



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.



Royal Naval Divers Chief Petty Officer(diver) Kevin Amaira (right) and CPO(diver) Simon Crew at Horsea Island training to tackle IED's in Afganistan.

[See [Royal Navy's mission against Afghan roadside bomb](#)]

Afghanistan/Pakistan

1. [Trend] IED numbers on the rise in Afghanistan (AFP)
2. [Trend] Afghanistan: Taliban Should Stop Using Children as Suicide Bombers (HRW)
3. [Security] Royal Navy's mission against Afghan roadside bomb (TN)
4. [Security: Khost] Discovery of IEDs by Afghan National Police (AFG MOI)
5. [Security: Paktika] Three mine planters killed and one wounded in Paktika province (AFG MOI)
6. [Attack: Wardak] Polk SPC killed in Wardak province IED blast (AT)
7. [Attack: Herat] Two Civilians Wounded In Herat Suicide Attack (BIA)
8. [Attack: Herat] Two Kill, Eight Wound In Herat Blast (BIA)
9. [Attack: Faryab] Roadside mine blast leaves five killed in Faryab province (AFG MOI)
10. [Attack: Nangahar] Roadside bomb kills Afghan governor, 3 guards (DT)
11. [Attack: Kandahar] Suicide attack in Kandahar province leaves three killed and 20 wounded (AFG MOI)
12. [Attack: Khyber] 12 killed in NW Pakistan suicide bombing, ambush (AFP)

Iraq

13. [Trend] Suicide Bombs in Iraq Have Killed 12,000 Civilians, Study Says (NYT)
14. [Attack: Kirkuk] Civilian wounded in bomb dismantling (AAI)
15. [Attack: Baghdad] Bomb dismantled in north Baghdad (AAI)
16. [Attack: Baghdad] 2 civilians hit in a sticky bomb explosion west Baghdad (AAI)
17. [Attack: Fallujah] Policeman's father, brother, injured in Falluja blast (AAI)
18. [Attack: Wassit] 4 bombs dismantled in Wassit (AAI)
19. [Attack: Diyala] Suicide bomber killed while preparing explosive belt (AAI)
20. [Attack: Baghdad] Iraqi officer killed, 2 soldiers injured in IED dismantling (AAI)

World

21. [Attack: Philippines] Cops foil bomb attempt in South Kudarat (MN)
22. [Security: US] Explosive device found in basement of courthouse (CP)

1. [Trend] **IED numbers on the rise in Afghanistan** (AFP)

Tuesday, 6 September 2011

<http://www.usatoday.com/news/military/story/2011-09-05/Coalition-doubles-IED-seizures-in-Afghanistan/50268054/1>

Insurgents in Afghanistan planted more bombs during the spring and summer than at any time during the war, as direct attacks on coalition troops have ebbed. At the same time the military coalition in Afghanistan has more than doubled its seizures of enemy weapons and is finding a higher number of improvised explosive devices, or IEDs, before they explode.

The latest Pentagon figures on IEDs show that insurgents planted 4,472 of the bombs from May through July, a 17% increase compared with the same three months in 2010. IEDs are the single largest cause of casualties among U.S. troops. IEDs were not as effective a weapon due to measures taken by the military to locate them before they blow up, says the Pentagon. One military analyst says the large numbers of the bombs indicates the insurgency is well-supplied and not giving up. "The IED numbers remain higher than predicted," says Michael O'Hanlon, a military analyst at the Brookings Institution. "That doesn't mean the strategy is a failure, but it does mean we face a very resilient, well-supplied insurgency." The coalition strategy is to force out insurgents and prevent their return so the elected Afghan government can provide services and win the allegiance of locals. The Taliban ruled the country until forced out by a U.S.-led invasion in 2001.

Foot patrols at risk

That strategy has led to the killing and captures of hundreds of Taliban leaders in recent months and the leveling off of insurgent-initiated attacks. NATO says assaults on coalition forces dropped 20% in the first half of 2011 over 2010. But the strategy requires daily foot patrols into villages and mountains where troops are vulnerable to hidden mines. Of the IEDs planted in May-July, troops found 2,049 of them before they exploded, a 40% increase, according to the Joint IED Defeat Organization. And troops also found 1,548 weapons stashes during that time, a 145% increase. The bombs wounded or killed 1,312 coalition troops, up from 1,294 in 2010.

"On one level it is shocking," Sen. Robert Casey, D-Pa., a member of the Foreign Relations Committee who recently visited the area. "On another level, there is a sense of encouragement." Casey led a delegation to press Pakistan to do more to cut shipments to Afghanistan of fertilizer, which insurgents combine with fuel to make cheap bombs in Afghanistan. "They don't seem to share the same sense of urgency that we do," Casey said. Preliminary data for August shows a decline of at least 100 in IEDs planted, said Navy Lt. Cmdr. Kaye Sweetser, a military spokeswoman. "This is an indication that the Afghan locals are starting to be fed up with the insurgents and decreasing any kind of support to them," she said.

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

2. [Trend] **Afghanistan: Taliban Should Stop Using Children as Suicide Bombers** (Human Rights Watch)

Wednesday, 31 August 2011

<http://www.hrw.org/news/2011/08/31/afghanistan-taliban-should-stop-using-children-suicide-bombers>

The Taliban's use of children as suicide bombers in Afghanistan is an egregious affront to humanity that should cease immediately, Human Rights Watch said today. In the latest incident, on August, 27, 2011, residents of Baharak district in northeastern Badakhshan province captured a 16-year-old wearing a suicide vest as he was on his way to blow up a local mosque.

There has been an alarming increase in recent months of suicide bombings, and attempted suicide bombings, by children, Human Rights Watch said. Younger and younger children have been involved. Children as young as 7 have reported that they were deployed as suicide bombers. Surviving children who trained as suicide bombers describe having been given amulets containing verses from the Quran that they were told would protect them from the explosion. They said they were told that when the bomb they carried detonated, everyone around them would die but they would survive.

"The Taliban's use of children as suicide bombers is not only sickening, but it makes a mockery of Mullah Omar's claim to protect children and civilians," said Brad Adams, Asia director at Human Rights Watch. "Any political movement or army that manipulates or coerces children into becoming human bombs has lost touch with basic humanity."

The Taliban has pledged to respect the laws of war, published a code of conduct, and recently released a statement by its leader, Mullah Omar, renewing a commitment to protect civilians. The Taliban has denied using children as suicide bombers or for other military purposes.

The United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan has collected evidence that the Taliban has been recruiting children ages 11 through 17 to carry out activities including armed combat, planting improvised explosive devices, and smuggling weapons across the Pakistan-Afghan border. The Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission confirms increasing use by the Taliban of child suicide bombers. The Afghan government has reported that as many as 100 children who were recruited as suicide bombers by the Taliban are in the custody of the National Directorate of Security.

Recent incidents of suicide bombing involving children include:

- On June 26, an 8-year-old girl was killed in central Uruzgan province when a bag of explosives that the Taliban had instructed her to carry to a police checkpoint detonated.
- On May 20, in Nuristan province, a suicide vest strapped to a 12-year-old boy exploded prematurely, killing several suspected insurgents, including the boy.
- In early May, five children, all under age 13, from Logar and Ghazni provinces who had allegedly been trained as suicide bombers were arrested by the National Directorate of Security.
- Around May 3, a 14-year-old boy who said he had been coerced by the Taliban into carrying a bomb under threat that he would otherwise have his hand cut off surrendered to international troops in Ghazni province.
- On May 1, a 12-year-old boy blew himself up in a bazaar in the Barmal district of eastern Paktika province, killing four civilians and wounding 12 others.
- On April 13, in Kunar province, an explosive vest detonated by a 13-year-old boy killed 10 people, including 5 schoolboys.

"Growing up in the midst of war, struggling with poverty, illiteracy, and instability, Afghan children are already facing untold challenges," Adams said. "Mullah Omar and the Taliban fighters he commands should

respect their own code of conduct and stop strapping bombs to children and sending them out to commit suicide in a war they are too young to understand.”

In February 2010, the UN special representative for children and armed conflict documented cases of Taliban child suicide bombers. Journalists have documented reports of children being trained by the Taliban in Pakistan to act as suicide bombers against NATO targets in Afghanistan. Children as young as nine have been apprehended crossing the border into Afghanistan allegedly for this purpose. Children as young as five are reported to have been used to plant bombs in southern Afghanistan.

Afghanistan is a party to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict, which prohibits non-state armed groups under any circumstances from recruiting or using in hostilities anyone under the age of 18. The use of children as fighters is a war crime.

In addition, suicide attacks that target civilians, do not discriminate between civilians and combatants, cause disproportionate civilian loss, or are carried out with perfidy – that is, when the attacker feigns being a civilian – are serious violations of the laws of war. Those who carry out, order, or are involved in such attacks as a matter of command responsibility are likewise liable for war crimes.

The Taliban’s use of children as suicide bombers also directly contravenes its code of conduct, the Layha, which was created in 2006 and has since been revised twice. On May 11, the Taliban issued a statement saying that it had “strictly banned participation of adolescents in Jihadic operations as per its policy [and that] the mujahideen [Islamist fighters] [are] not allowing youngsters to join their ranks.”

The use of children also contradicts the message released by the Taliban leader, Mullah Omar, on August 28 to commemorate the Muslim holiday of Eid-al-Fitr in which he instructed Taliban fighters to respect civilians, including children, and to strictly obey the Taliban code of conduct. He urged Taliban fighters to:

Observe obedience to your amir [leader] and see to implement the codes of conduct of mujahideen which have been delivered to you... You should strictly observe the precautionary measures which are told to you by your leaders... You should be very careful about conduct with the common people. Gain the heart of people through good conduct and behavior.

On May 11, the Taliban denied using child suicide bombers, saying:

As in the past, the propaganda outfits of the enemy claim now time and again that the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan uses children and adolescents in its Jihadic operations. They also claim that there are a great number of children in the ranks of the Mujahideen. We would like to make it clear for all that the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan has strictly banned participation of adolescents in Jihadic operations as per its policy.

“The Taliban’s code of conduct was seen as a positive step, but five years on it seems to be little more than a public relations tool,” Adams said. “Every time a suicide vest is strapped to a child, the code and Mullah Omar’s pronouncements will be seen as meaningless.”

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

3. [Tech] **Royal Navy's mission against Afghan roadside bomb** (The News)

Monday, 5 September 2011

http://www.portsmouth.co.uk/news/local/east-hampshire/navy_s_mission_against_afghan_roadside_bomb_1_3028174

Three Royal Navy explosives experts are the latest weapon against the fight against deadly roadside bombs in Afghanistan.

Chief Petty Officer diver Kevin Amaira, Petty Officer Simon Crew and a Leading Seaman diver - who cannot be named for security reasons - will spend six months in the war-torn country supporting the British Army in training Afghan forces in bomb disposal.

Chief Petty Officer Amaira, 44, will mentor the Afghan National Security Force Explosive Ordnance Disposal teams and deploy with them on patrol.

Petty Officer Crew, 36, will work with the Coalition Force Training Team in Camp Bastion.

The leading seaman diver will work on the front-line with the army's Royal Logistics Corps.

Chief Petty Officer Amaira said: 'The most challenging aspect will be the language barrier and the cultural differences - it will be a real eye opener for us.

'But the emphasis is very much on training the Afghan forces and we are looking forward to passing on our expertise and helping them in this important task.

'The aim is to hand over the Explosive ordnance Disposal role entirely to Afghan forces within three to four years.'

The trio are set to leave the UK later this month.

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

4. [Security: Khost] **Discovery of IEDs by Afghan National Police (AFG MOI)**

Monday, 5 September 2011

<http://moi.gov.af/en/news/3213>

Today at 06:30am, Afghan National Police discovered and defused 7 rounds of pressure mines which were placed in a bag by enemies of peace and stability in surrounding areas of the Mandozai district of Khost province.

IEDs inflict the heaviest casualties to the innocent civilian everyday which is always planted by enemies of peace and stability.

The discovery and defusing of IEDs show that the ANP now are more professional and experienced, and are able to protect civilian and this is a good step forward in improving the security and stability in the country.

Afghan Ministry of Interior Affairs appreciates the efforts and services of the ANP members.

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

5. [Security: Paktika] **Three mine planters killed and one wounded in Paktika province** (AFG MOI)

Monday, 29 August 2011

http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/localnews/2016044285_apwaimprovedstrykers1stldwritethru.html

Yesterday at 18:30, three mine planters were killed and one wounded by their own explosive while planting an anti-vehicle mine in Ghibi Khil village, Yahya Khil district of Paktika province.

Kunduz:

Afghan National Police and Coalition Forces launched joint operation in Khwaja Pasta region, Khan Abad district of Kunduz province. During this operation combined forces discovered and confiscated one rocket launcher, one PKM machine gun and two AK-47 rifles.

In the meantime, Afghan National Police discovered two rounds of anti-vehicle mines, 28 Ak-47 rifles with 1000 AK-47 bullets, 22 pistols with 400 bullets and one vehicle over the past 24 hours in surrounding areas of the Ghazni and Paktika provinces.

Crimes:

Afghan National Kabul Police arrested five men who were involved in fake passport and robbery over the past 24 hours as a result of Afghan National Police operations in surrounding areas of the Police District 7th, Police District 8th, Kabul International Airport of Kabul province and Zaranj City of Nimroz province.

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

6. [Attack: Wardak] **Polk SPC killed in Wardak province IED blast** (Army Times)

Friday, 2 September 2011

<http://www.armytimes.com/news/2011/09/army-polk-casualty-afghanistan-dennis-james-090211w/>

A Louisiana-based soldier was killed earlier this week in Afghanistan, according to the Defense Department.

Spc. Dennis James Jr., 21 of Deltona, Fla., died Wednesday from wounds suffered when insurgents attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device in Wardak province, Afghanistan. He was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 4th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, out of Fort Polk.

No further information was immediately available.

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

7. [Attack: Herat] **Two Civilians Wounded In Herat Suicide Attack** (Bakhtar News Agency)

Tuesday, 6 September 2011

<http://bakhtarnews.com.af/en/index.php?news=6438>

Two civilians were wounded in a suicide attack in the Ghoryan district of Herat province today. Spokesperson of west zone police of Herat Abdul Raof Ahmadi said to this news agency, a car full of explosive device exploded on Heart-Islamqala highway in Shabbush village, Ghoryan district while a caravan of coalition forces was passing away. In this incident a woman and her husband were wounded and Coalition forces had no casualties. The health condition of the injured persons have been reported satisfactory, said the source. According to the source, vehicle of the attacker destroyed completely and the attacker was not identified. Translated By Suraya-Yarzada.

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

8. [Attack: Herat] **Two Kill, Eight Wound In Herat Blast** (Bakhtar News Agency)

Saturday, 20 August 2011

<http://bakhtarnews.com.af/en/index.php?news=6292>

Two national army soldiers killed and eight others wounded in a blast this morning in Herat province. Lt. General Najibullah Najib press responsible of Zafar army crops said to this news agency, this blast occurred from a planted explosive device in a Rickshaw contemporary with passing a vehicle of the army crops from the 5th precinct of Heart In this blast two soldiers were killed and eight others were wounded. The injured were shifted to regional hospital of Herat and after treatment, five of them were released and three others are under treat said the source. The source added that no civilians were killed and injured in this event.

Translated by Suraya-Yarzada.

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

9. [Attack: Faryab] **Roadside mine blast leaves five killed in Faryab province** (AFG MOI)

Monday, 5 September 2011

<http://moi.gov.af/en/news/3228>

Today at 12:45pm, an anti-vehicle mine which was placed by enemies of peace and stability hit a civilian vehicle in Ghora region, Shakh village, Qaisar district of Faryab province.

As a result, five civilians were martyred.

Ministry of Interior of Afghanistan condemns this un-Islamic and inhumane act of the enemies of peace and stability and expresses its sincere condolences to the families of the victims.

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

10. [Attack: Kabul] **Roadside bomb kills Afghan governor, 3 guards** (Daily Times)

Wednesday, 7 September 2011

http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2011%5C09%5C07%5Cstory_7-9-2011_pg7_27

An Afghan district governor and three of his guards were killed on Tuesday when their vehicle was blown up in a Taliban roadside bomb in the east of the country, an official said.

Asil Khan Khogyani, the governor of Sherzad district in Nangarhar province, was killed along with his guards while driving to work in the troubled region, said Ahmad Zia Abdulzai, the provincial administration spokesman.

“Asil Khan was killed in a roadside bomb attack. Three of his guards, one of them also driving the car, were also killed,” he added. Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahed, contacting AFP from an undisclosed location, said the insurgent group was responsible. “In a bomb attack, the Sherzad district governor was murdered today,” he said. Roadside bombs are the most commonly used weapon of the Taliban and are responsible for the bulk of military deaths in the US-led coalition force and Afghan security forces.

The home-made devices are placed on dirt roads used by Afghan and foreign military forces and are often detonated remotely. US civilian found killed in Kabul An American civilian engineer has been found murdered in mysterious circumstances in Kabul a few days before the 10-year anniversary of the 9/11 attacks that triggered the long war in Afghanistan.

Afghan and Western security sources told AFP Tuesday that the man’s body was found on Monday and an investigation was under way. “An American national has been found dead in Kabul’s district 12,” an Afghan intelligence official told AFP, adding that the body was found on Monday. Asked if he was murdered, the official said, “Yes.” Speaking on condition of anonymity as he was not authorised to speak to the media, he gave no further details. A Western security official confirmed the incident and said the man had been murdered.

NATO’s coalition force in the country said late on Monday that “a US Department of Defence civilian employee had died in eastern Afghanistan” but gave no further details. A spokesman for the interior ministry said it was not aware of the incident. Kabul police chief Mohammad Ayoub Salangi said he had no information and that the NDS, Afghanistan’s spy agency, would have been “handling it”.

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

11. [Attack: Kandahar] **Suicide attack in Kandahar province leaves three killed and 20 wounded** (AFG MOI)

Monday, 5 September 2011

<http://moi.gov.af/en/news/3208>

Yesterday at 06:00pm, A suicide bomber targeted a security company convoy (Afghan Nawin) while the security guards were praying in Pul-E-Bagh region, Police District 7th area, Kandahar City capital of southern Kandahar province.

As a result, two security guards of the security company were killed among a civilian and 20 other security guards were wounded.

The leadership of Ministry of Interior of Afghanistan condemns in the strongest terms this un-Islamic and inhumane act of the enemies of peace and stability while praying the prayers and prays for a quick recovery of those injured and expresses its sincere condolences to the families of the victims.

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

12. [Attack: Khyber] **12 killed in NW Pakistan suicide bombing, ambush** (AFP)

Friday, 2 September 2011

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5hkTi5UNcJtZelmCapbclEu0eLfbg?docId=CNG.9be46ec46e62a24e21e690552ee3d2a8.1a1>

A total of 12 people were killed in a suicide car bombing and a separate ambush on a vehicle in troubled northwestern Pakistan on Thursday, police and officials said. The two attacks took place as Pakistan celebrated the Muslim festival of Eid al-Fitr, which marks the end of the fasting month of Ramadan and is one of the most important occasions in the Islamic calendar.

The explosion happened after officers signalled a suspect vehicle to stop at a checkpoint in the Lakki Marwat district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, local police chief Gul Wali Khan told AFP. The driver ignored the instruction so police opened fire and the bomber detonated his device, he said.

About 40 shops and 10 houses were damaged in the blast. "We have recovered five bodies so far from the debris," he said. "The bomber detonated his car. It was a suicide car bomb attack. The fatalities were all civilians killed when the buildings collapsed, the police chief said, adding that another 35 people were wounded, 10 of them police officials.

Lakki Marwat district borders South Waziristan, part of Pakistan's militant-infested semi-autonomous tribal belt near Afghanistan, which Washington calls the most dangerous place on Earth and a global headquarters of Al-Qaeda. US special forces killed Al-Qaeda chief Osama bin Laden on May 2 in the Pakistani garrison town of Abbottabad.

Earlier Thursday gunmen killed seven people, four from the same family, in an ambush on a vehicle in Kurram tribal district in a possible sectarian attack, officials said. The vehicle, with eight people on board, all from the minority Shi'ite community, was attacked in the Makhizai area of lower Kurram, local administration chief Javedullah Khan told AFP.

"Gunmen hiding behind the bushes along the road opened fire," killing seven of those on board, he said, adding that the eighth person was injured. A local security official confirmed the attack, in a lawless region which is often troubled by sectarian violence. But no-one immediately claimed responsibility and Khan said authorities had not ruled out the motive being a family vendetta. Kurram has a history of clashes between majority Sunni Muslims and minority Shi'ites and a similar incident there in July left seven Shi'ites dead.

The northwest suffers from chronic insecurity largely connected to the tribal belt and two weeks ago, 51 people were killed by a suicide bomber in a crowded mosque in Khyber tribal district, Pakistan's deadliest attack for three months.

Last week 11 people were killed when a remote-controlled bicycle bomb exploded at a busy hotel in Nowshera, northeast of Peshawar, the capital of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. Nuclear-armed Pakistan has suffered years of deadly violence blamed on Taliban and Al-Qaeda-linked networks.

More than 4,550 people have been killed in suicide attacks and bomb explosions in the Muslim country during the last four years, many of them carried out by the Taliban and other Al-Qaeda-linked Islamist extremists.

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

13. [Trend] **Suicide Bombs in Iraq Have Killed 12,000 Civilians, Study Says** (New York Times)
Friday, 2 September 2011
http://www.nytimes.com/2011/09/03/world/middleeast/03iraq.html?_r=2

While sophisticated roadside bombs have taken a heavy toll on American troops over the course of the war here, suicide bombings have largely been a hallmark of sectarian warfare. Independent researchers have now tried to quantify their damage, poring through data compiled from death reports to conclude that more than 12,000 Iraqis have been killed in at least 1,000 suicide attacks since the American-led invasion.

Enlarge This Image

Mohammed Jalil/European Pressphoto Agency

Iraqis on Monday inspected the site of a suicide bomb attack in the Umm al-Qura Mosque that killed more than 30 people.

Related

Times Topic: Iraq

The paper is part of a series by the London-based medical journal *The Lancet* on the health consequences of the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, which set off wars in Iraq and Afghanistan in which suicide bombings have become common, as they have in Pakistan.

The *Lancet* published studies in 2004 and 2006 that used samplings of casualties and statistical modeling to arrive at tolls of “excess” deaths (those that would not have happened without the war), which critics said were far too high. The paper released on Friday, however, relied on direct counts of deaths using information compiled by Iraq Body Count, an independent group that culls news reports and hospital and morgue records to try to keep track of civilian deaths.

Iraq’s ability to track the deaths is limited, and its record-keeping remains poor. The medical establishment is so diminished — many educated Iraqis have fled over the years — that the wounded are not always treated at a hospital, and the dead are quickly buried.

According to the paper, from March 20, 2003, to the end of 2010, suicide bombers killed 12,284 Iraqi civilians and wounded 30,644 others. The attacks killed 200 coalition troops, including 175 from the United States.

The report said suicide attacks accounted for about 10 percent of all armed conflict deaths among civilians and a quarter of all such injuries. Those percentages were based on an overall armed conflict death toll of 108,624, according to the Iraq Body Count data. Suicide attackers were not counted among the dead unless the attacker was a child.

The researchers could obtain demographic information on only about a fourth of the suicide attacks. That data showed that men accounted for three-fourths of the dead and children were killed in about 16 percent of the attacks. Child victims were much more likely to die than adult victims.

The paper’s primary author, Dr. Madelyn Hsiao-Rei Hicks of King’s College London, said the numbers of dead and wounded were probably higher than the published reports and records reflected.

“Suicide bomb injuries are horrific injuries; they are not like gunshot wounds, which are usually clean depending on where you are hit,” Dr. Hicks said.

“The injuries from suicide bombers are really severe,” she said. “You have multiple fragments from the explosion, and people tend to have small pieces of metal and wood inside of them, and all of them have to be removed.”

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Lack of proper treatment results in limb loss or other disabilities for many civilians wounded in suicide attacks, she said.

“The medical treatments Iraqis have available to them are so limited that if they are injured it increases their chances of dying,” Dr. Hicks said. “Let’s say you had a child injured in a suicide attack and perhaps their leg was blown off and prosthesis is needed. The child will need a new one every six months or so because they are growing.”

Violence, particularly suicide attacks, is on the rise across Iraq. According to numbers released by the Ministry of Interior, 278 people died across Iraq in August compared with 178 in July.

More than 90 Iraqis were killed and more than 300 wounded on Aug. 15 in apparently coordinated attacks that included suicide bombings. On Sunday, more than 30 were killed in a suicide attack at a mosque in Baghdad.

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

14. [Attack: Kirkuk] **Civilian wounded in bomb dismantling** (Aswat al-Iraq)

Tuesday, 6 September 2011

http://en.aswataliraq.info/Default1.aspx?page=article_page&id=144686&l=1

Kurdish security official (Asayish) declared today that a civilian was wounded when the police tried to dismantle a bomb south of the town, while a weapons dump was found.

Firhad Hama Ali told Aswat al-Iraq that the bomb exploded by a remote device, which led to wounding a passing by young man.

The source added that the police forces found a weapons dump containing artillery and mortar shells, 20 km south Kirkuk.

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

15. [Attack: Baghdad] **Bomb dismantled in north Baghdad** (Aswat al-Iraq)
Tuesday, 6 September 2011
http://en.aswataliraq.info/Default1.aspx?page=article_page&id=144689&l=1

The Saqr Baghdad (Hawk of Baghdad) Division dismantled a bomb today in the Adhamiyah area, in the north of Baghdad, security sources said.

The source told Aswat al-Iraq that bomb experts were able to dismantle a bomb planted on the side of the road in the aforementioned area.

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

16. [Attack: Baghdad] **2 civilians hit in a sticky bomb explosion west Baghdad** (Aswat al-Iraq)

Sunday, 28 August 2011

http://en.aswataliraq.info/Default1.aspx?page=article_page&id=144690&l=1

Iraqi police said today that two civilians were hit by a sticky bomb explosion in a civilian car west of the capital, Baghdad.

The security source told Aswat al-Iraq that the bomb exploded in Manour area, near a restaurant, west of Baghdad, which resulted in the two casualties.

The car was severely damaged, as the source added.

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

17. [Attack: Fallujah] **Policeman's father, brother, injured in Falluja blast** (Aswat al-Iraq)
Tuesday, 6 September 2011
http://en.aswataliraq.info/Default1.aspx?page=article_page&id=144682&l=1

The father of an Iraqi policeman and his brother have been injured in a sticking bomb blast against their car in Falluja city of western Iraq's Anbar Province on Tuesday, a security source reported.

"A sticking bomb blew up on Tuesday inside a civilian car in east Falluja's Garma village, wounding 2 civilians and causing damage to their car," the security source said.

He said that the preliminary investigations have pointed out that the attacked car belongs to a policeman, whose father and brother were injured in the attack.

Falluja, the largest city of Anbar Province, is 45 km to the west of Baghdad.

A group of armed men had killed 8 soldiers, including an officer and injured another soldier, in an ambush against an Iraqi Army patrol, west of Anbar early in the day, according to a security source in the Province.

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

18. [Attack: Wassit] **4 bombs dismantled in Wassit** (Aswat al-Iraq)

Monday, 5 September 2011

http://en.aswataliraq.info/Default1.aspx?page=article_page&id=144667&l=1

During a security raid police forces found four bombs ready to be detonated, and successfully dismantled them, a police commander said today.

General Hussein Abdul Hadi told Aswat al-Iraq that the bombs were found in Numaniya area, 40 km north of Kut, during a search for wanted individuals based on intelligence information.

No suspects were found in the area during the raid.

The bombs were dismantled by explosion experts.

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

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

19. [Attack: Ba] **Suicide bomber killed while preparing explosive belt** (Aswat al-Iraq)

Saturday, 3 September 2011

http://en.aswataliraq.info/Default1.aspx?page=article_page&id=144609&l=1

A suicide bomber has been killed while trying to fasten his explosive belt at the city of Baaquba, the center of northeast Iraq's Diala Province on Saturday, a Diala security source reported.

"A suicide bomber was killed in Gatoun district of Baaquba city, while preparing his explosive belt, causing severe damage to the house he was hiding in," the security source told Aswat al-Iraq news agency.

He added that the security forces had stepped up their activity in the said district, known to be one of al-Qaeda's activity areas, where they found large quantities of explosive and sticking charges and material used in explosions.

Baaquba, the center of Diala Province, is 57 km to the northeast of Baghdad.

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

20. [Attack: Baghdad] **Iraqi officer killed, 2 soldiers injured in IED dismantling** (Aswat Al Iraq)
Thursday, 1 September 2011
http://en.aswataliraq.info/Default1.aspx?page=article_page&id=144594&l=1

An Iraqi Army officer has been killed and two soldiers were injured while dismantling an improvised explosive device (IED) in southern Baghdad on Thursday, a police source reported.

“The incident took place in southern Baghdad’s Hor-Rajab district, when an officer, with a lieutenant rank was killed and two soldiers were injured while trying to dismantle an IED that blew off on Thursday,” the police source told Aswat al-Iraq news agency.

He said that the security forces have closed the whole area of the explosion, driving the two injured soldiers to a nearby hospital for treatment.

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

21. [Attack: Philippines] **Cops foil bomb attempt in S. Kudarat** (Minda News)

Friday, 2 September 2011

<http://www.mindanews.com/top-stories/2011/09/02/cops-foil-bomb-attempt-in-s-kudarat/>

GENERAL SANTOS CITY – Police have foiled another potential bomb attack in Region 12 or Southwestern Mindanao with the recovery Wednesday night of an improvised bomb near a police detachment in Tacurong City in Sultan Kudarat province.

Police Director Felicisimo Khu, chief of the Directorate for Integrated Police Operations-Western Mindanao, said Thursday the improvised explosive device (IED) was found early Wednesday evening about 500 meters away from a police security checkpoint in Purok Sampaguita, Barangay Griño in Tacurong City.

He said the bomb was left unattended near a rice field located beside the highway that connects Tacurong City and Lambayong town in Sultan Kudarat. “The couriers may have been trying to move the IED to their target area but could not get past the checkpoint because of the tight security,” Khu said in a radio interview.

The police official said the explosive, which was immediately disarmed through “water disruption” by the Sultan Kudarat police’s explosives ordnance disposal or EOD unit, was fashioned from an 81mm mortar shell and attached to an alarm clock that serves as triggering mechanism. He said it was similar to the bomb that was recovered last June in front of the Fit Mart department store in Tacurong City.

Khu noted that the bomb could have been intended for another planned attack, possibly in Tacurong City or other key cities of Region 12, by an alleged terrorist cell led by fugitive bomber Abdul Basit Usman. Usman, who is reportedly backed by Southeast Asian terror group Jemaah Islamiyah, had been tagged as behind the string of bomb attacks in Region 12 in the past several years.

Region 12 covers the provinces of South Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat, Sarangani, North Cotabato and the cities of General Santos, Koronadal, Tacurong, Kidapawan and Cotabato. Since June, Khu said they have so far recovered 11 improvised explosives in several parts of the region and nearby Maguindanao province. He said five bomb attacks have ensued in the region during the last two months that already left five people dead and injured 11 others.

Two weeks ago, a car bomb exploded near the national highway in Tacurong City, killing a civilian and an official of Maguindanao province. The powerful explosion happened as the convoy of Maguindanao Governor Esmel Mangudadatu was passing by a portion of the Alunan Highway in Tacurong City.

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

22. [Security: US] **Explosive device found in basement of courthouse** (Claiborne Progress)

Friday, 2 September 2011

http://www.claiborneprogress.net/view/full_story/15295891/article-Explosive-device-found-in-basement-of-courthouse?instance=home_news_lead

Crowds stood in the streets near the Claiborne County Courthouse Wednesday afternoon trying to catch a peek of what officers were doing as patrol vehicles and trucks blocked off part of the roadway.

A suspicious item was discovered by an inmate trustee who was doing cleanup detail in the courthouse basement. According to EMA Director David Breeding, the suspicious item was an IED, or Improvised Explosive Device, that appeared to be several years old.

The Claiborne County Sheriff's Office and Claiborne County Office of Emergency Management Homeland Security were dispatched to the scene to keep those curious crowds from getting near the area. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives along with the Knox County Bomb Squad were dispatched to assist in the investigation. The IED was taken to a remote location where it was detonated safely.

The ATF took over the investigation and found that the IED was part of an investigation that was conducted in the early 1990's. The device was kept in an evidence locker inside the basement of the courthouse and was discovered when the trustee found it.

The Bureau then determined that there was nothing further to investigate once the explosive had been detonated. "There was never any danger to citizens or employees," Director Breeding said, "And there was no need of an evacuation in the area."

Along with the ATF and Knox County Bomb Squad, the Federal Bureau of Investigation was also called in to assist with the investigation.

[\[Back to Top\]](#)