more fatalities or casualties. Neither did they reveal the identity of the deceased persons, nor the reasons behind the explosion.

The barracks, which was sold to private investors several years ago, was rocked by a powerful explosion at around 10.45 a.m. local time (0845 GMT).

Witnesses say the blast blew-out gables on the barracks building, shattered windows and overturned a car in the area.

Thick clouds of poisonous smoke billowed out from the burning site forcing emergency services to order local residents to stay indoors.

Local media sources linked the blast to a fireworks cache in the building, but police have not confirmed this as the reason for the incident.

However, police said that an unknown number of probably unexploded 'chrysanthemum bombs' were found inside the barracks.

Chrysanthemum bombs are a type of powerful firework used by professionals in the fireworks industry. It is illegal for non-professionals to use them.

Police evacuated residents living within a 400-meter radius of the barracks Saturday afternoon, citing risk of further explosions.

Some 174 households have since been evacuated with the evacuees being temporarily sheltered in a local community center.

According to Danish broadcaster TV2, a series of smaller explosions hit the barracks around 15:30 local time (1330 GMT). It added that a bomb disposal squad had also arrived on the scene.

Emergency services in the area say the fire currently burning in the barracks will soon be extinguished.

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28. [Security: India] **Explosives For Industries Being Smuggled To Naxals?** (Press Trust of India)
Saturday, 9 October 2011
<http://www.hindustantimes.com/News-Feed/newdelhi/Explosives-for-industries-being-smuggled-to-Naxals/Article1-755209.aspx>

Faced with an alarming number of mine attacks by Naxals, security agencies have launched a probe to find out whether explosives meant for industries are being smuggled to the extremists in Maoist-hit states. Official sources said many industries operating in Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Orissa and Bihar use explosives for different industrial activities after taking licence from Nagpur-headquartered Petroleum and Explosive Safety Organisation (PESO).

Security agencies have long been suspecting that unused explosives procured by the industries reach the hands of Naxals either through pilferage or through intimidation.

"This is a very serious issue. We suspect that many of these smuggled explosives are used to target police forces engaged in anti-Naxal operations. Hence, we have ordered a probe," a source said.

There is no proper mechanism, sources said, to take note of how much explosives are used in a particular explosion carried out for industrial purpose. So, if any industry claims that it uses 100 kg of explosives in a month, there is no way to find out whether that unit actually used that much of explosives, they said.

There is also possibility of an industry operating in Naxal belt getting intimidated and pass on the unused explosives to Maoists or procuring more explosives than it actually requires, the sources said.

Several explosive stores in the Naxal-hit areas have come under Naxal attacks in the past. One such mine in Orissa's Damanjodi was attacked by Naxals in 2009 where 10 CISF personnel were killed. Similar attacks have occurred in Chhattisgarh's Kirandul area too, which is in the restive Dantewada district.

"If the investigation suggested that explosives meant for industries indeed smuggled to the Naxals, security agencies would be forced to take action against the industrial units like what they did against a few corporate executives for allegedly paying extortion money," the source said.

A senior official of an industrial group was last month arrested and a few others were questioned by the Chhattisgarh Police on allegations of funding Naxal groups.

However, the company had refuted the allegations of making payments to Maoists saying it "baseless".

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29. [Attack: Pakistan] **Explosion Partly Damages Railways Bridge In Quetta** (The News International)
Sunday, 9 October 2011
<http://www.thenews.com.pk/NewsDetail.aspx?ID=24182>

A bomb blast on Saturday night partly damaged a bridge on railway tracks passing through the provincial capital.

"Unknown men had planted explosive material under a bridge on railway tracks passing through 'Joint Road' area and detonated it," police said.

The explosion partly damaged the bridge; however, no loss of life was reported.

Law enforcement personnel rushed to the site and cordoned off the entire area to trace the suspects out.

Further investigation into the incident was underway.

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30. [Attack: Philippines] **Bomb Blasts In Zamboanga City Injure 11** (Sun Star)

Sunday, 9 October 2011

<http://www.sunstar.com.ph/zamboanga/local-news/2011/10/09/twin-bomb-blasts-zamboanga-city-injure-11-184036>

Twin explosions Sunday afternoon hurt 11 people, including three boxers and a referee, in this city, the police reported.

The nearly simultaneous blasts ripped through a room inside the hotel and at the cockfighting arena around noon in the city, which was celebrating the Zamboanga Hermosa Festival, said City Mayor Celso Lobregat.

It was not immediately clear who was responsible for the two blasts. Five people were hurt in the blast that damaged the left upper portion of the cockpit. The bomb was detonated just as the cockfights were about to start.

Those injured were Ricky Gaganacruz, Crisaldo Dela Peña, Marlon Candido, Ike Castiri, and Ediron Sandoval.

Lorna Heramis said she and her three employees were preparing to open her food stall when a loud blast ripped through the arena about an hour before it was to open for weekend cockfighting, which usually draws large numbers of customers. The blast damaged the roof of her stall, but she and her employees managed to escape uninjured.

"We heard a deafening explosion, then there was darkness and a fire," Heramis told The Associated Press by telephone. "I hugged my employees, and we saw three bloodied men running away from the cockpit arena."

The second explosion happened around 12:30 p.m. at a room in Red Palm Pension house in the village of Guiwan, which houses amateur boxers from Maranding, Lanao del Norte and from Dipolog City, Zamboanga del Norte.

The victims were set to participate in Monday's "Golpe-Golpe na Zamboanga" (Boxing in Zamboanga City), one of the activities lined up for the city's Zamboanga Hermosa Festival 2011.

Hurt were Marvin Artes, boxing referee; Speedy Jim Boy Bantisel and Ronie Munding, both boxers from Maranding, Lanao del Norte; Jerome Tuyor and Jeffrey Jimenez, boxers from Dipolog City and Aurora, Zamboanga del Sur, respectively; and Christopher Delos Reyes, bakeshop employee.

The victims were resting at a room in the second floor of the pension house.

Second district Representative Erico Basilio Fabian, the main sponsor of the Golpe-Golpe na Zamboanga, said the boxing event will push but "there will be lesser number of bouts."

Explosive Ordnance Demolition personnel are shifting through the debris at the two explosion sites to determine the bomb components used.

Mayor Lobregat convened the City Peace and Order Council to review the security measures of the Zamboanga Hermosa Festival 2011.

Zamboanga Hermosa Festival is the festival of the patron saint of the city, Nuestra Señora del Pilar.

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31. [Attack: Nigeria] **Bomb Blast Rocks Borno Again** (Sun News)

Monday, 10 October 2011

<http://www.sunnewsonline.com/webpages/news/national/2011/oct/10/national-10-10-2011-008.html>

The fragile peace of Borno State was disrupted yesterday evening when another bomb explosion occurred in Maiduguri metropolis, a development which made many residents to panic.

The blast which occurred at about 4pm on yesterday afternoon at new Joint Task Force (JTF) sector post at Gwange area of the metropolis was believed to have been perpetrated by the Boko Haram.

There were palpable fears among residents as many hurriedly abandoned their social engagements and scurry home. Many were also said to have sent SMS to their friends and relatives warning them to stay in door to avoid being victim of the renewed bomb blast attack.

Daily Sun gathered that the explosive was thrown into the JTF vehicle around their post in the area though some residents of the area claimed the explosive dropped from the JTF vehicles, a claim which was faulted by two of the personnel of the task force. Sources hinted that two of the JTF men were injured but this could not be confirmed from the JTF.

However, the soldiers who spoke on condition of anonymity blamed the people of the area for “allowing the Boko Haram men used their residences as cover” whenever they perpetrated such act, calling on the community leaders to help fish out the perpetrators.

JTF spokesman, Lt Colonel Hassan Mohammed confirmed the incident in a telephone conversation with Daily Sun but urged the reporter to “call back after one hour” to get further detail. However, his mobile line could not be reached as at the time of going to the press. It was not also certain if he got the SMS sent to him to respond to the claims of the residents.

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32. [Attack: Gaza] **Palestinian Killed In Mysterious Blast Along Gaza's Border With Israel** (AP)

Monday, 10 October 2011

http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/middle-east/palestinian-killed-in-mysterious-blast-along-gazas-border-with-israel/2011/10/10/gIQAAfUAaL_story.html

Palestinian officials in the Gaza Strip said one person was killed Monday in an explosion along Gaza's northern border with Israel.

The cause of the blast was unclear, and medical teams were removing the remains of the dead.

The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, a small militant faction, said the dead man was a militant who was killed in an Israeli airstrike as he was carrying out his "national duties."

The Israeli military said it was not involved. Army officials said they believed explosives detonated as militants tried to plant a bomb.

Israeli troops frequently clash with Palestinian militants in the border area.

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33. [Attack: Nigeria] **Bomb Blast Again In Maiduguri, 1 Soldier Killed As Residents Flee Troubled Area** (Nigerian Tribune)

Tuesday, 11 October 2011

<http://www.tribune.com.ng/index.php/news/29466-bomb-blast-again-in-maiduguri-1-soldier-killed-as-residents-flee-troubled-area>

Trouble started at about 8.00 a.m. on Monday following bomb blasts at Dala Alemderi ward of Maiduguri, the Borno State capital, where an unconfirmed report put the death toll at six, following sporadic gunshots immediately the blast occurred.

Fleeing residents of Alemderi who spoke to Nigerian Tribune said that the blast shattered the patrol vehicle of the Joint Task Force on Operation Restore Order in Borno, leaving an army officer dead.

According to the man who identified himself as Mohammed Sani, “immediately after the blasts, we could not tell exactly whether it was an exchange of fire between the JTF and Boko Haram members, or it was the military that were firing, but people were killed, shops were burnt and several cars also were damaged. The military went mad because it affected one of them as such we had to flee the area because we all knew what would happen next.”

The JTF spokesman, Lieutenant-Colonel Mohammed Hassan, told Nigerian Tribune that the bomb was planted near a high tension cable on the road heading to Dala Kabanti (the local beer joint where hundreds of people were massacred by unknown gunmen).

According to Lieutenant-Colonel Hassan, the sect planted the bomb targeting the JTF which unfortunately got at them, adding that there would be a news release from the JTF to that effect and that they would explain everything later.

But when Nigerian Tribune contacted the Field Operation Commander, Colonel Victor Ebhaleme, he said that the blasts ripped apart the JTF vehicle killing a NAF officer.

He explained that this was what the JTF had been fighting and nobody was spared by the sect members. “We would get them and they would definitely face the music,” he added.

Also, an elderly woman, who spoke to Nigerian Tribune in Bullumkuttu, Abuja ward, said she took some people to work on a farm and while coming home, she saw people running and those who knew her asked her to go back as soldiers had cordoned off the area.

According to her, she left her grandson at home who was still sucking, because the mother left him with her to go and write her examination at the university. “They said ‘Mama, go back, there is shooting’ and I told them it was not possible. I left my grandson at home, I had to go and see him no matter what. When I got home, soldiers were in front of my house, some of them were shouting and asking people to go back. I saw them beating somebody, I think they took him away because when my last born came to open the gate, we saw them beating people, but they didn’t talk to us as I entered my house and closed the gate,” she explained.

At the time of filing this report, several attempts to get the Borno State Police Commissioner, Mr Simeon Midenda, to speak on the issue did not yield result as his phone kept ringing without response.

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34. [Attack: Yemen] **Yemeni Colonel Killed In Bomb Blast** (International Online)
Tuesday, 11 October 2011
<http://www.iol.co.za/news/world/yemeni-colonel-killed-in-bomb-blast-1.1154971>

A colonel in the Yemeni air force died on Tuesday when a bomb hidden in his car exploded in the southern Yemeni province of Lahij, a military official told AFP.

The bomb exploded as Colonel Amin al-Shami, a pilot instructor, was leaving a military base.

Two others, both technicians in the air force, were wounded in the explosion.

A witness who spoke to AFP on condition of anonymity said “the bomb immediately killed the colonel and the two others travelling with him were taken to the hospital.”

Attacks on Yemeni military officers have increased in recent months as embattled President Ali Abdullah Saleh loses his grip on power amid widespread protests demanding he step down.

In the southern provinces, government troops have lost control over several towns to Al-Qaeda-linked militants and remains embroiled in near-daily battles to take them back.

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35. [Trend] **Bomb Blast Rocks Glyfada** (ANA)
Thursday, 13 October 2011
<http://www.emg.rs/en/news/region/166189.html>

A powerful bomb explosion rocked the Athens southern suburb of Glyfada before dawn on Wednesday, in the heart of the area's commercial centre, causing extensive damage to shops but no injuries.

The explosion, which occurred at 4.08am according to reports, destroyed dozens of shops along Glyfada's main commercial street and blew out windows of apartments within a 100m radius.

The Celestino boutique, outside which the explosion occurred, was completely demolished, while more than 20 other shops suffered extensive damage.

The bomb left a crater about 30 centimeters deep on the pavement, and police said there were no victims because of the very late hour.

The explosive device contained up to 10kg of explosives, according to initial estimates by police.

The motives for the attack are as yet unknown, and police are examining all possibilities, but believe it was most likely carried out by an extortionist ring.

The area has been cordoned off until completion of the crime scene investigation.

Unconfirmed reports said security camera footage from shops and banks showed a man on a motorcycle stopping and putting down a paper bag on the street outside the boutique.

All possibilities were being examined by police.

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36. [Attack: Northern Ireland] **Bomb Blast Hits Londonderry** (The Telegraph)

Thursday, 13 October 2011

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/northernireland/8823601/Northern-Ireland-bomb-blast-hits-Derry.html>

There were no reports of injuries and police have yet to reveal details on the extent of the damage caused.

It is the second time that the office has been targeted after a pipe bomb planted by dissident republicans in January caused minor damage to the building.

Derry's winning of the UK City of Culture title has secured cross-community support in Northern Ireland. The city's Shipquay Street was closed off tonight by officers investigating the blast which they reported at around 11pm.

SDLP Foyle MP Mark Durkan condemned those responsible for the explosion.

Mr Durkan said: "Those responsible for this bomb have shown complete and utter contempt for the people of Derry.

"Derry is a city with many challenges and with many difficulties. But the City of Culture is one of the opportunities we have.

"It has been strongly supported across our city, not just for the positive ongoing work to make it a memorable and successful year for Derry, but for the legacy that it will create long after 2013 as a springboard for future investment here."

He added: "This callous and dangerous act flies in the face of the efforts made by so many people to improve life here. Thankfully no-one has been injured but those graces are no thanks to those who are behind this attack.

"They are out to destroy and they don't care if they injure or kill when they are at it."

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