



Weekly News Update

Volume 1, Issue 11

14 SEP 2011

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.



An Afghan police officer looks at the rubble near a military base rammed by an explosive-laden truck in Wardak province.

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1. [Trend] Launch of £1m Appeal for Bomb Disposal Heroes

Saturday, 10 September 2011

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newsttopics/onthefrontline/8753256/Launch-of-1m-appeal-for-our-bomb-disposal-heroes.html>

It was on a mild, spring day last year that I discovered that Britain's bomb disposal teams are a breed apart. I had been invited to spend a day at Merville Barracks in Essex, observing and participating in the training of servicemen from 621 EOD (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) Squadron, part of 11 EOD Regiment.

It was in the afternoon session that I received a rare insight into the disposal of high-risk IEDs (Improvised Explosive Devices), the Taliban's weapon of choice. After receiving my briefing on the "Afghanistan scenario", I lay flat on the ground with my arms extended and with a pair of wire cutters in my hand. There, in the incredibly realistic scenario, I had to make a "life-or-death" decision on how to "neutralise" the devious-looking "IED" with its protruding wires.

My day – part of the research for my latest book *George Cross Heroes* – had been exhilarating and terrifying in equal measures. And my experiences had left me with an overwhelming feeling of admiration for Britain's bomb disposal experts.

It is this on-going respect that will result in me this week hosting a reception at the House of Lords to launch a new charity, Felix Fund, with a £1 million appeal aimed at providing much-needed support for our bomb disposal experts.

Members of 11 EOD Regiment are permanently in war-torn Afghanistan, just as they were previously in Iraq. In recent years, six bomb disposal experts have lost their lives working in Afghanistan, where they face a constant threat from IEDs. In Afghanistan, EOD teams can be called upon to disarm as many as 40 lethal explosive devices a day.

However, members of 11 EOD Regiment are also on-duty 24 hours a day, protecting Britain and Northern Ireland from terrorist bombs, and again the statistics tell their own story. In 2010, they were called out to 3,000 tasks: some were hoaxes, some involved disposal of the Army's own conventional munitions, but 58 were real IEDs and 53 were explosions that needed investigating. In addition, the teams assisted in 75 finds of items likely to be of interest to the police with regard to bomb making, firearm or terrorist activity.

Bomb disposal experts are not only brave and hard-working, but they also have to witness some quite horrific scenes when men, women and children are killed or seriously injured by explosive devices. Furthermore, they must certify all the fallen and badly injured are free of explosives before repatriation or medical evacuation back to the UK. This may involve scrutinising the maimed bodies of close colleagues and life-long friends. It is no coincidence that 11 EOD Regiment is the Army's most decorated unit with 454 honours, medals and awards, and it serves wherever British troops or civilians are in danger.

I have had a life-long interest in bravery, which has seen me build up the world's largest collection of Victoria Crosses (VCs). I have concluded that bravery essentially falls into two categories: spur-of-the-moment courage and "cold courage". I have nothing but admiration for those in the former category, but I am even more in awe of those who routinely display pre-meditated courage, just as our bomb disposal experts do on a daily basis.

Today I urge everyone to give their backing to a group of men and women who have constantly risked their own lives for the sake of others. Felix Fund is not a regimental charity per se: it will help any British military personnel who share the danger and distress of undertaking, or assisting with, bomb disposal duties. These include ECM (Electronic Counter Measures) operators, dog handlers, weapons intelligence specialists, searchers, infantry escorts and drivers - irrespective of cap badge.

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The money raised will be spent on sending bomb disposal experts on therapeutic "normalisation" breaks on their return from Afghanistan; meeting individual needs through Felix Fund Hardship grants; and improving on-camp facilities for EOD units (for example, making wifi access available to 11 EOD soldiers and their families across all 16 of their locations).

11 EOD is a regiment in the Army's Royal Logistic Corps (RLC). Felix, the cat with nine lives, is the mascot of RLC Bomb Disposal. "Felix" started life as the radio call sign of an EOD team in Northern Ireland. On September 15, at the launch of the charity, we will detail our aim of trying to raise £1 million from individuals and companies. I ask everyone to dig deep for this worthy cause. All donors can rest assured that every penny given will benefit a group of men and women who are thoroughly deserving of their support.

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2. [Tech] **Harrier Mounted IED Jammer Ready for Afghanistan** (Marine Corps Times)
Monday, 12 September 2011
<http://www.marinecorpstimes.com/news/2011/09/marine-jammer-harrier-pod-091211/>

It doesn't take a multibillion-dollar defense contract to design and build a state-of-the-art airborne electronic attack pod. The Marine Corps has developed its own.

The new Intrepid Tiger II communications intelligence and jamming pod will undergo a "quick look" assessment in early October on an AV-8B Harrier. If all goes as planned, it will deploy to Afghanistan by Thanksgiving.

Conceived as an emergency measure to counter improvised explosive devices targeting Marines on the ground, the program allows tactical aircraft such as the Harrier and F/A-18 Hornet to fly electronic attack missions in addition to the Corps' principal electronic attack aircraft, the EA-6B Prowler.

These pods allow Marine assets to intercept and disrupt enemy radio communications, and jam IED detonators.

Intrepid Tiger II represents a key concept for the Corps' future electronic attack capability, said Lt. Col. Jason Schuette, an electronic warfare requirements officer.

Long-term, Marine officials said they expect to see this technology used on Huey and Cobra helicopters, unmanned systems, and other platforms. The guts of the system have already been repackaged and tested on RQ-7 Shadow unmanned aircraft, Schuette said.

The Corps wants a system in which several inexpensive network pods covering different frequencies assume the electronic attack role.

Intrepid Tiger II has a open architecture, is fully reprogrammable and can operate over a far greater frequency range, Schuette said.

The pod also can be networked to form a distributed electronic attack "systems of systems," meaning it can work in tandem with other pods to cover different frequencies and form a cohesive means to tackle multiple threats.

It can be controlled by a pilot or by Marine ground forces using laptop computers, said Lt. Col. Robert Kudelko, a Marine airborne EW requirements officer. Eventually, Marine officials said they hope to control the pod from a hand-held device.

In the future, upgrades and modifications should be possible without having to retest everything from scratch. If the Corps gets its way, the pod could be updated in less than two years. That's important because modern enemies adapt quickly, Schuette said.

An individual pod costs less than \$600,000, he said, and the total program cost is less than \$20 million.

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3. [Tech] **Thales Develops New Counter-IED ECM System** (Shepard)

Tuesday, 13 September 2011

<http://www.shephard.co.uk/news/digital-battlespace/dsei-2011-thales-develops-new-counter-ied-ecm-system/9923/>

Thales has developed a new ECM in an effort to counter radio-controlled IEDs (RCIEDs, which the company says are currently the enemy's 'weapon of choice'.

The Gecco ECM is undergoing tests by Thales, and is expected to be available to order by 2012, Martyn Pratt, ECM product line manager said at a pre-DSEi media briefing on 13 July.

'IEDs are currently the widest threat and killer in the military forces, and RCIED triggers are a weapon of choice,' Pratt explained. 'Give the insurgent a choice and he will use a radio-controlled link.

'This is for a number of reasons: it enables him to be away from the point of detonation, and more importantly enables him to hit the target he wants, so there is a better kill rate, but also a reduced level of casualties amongst the indigenous population that he has to live in.'

He explained that the key is to not only stop the attack, but to 'identify attacks and exploit them later on', maintaining sovereignty over your capability.

This system provides intelligent and agile protection, but also brings some EW capability to the front line, according to Pratt.

Current systems have problems with size, weight and power on both mounted and dismounted platforms. Pratt pointed out that a lot of equipment currently in service came about as a result of an urgent operational requirement and, therefore, today's equipment is only designed for today's conflicts; the 'new threat new box' concept needs to be deterred from.

The Gecco is a re-look at technology, and is 'spectrum-flexible', making it easy to support because it is modular and extendable.

'We have created a new base technology that has enabled us to deal with some of those issues that exist today. We have also looked at the architectures of vehicle systems that are coming into service, and we've designed them to interface into modern platforms,' Pratt said.

Following field tests that began last September, Thales has delivered 'a number of platforms' to customers.

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4. [Tech] **Ultra Lightweight Portable Mine Clearance System for Infantry** (Defence Professionals)

Monday, 12 September 2011

<http://www.defpro.com/news/details/27652/?SID=2cba7641e26d78f056fb067d9cb7ccaf>

Chemring Defence is unveiling SLICE (Scaleable Lightweight Infantry Clearance System), a new, ultra lightweight, portable mine clearance system, at DSEi, London. SLICE is a light-weight rocket launched explosive line charge system designed for rapid deployment to clear a path through a mine or IED threat environment. Its modular design provides flexibility for load sharing across a dismounted team providing an infantry section with a self-sufficient capability for assault or extraction in a high threat environment.

SLICE has undergone a rapid development programme by Chemring Defence to meet requirements based on direct feedback from theatre and is expected to enter service by the end of 2011. It is the latest Clearance Systems product from Chemring Defence and follows on from the success of its Light, Heavy and Training - Portable Explosive Minefield Breaching System (PEMBS).

The modular nature of SLICE allows the user to select 20m, 30m, 40m 50m, or 60m deployment lengths, thus increasing the options for use, particularly in confined urban environments. Cost of ownership is also minimised by the modular design, which means that users only need to replace consumed module such as the rocket delivery unit rather than the entire system.

“SLICE has achieved a major step change in portable mine clearance systems in terms of speed of deployment and its lightweight, modular design. It has received very positive initial feedback and Chemring Defence is committed to ensuring its successful service entry “, commented Steve Blades, Sales & Marketing Director, Chemring Defence.

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5. [Policy] **House Passes Hunter Amendment to Combat Roadside Bombs in Afghanistan** (East Coast Magazine)

Sunday, 11 September 2011

<http://eastcountymagazine.org/node/7206>

The House of Representatives has approved an amendment to the National Intelligence Authorization Acts to combat roadside bombs in Afghanistan.

The amendment, introduced by Congressman Duncan Hunter (R-El Cajon, a member of the House Armed Services Committee, instructs the Director of National Intelligence and the Secretary of Defense to establish a strategy to identify and counter network activity and operations in Pakistan and Afghanistan relating to development and use of improvised explosive devices (IEDs).

“IEDs remain the number one source of combat casualties in Afghanistan,” said Congressman Hunter.

“More than 80 percent of the IEDs used against U.S. troops in Afghanistan are derived from components and chemicals produced in Pakistan. Until the networks and precursors connected to Pakistan are addressed, the threat of IEDs in Afghanistan will not diminish.

“One of the major challenges up to this point involves the obvious lack of coordination between the intelligence and defense communities, and what appears to be resistance from the intelligence community itself from prioritizing the IED threat along with its work to track high-value targets. There is a severe gap between these entities when it comes to IEDs and both the Defense Department and the intelligence community need to start working together to counter roadside bombs in Afghanistan.

“Developing a coordinated strategy, which my amendment requires, will help save lives and provide a strategic advantage to our military.”

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6. [Security] **Air Force Team Trains Afghans on EOD Operations** (Defense Imagery and Video Distribution System)

Friday, 9 September 2011

<http://www.dvidshub.net/news/76748/air-force-team-trains-afghans-eod-ops#.TnDrPGjlZPy>

Over the past month, an Air Force Explosive Ordnance Disposal team has been training members of an Afghan National Army EOD team on the most current methods to defeat improvised explosive devices.

Members of the 466th Air Expeditionary Squadron EOD charlie flight will soon conclude a several-week-long training program that teaches the ANA team basic principles of countering IEDs in an ongoing effort to increase self-sufficiency for the Afghan National Army.

Early on in the training program, the Air Force EOD team provided several verbal scenarios and table-top exercises to evaluate what the ANA team already knew.

"We needed to test them to understand what their capabilities were, so we would know what to emphasize," said Staff Sgt. Michael Perkins, Air Force EOD team lead and lead trainer. Prior to the validation process, the ANA team leader attended a formal ANA EOD training for five and a half months, while the other two ANA members attended a similar, but shorter course.

Through this validation process, the ANA team will be certified to perform 14 training tasks to include using their remote-controlled vehicle, using a bomb suit, using hook and line, planning and conducting the initial part of IED operation, writing reports, planning and conducting a search and conducting a post-blast investigation.

"These are very similar tasks to the ones we train our new Airmen on," said Air Force Capt. Brennan Vincello, 466 AES EOD charlie flight commander.

Most of these tasks are performed on a controlled field course, where the three-man Air Force EOD team evaluates the ANA team's progress. Without live explosives on the field course, EOD has the freedom to assist the ANA in a scenario or just observe.

"There's value in letting someone do the wrong thing and experience the consequences of that," said Perkins, who is deployed from Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., and a Phoenix native. "Later, we'll use it as a teaching tool and provide them examples of how they can improve."

The Air Force team is also teaching principles that aren't found in a textbook.

"Unlike some career fields, there are no black and white answers here," he added. "So, EOD has two rules: what works and what doesn't.

"Sometimes, the right thing to do would be completely wrong in another situation," said Perkins.

This ANA EOD team will be assigned to an Afghan unit and tasked to perform route clearance and counter IED once the validation process is completed.

"The principles we're teaching are invaluable and will be very significant for them sometime in the near future," said Perkins.

"Today, IEDs are the front-line of kinetic activity on the battlefield," said Lt. Col. Keith Reeves, 466th Air Expeditionary Squadron commander. In 2010, more than 250 U.S. servicemembers were killed by improvised explosive devices while supporting Operation Enduring Freedom.

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"The overall goal for this particular ANA team is to be able to conduct RCPs and disable IEDs when they pose a threat to forces," said Vincello, who is deployed from Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho.

The ANA team is expected to be certified on these tasks by November.

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7. [Security] **ISAF Seizes HME Materials And Ordnance, Captures Taliban Leader** (ISAF)

Tuesday, 13 September 2011

<http://www.isaf.nato.int/article/isaf-releases/isaf-joint-command-moring-operations-update.html>

A combined Afghan and coalition security force captured a Taliban leader, along with several of his associates, during a security operation in the Nahr-e Saraj district, Helmand province. The leader provided targeting information on Afghan security forces, roadside bomb making materials and ammunition to Taliban members. In addition to the capture of the Taliban leader and detainment of several suspected insurgents, the security force confiscated weapons and 10 pounds (5 kilograms) of heroin during the operation.

In other International Security Assistance Force news throughout Afghanistan:

South

In Shorabak district, Kandahar province, yesterday, a coalition force patrol discovered two separate caches containing IED-making materials. The caches contained a total of 4,500 pounds (2,045 kgs) of ammonium nitrate. Coalition forces safely destroyed the materials on site. Also in Kandahar district, Kandahar province, a combined Afghan and coalition force captured a Taliban weapons facilitator. The facilitator was a suicide attack planner in Kandahar. Multiple suspected insurgents were also detained during the operation. A coalition force patrol discovered an ammunition cache in Sangin district, Helmand province, yesterday. The cache consisted of three crates of 12.7mm rounds and 20mm anti-aircraft rounds. The ammunition was seized and will be destroyed at a later date.

East

In Terayzai district, Khost province, a combined Afghan and coalition force patrol seized a weapons cache, yesterday. The cache consisted of five rocket propelled grenade propellants, four RPG rounds, one RPG launcher, one light machine gun, one recoilless rifle and four recoilless rifle rounds. The cache will be safely destroyed at a later date. In Behsud district, Nangarhar province, a combined Afghan and coalition security force captured a Taliban leader and one of his associates during a security operation yesterday. Prior to his detainment the leader facilitated the movement of suicide bombers. Additionally, he organized attacks against Afghan forces in the region. The security force also detained one suspected insurgent during the operation. Finally, a combined Afghan and coalition security force led an operation in search of a Taliban leader in the Zurmat district, Paktiya province. The leader organizes and directs attack against Afghan forces and joins with area insurgent leaders to plan attacks throughout the region. The security force detained two suspected insurgents during the operation.

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8. [Security: Zabul] **ISAF Seizes 136 Kg. IED Cache** (ISAF)

Saturday, 10 September 2011

<http://www.isaf.nato.int/article/isaf-releases/isaf-joint-command-evening-operational-update-september-10-2011.html>

An Afghan and International Security Assistance Force patrol detained numerous suspected insurgents during an operation targeting an insurgent leader in Khas district, Uruzgan province, yesterday. The leader coordinates improvised explosive device attacks against ANSF and coalition forces in the area. The detainees were taken in by Afghan Security Forces for further questioning.

In other International Security Assistance Force news throughout Afghanistan:

South

In Shinkai district, Zabul province, today, a coalition force patrol discovered and seized an IED cache consisting of several IED-making material and more than 300 pounds (136 kgs) of homemade explosives. Coalition forces will safely destroy the cache at a later date.

East

A combined Afghan and coalition patrol detained several suspected insurgents during two separate operations targeting insurgent leaders in Kabul district, Kabul province, yesterday. The leaders are responsible for conducting complex IED attacks against ANSF and coalition forces. The detainees were taken in by Afghan Security Forces for further questioning.

West

In Pusht-e Rod district, Farah province, a combined Afghan and coalition force patrol discovered and seized a weapons cache, today. The cache consisted of 13 rocket propelled grenades, 16 mortar fins, 35 7.62mm rounds, an AK 47, one 120mm mortar round, one mine, two radios and various IED-making materials. The cache will be safely destroyed at a later date.

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9. [Security: Kandahar] **ISAF Seize Weapons Cache, HME** (ISAF)

Saturday, 10 September 2011

<http://www.isaf.nato.int/article/isaf-releases/isaf-joint-command-morning-operational-update-september-10-2011.html>

A combined Afghan and coalition security force killed several insurgents while searching for a Taliban leader in Muhammad Aghah district, Logar province, yesterday. The leader is responsible roadside bomb attacks against Afghan forces in the region. During the operation, the security force was fired upon by the insurgents, who were armed with AK-47 assault rifles. Responding to the threat, the force returned fire, killing them. Multiple grenades and weapons were seized during the operation.

In other International Security Assistance Force news throughout Afghanistan:

South

Combined Afghan and coalition security forces detained multiple suspected insurgents while searching for Taliban leaders in Nawah-ye Barakzai and Nahr-e Saraj districts, Helmand province, yesterday. The leaders are responsible for numerous attacks against coalition forces in the district.

A combined Afghan and coalition security force detained one suspected insurgent while searching for a Taliban leader in Shah Wali Kot district, Kandahar province, yesterday. The Taliban leader is responsible for the transport of weapons and rockets in the district.

In Zharay district, Kandahar province, a combined Afghan and coalition force patrol discovered a weapons cache, yesterday. The cache consisted of one 5 gallon jug of homemade explosives, 150 7.62mm rounds, two magazines, two machine guns, one rocket propelled grenade launcher, one hand grenade, a mine and a battery pack. The cache was seized and will be safely destroyed at a later date.

East

A combined Afghan and coalition security force detained multiple suspected insurgents while searching for a Haqqani network leader in Gardez district, Paktiya province, yesterday. The leader plans ambushes, roadside bomb and rocket attacks against coalition forces.

Finally, in Sherzad district, Nangarhar province, a coalition force patrol discovered a weapons cache, yesterday. The patrol seized one .38 caliber pistol, 13 grenade bodies and approximately 200 7.62mm rounds. The cache will be safely destroyed at a later date.

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10. [Security: Kandahar] **Task Force Viper Seizes IED Cache, Arrest Six** (Defense Imagery and Video Distribution System)

Friday, 9 September 2011

<http://www.dvidshub.net/news/76710/task-force-viper-seizes-ied-cache-arrest-six#.TnDuAmjZPy>

Soldiers from the 504th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade, along with Afghan Border Police, conducted a search operation in the Wonake Valley, southern Kandahar province, Sept. 3-5, detaining six people and seizing a cache of weapons, rocket-propelled grenades and improvised explosive device-making materials.

The 72-hour operation, Viper Slam, was aimed at bringing stability to the region's residents by reducing the amount of IEDs planted by anti-coalition force operatives. Along with five detainees, soldiers also brought in a person of interest for questioning. The task force believes the person of interest was heavily involved in IED-planting operations.

The operation consisted of soldiers from the 2nd Squadron, 38th Cavalry Regiment, 163rd Military Intelligence Battalion, 530th Engineer Company, and more than a dozen Afghan Border Police. As it increases in number, the Afghan National Security Force will take over the execution of military operations, while coalition force acts as advisers and mentors.

The Wonake Valley is located about 12.5 miles north of Spin Boldak.

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11. [Attack: Kandahar] **Forces Detain 3 Suspects, Find Cache** (American Forces Press Service)
Monday, 12 September 2011
<http://www.defense.gov/news/newsarticle.aspx?id=65309>

Afghan and coalition forces detained three suspects and seized a weapons cache yesterday during operations in the Regional Command East region of Afghanistan, military officials reported.

The cache contained two assault rifles, 10 full magazines, one chest rack, one pistol holster and one full pistol magazine.

In Sept. 10 Afghanistan operations:

-- A combined Afghan and International Security Assistance Force patrol detained numerous suspected insurgents and found a cache containing narcotics during an operation in the Registan district of Kandahar province. The cache contained 2,205 pounds of dry opium, 55 pounds of wet opium, and some small-arms and ammunition.

-- A combined patrol detained one suspect and seized a universal serial bus drive containing Taliban recruiting videos during an operation in the Washer district of Helmand province. The target of the operation is a group of insurgent fighters responsible for supporting attacks against Afghan and coalition forces.

-- In Helmand province's Nahr-e Saraj district, a coalition patrol seized and destroyed a weapons cache containing 12 anti-personnel mines.

-- In the Khas district of Uruzgan province, a combined patrol killed several insurgents and detained multiple suspects while searching for an insurgent leader who is responsible for improvised explosive device attacks against Afghan and coalition forces. The patrol also seized one block of dynamite, one electronic detonator, one assault rifle, one radio, one suicide chest rig, seven pounds of opium, numerous cell phones and some small-arms ammunition.

-- In Uruzgan province's Shahid-e Hasas district, a combined patrol detained several suspects during an operation to disrupt an insurgent network. The network provides lethal aid used in attacks against Afghan and coalition forces.

-- A combined force seized an explosives cache during a security operation in the Shinkai district of Zabul province. The cache contained 1,433 pounds of ammonium nitrate, a material that can be used to make explosives.

-- A combined force detained two suspects, seized a narcotics laboratory and destroyed a poppy field during a security operation in Zabul province's Qalat district.

-- Coalition forces killed a Taliban insurgent leader and his associate during a precision airstrike in the Shah Wali Kot district of Kandahar province. The deceased Taliban leader equipped insurgents with roadside bombs and bomb-making materials in the Arghandab, Khariz and Shah Wali Kot districts. Coalition forces have captured more than 200 Taliban leaders and facilitators this year and killed more than 35 enemy insurgents in Kandahar province.

-- A combined force detained several suspects during an operation in the Kandahar district of Kandahar province.

-- In the Charkh district of Logar province, a combined force detained multiple suspects during a search for a Taliban. The insurgent is involved in attacks against coalition forces.

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-- In the Pusht-e Rod district of Farah province, a combined patrol seized a weapons cache containing 13 rocket-propelled grenades, 16 mortar fins, 35 7.62 mm rounds, an assault rifle, one 120 mm mortar round, one mine, two radios and various bomb-making materials.

In Sept. 9 Afghanistan operations:

-- A combined force killed several insurgents while searching for a Taliban leader in the Muhammad Aghah district of Logar province. The leader is responsible for roadside-bomb attacks against Afghan forces in the region. The force seized some grenades and weapons during the operation.

-- Combined forces detained multiple suspects while searching for Taliban leaders in Helmand province's Nawah-ye Barakzai and Nahr-e Saraj districts. The insurgent leaders are responsible for attacks against coalition forces.

-- A combined force detained one suspect while searching for a Taliban leader in the Shah Wali Kot district. The Taliban leader is responsible for the transport of weapons and rockets in the district.

-- A combined patrol seized a weapons cache in the Zharay district of Kandahar province. The cache contained one 5-gallon jug of homemade explosives, 150 7.62 mm rounds, two magazines, two machine guns, one rocket-propelled grenade launcher, one hand grenade, a mine and a battery pack.

-- A combined force detained multiple suspects while searching for a Haqqani network leader in the Gardez district of Paktia province. The leader plans ambushes, roadside-bomb and rocket attacks against coalition forces.

-- In the Sherzad district of Nangarhar province, a coalition patrol seized a weapons cache containing one .38-caliber pistol, 13 grenade bodies and about 200 7.62 mm rounds.

-- A combined patrol detained numerous suspects during an operation targeting an insurgent leader in the Khas district of Uruzgan province. The leader coordinates IED attacks against Afghan and coalition forces.

-- In the Shinkai district of Zabul province, a coalition patrol seized an IED cache containing IED-making material, including more than 300 pounds of homemade explosives.

-- A combined patrol detained several suspects during two separate operations targeting insurgent leaders in the Kabul district of Kabul province. The leaders conduct IED attacks against Afghan and coalition forces.

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12. [Security: Khost] **ANP Defuse IEDs In Khost Province** (AFG MOI)

Monday, 5 September 2011

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

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.

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13. [Attack: Wardak] **Taliban Suicide Bomber Hits Combat Outpost in Wardak** (Long War Journal)
Saturday, 10 September 2011
http://www.longwarjournal.org/threat-matrix/archives/2011/09/taliban_suicide_bomber_hits_co.php

A Taliban suicide bomber detonated a large amount of explosives outside of Combat Outpost Sayed Abad in Afghanistan's Wardak province. ISAF provides some details in a press release on the attack:

The driver, whose truck was carrying firewood, detonated his explosives at the outpost's Entry Control Point. Most of the force of the explosion was absorbed by the protective barrier at the outpost entrance and though there were a significant number of injuries. All are being treated and none is immediately life threatening.

The explosion damaged the compound entrance and was not followed-up by any subsequent attacks. The impact to the compound is readily repairable and operations are continuing.

According to Reuters, four Afghan civilians were killed and 77 US soldiers, were wounded. In a follow-on press release, ISAF said that "less than 25 Afghan civilians have received non-life-threatening injuries," and that the "majority of injured ISAF personnel will likely return to duties shortly." ISAF also gave some details on the damage caused by the massive blast:

The perimeter wall, as well as a maintenance facility, was damaged in the attack; however, the protective barriers around the site absorbed most of the explosion.

The COP remains operational and protective barriers have been repaired after the failed attempt by insurgents to degrade operational capabilities and cause loss of life to coalition troops.

The Taliban claimed credit for the attack in a press release at Voice of Jihad. The attack was "conducted by a loin [sic] of Islam, Saifullah resident of Paktia province," the statement said. The Taliban claimed that "as many as 50 US invading troops and their puppets were killed."

The Saydabad district is near the scene of the Aug. 6 downing of a Chinook that killed 37 US and Afghan soldiers and an interpreter. Seventeen Navy SEALs from Naval Special Warfare Development Group, which is more commonly referred to as SEAL Team 6, were among those killed in that attack. The area has become a Taliban safe haven since US forces turned over a combat outpost in the area to Afghan forces this Spring (Combat Outpost Tangi was turned over to Afghan forces in April, but US troops would remain on the outpost).

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14. [Attack: Faryab] **Roadside Mine Blast Leaves Five Killed in Faryab Province** (AFG MOI)

Monday, 5 September 2011

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

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.

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15. [Attack: Kabul] **Taliban Launch Complex Attack on US Embassy in Kabul** (Long War Journal)
 Tuesday, 13 September 2011
http://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2011/09/taliban_launch_compl.php

The Taliban launched a complex daylight attack on the US embassy and NATO headquarters in a secured area of Kabul this afternoon. While suicide bombers targeted the Kabul civil order police station and another police station a few kilometers away, fighters armed with rifles and RPGs fired at the embassy and NATO headquarters. Another suicide bomber was killed on a road near the airport.

The International Security Assistance Force confirmed that a small group of Taliban fighters is "firing from outside the compound using small arms and rocket-propelled grenades." The Taliban fighters occupied an office building currently under construction near the embassy and ISAF headquarters to fire at the heavily fortified compounds.

The NATO military command stated that "there are no reports of ISAF casualties at this time" and forces were working with Afghan police and soldiers to battle the Taliban fighters.

"Afghan police are fighting at office building and are working to clear the building," Sediq Sediqqi, the spokesman for the Afghan Interior Ministry, said on his Twitter page.

"Two of the terrorists have been killed by police, two or three are still inside the building, clearance ops is on. One police killed so far," Sediqqi wrote. "MoI helicopters are patrolling over the building" to provide air support for the police in contact.

Elsewhere in the capital, one Taliban suicide bomber attacked a building belonging to the city's civil order police, while another bomber detonated at a regional police station near a high school. A policeman was killed in the blast at the entrance to the police station, and two civilians were wounded in the blast outside the high school.

Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed credit for the attack, in a statement released at Voice of Jihad, the Taliban's propaganda website.

"Mujahideen of the Islamic Emirate attacked the NATO's ISAF HQ, US embassy and local and foreign intelligence agencies, storming the facilities with rockets, hand grenades, explosives vests and heavy and small arms triggering a bloody fighting and targeting the strategic points in the heart of Kabul city," he said.

Mujahid also claimed that "the city is in turmoil and the people are running about in terror and shock."

The Taliban have conducted several high-profile attacks in the Afghan capital this year. On Aug. 18, a suicide assault team killed eight people at the office of the British Council. On June 28, a suicide assault team stormed the Intercontinental Hotel and killed 13 people. On June 18, a suicide assault team attacked a police station near the Interior Ministry, killing eight people. On May 21, a suicide bomber killed six people in a hospital. On April 28, a suicide bomber penetrated security at the Ministry of Defense, killing two soldiers and wounding several senior officials. On February 24, a suicide bomber detonated outside of the Safi Landmark hotel, killing two people. And on January 28, a suicide assault team killed eight people at the Finest grocery.

Today's suicide attack, like the others in Kabul, was likely carried out by the Kabul Attack Network, which is made up of fighters from the Taliban, the Haqqani Network, and Hizb-i-Islami Gulbuddin, and cooperates with terror groups such as the Lashkar-e-Taiba and al Qaeda. Top Afghan intelligence officials have linked the Kabul Attack Network to Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence directorate as well. The network's tentacles

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extend outward from Kabul into the surrounding provinces of Logar, Wardak, Nangarhar, Kapisa, Ghazni, and Zabul, a US intelligence official recently told The Long War Journal.

The Kabul Attack Network is led by Dawood (or Daud) and Taj Mir Jawad, military and intelligence officials told The Long War Journal. Dawood is the Taliban's shadow governor for Kabul, while Taj Mir Jawad is a top commander in the Haqqani Network. In the US military files recently released by WikiLeaks, Taj Mir Jawad is identified as a top Haqqani Network leader.

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16. [Attack: Baghlan] **Roadside Bombing kills 2 in Baghlan** (Pajwok Afghan News)
Monday, 12 August 2011
<http://www.pajhwok.com/en/2011/09/12/roadside-bombing-kills-2-baghlan>

Two people were killed and three others injured in a remote-controlled bomb explosion in the Borka district of northern Baghlan province on Monday.

The incident took place at about 4pm, when a police vehicle was passing by, said Javed Basharat, the provincial police spokesman. Police suffered no casualties in the blast, he added.

Basharat said the victims were aged between 20 and 17. They were busy playing volleyball in a roadside area. There was no immediate claim of responsibility.

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17. [Attack: Ludina] **IED Explodes When Activated by Passing Spanish Armoured Vehicle but Causes no Injuries** (ISRIA)

http://www.isria.com/pages/13_September_2011_83.php

An improvised explosive device (IED) was activated by a passing Spanish Lynx armoured vehicle as it took part in an equipment transportation mission alongside troops from the Afghan army. The incident took place on Friday near the town of Ludina in the Afghan province of Badghis. No injuries were caused by the resulting explosion.

The column of vehicles was immediately attacked by light weaponry following the explosion, during which one Spanish soldier was wounded by bullet shrapnel. The Spanish and Afghan troops responded to the fire from the insurgents. Once the attack was repelled, the convoy continued on its way.

The injured soldier, who responds to the initials J.M.C.R. and belongs to the N° 1 Engineers Regiment, has been transferred to the "Role 2" Hospital in Herat with a minor wound to the right ankle. The soldier is expected to recover quickly given that no bones were affected by the shrapnel.

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18. [Attack: Oruzgan] **Australian Digger Wounded in Afghanistan by IED** (AAP)

Thursday, 8 September 2011

<http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/australian-digger-wounded-in-afghanistan-by-ied-device/story-e6freuy9-1226132116411>

An Australian soldier has been wounded by an insurgent improvised explosive device (IED) in Afghanistan.

Defence said the incident occurred on Tuesday afternoon Afghanistan time as the soldier, a member of the Mentoring Task Force (MTF-3), was travelling in a Bushmaster armoured vehicle which struck the IED.

The wounded soldier has been assessed as being stable and in a satisfactory condition and his family has been notified.

Colonel David Smith, deputy commander of Combined Team - Oruzgan, said the unnamed soldier was participating in a patrol of Australian and Afghan soldiers in the Char Chineh District in western Oruzgan Province.

“The MTF-3 and Afghan National Army soldiers were coming under fire from insurgents when an IED detonated, with the blast striking one of the patrol's protected mobility vehicles,” he said in a statement.

“The patrol took action to secure the area while the wounded soldier received immediate first aid.”

The digger was evacuated by helicopter to the medical facility at the Australian base at Tarin Kowt and subsequently moved to Kandahar for specialist review and further treatment.

The incident takes the number of soldiers wounded in action in Afghanistan to 27 this year and 192 since 2001.

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19. [Attack: Kandahar] **Wainwright Soldier Killed by IED in Kandahar** (Army Times)
Monday, 12 September 2011
<http://www.armytimes.com/news/2011/09/army-wainwright-casualty-afghanistan-brett-wood-091211w/>

An Alaska-based soldier died last week in Afghanistan, the Defense Department said Monday.

Pfc. Brett E. Wood, 19, of Spencer, Ind., died Friday in Kandahar of wounds suffered when insurgents attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device. He was assigned to 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, out of Fort Wainwright, Alaska.

Wood's remains arrived early Monday at Dover Air Force Base, Del., relatives said.

"He wanted to protect his family and his country and he really wanted to join after everything that happened with 9/11," Wood's sister, Amber Poland, told WTHR-TV.

Wood was deployed to Afghanistan in April and was home on leave in August after a bomb explosion caused a concussion and hearing loss. Family members say he complained of headaches and dizziness during his visit, but went on a five-day road trip that cousin Josh Wood called "the time of our lives."

"It was really hard for me to wave goodbye to him because we had talked before and he had bad feelings about going back," Josh Wood told The Herald-Times.

Poland said her brother had told her to celebrate his life, not mourn, if he didn't make it home from Afghanistan.

"I told him not to think like that," she said.

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20. [Attack: Paktika, Kunduz] **10 Killed, 9 Injured in Separate Blasts** (The Frontier Post)
Monday, 12 September 2011
<http://www.thefrontierpost.com/?p=54655>

Ten Afghan civilians were killed and nine more injured in separate improvised explosive device blasts in Paktika and Kunduz provinces yesterday.

Six persons were killed and nine more injured when a passenger vehicle struck an improvised explosive device in Karezgi area, Barmal district of Paktika province yesterday, a press release issued by the Paktika governor's media office said.

Six persons, including two women and four men, were killed and nine more, including a woman and eight men, injured in the incident, the press release said, adding the deceased belonged to two families.

The injured were taken to a health facility of foreign forces where one of the injured women was stated to be in critical condition.

Meanwhile, the Kunduz police headquarters spokesman Syed Sarwar Hussaini told the AIP that four persons were killed when an IED went off on a vehicle of passengers in Gortipa area of Kunduz province late yesterday.

However, a security official in the area told media that five persons, including three children, were killed in the incident.

No one has claimed responsibility for the blasts so far.

Meanwhile, at least five civilians were killed when their car hit an improvised explosive device (IED) in northern Afghanistan's Kunduz province, police said on Sunday. "An ill-fated civilian car touched off an IED in Gur Tipa area on outskirts of Kunduz city at around 9 p.m. local time on Saturday, triggering a powerful blast and leaving all five civilians aboard the vehicle killed," provincial police chief Samiullah Qatra told Xinhua.

He accused Taliban insurgents of targeting civilians. However, the Taliban, which have been behind most suicide and roadside bomb attacks across the war-ravaged country, has yet to make comments.

In a similar incident, six civilians including two women were killed and seven others injured when their vehicle ran over a roadside bomb or IED in eastern Paktika province on Saturday. A total of 1,462 Afghan civilians were killed in the first half of 2011, a 15 percent rise over the same period of 2010, according to the United Nations mid-year report released in Kabul on July 14.

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21. [Attack: Quetta] **Suicide Bombers Kill 24 Pakistanis in Quetta** (Long War Journal)
Wednesday, 7 September 2011
http://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2011/09/suicide_bombers_kill_7.php

A pair of Taliban suicide bombers killed 24 people and wounded scores more in an attack today on a senior security official's home in the southern Pakistani city of Quetta.

The first suicide bomber rammed his car packed with explosives into a vehicle outside the home of the Deputy Inspector General of the Baluchistan Frontier Corps, which is located in a high-security zone in the city. The second suicide bomber entered the building and opened fire with an assault rifle. He later detonated his explosive-packed vest, leveling the office and damaging nearby buildings.

The attack killed 24 people, including the Frontier Corps commander's wife. More than 80 were wounded.

The Movement of the Taliban in Pakistan has claimed responsibility for today's double suicide attack in Quetta.

"We carried out the attacks," Taliban spokesman Ihsanullah Ihsan told AFP. "We will launch a bigger attack in future."

Ihsan said the attacks were designed "to avenge the arrest of our mujahedin brothers by Pakistani security forces in Quetta recently," referring to a senior al Qaeda leader and his two aides who have been arrested.

Two days ago, the Pakistani military announced it had arrested Younis al Mauritani, a senior member of al Qaeda's external operations council, and his two aides, Abdul Ghaffar Al Shami and Messara Al Shami. The three al Qaeda operatives were arrested in a suburb of Quetta during a joint operation between the Baluchistan Frontier Corps and the Inter-Services Intelligence Directorate.

The Pakistani Taliban, the Lashkar-e-Jhangvi, and al Qaeda all have a presence in Quetta. The city is also a stronghold of the Afghan Taliban; its top council is known as the Quetta Shura.

Today's suicide attack is the second in Quetta in eight days. On Aug. 31, a suicide bomber killed 11 people in a parking lot outside a Shia mosque. No group claimed responsibility for the attack. The Lashkar-e-Jhangvi, which is closely allied to the Taliban and al Qaeda, is known to conduct suicide and other attacks on Shias.

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22. [Security: Anbar] **Explosive device found in basement of courthouse** (Aswat al-Iraq)
Friday, 9 September 2011
http://en.aswataliraq.info/Default1.aspx?page=article_page&id=144783&l=1

At least 37 Austrian-made rockets have been discovered in a large weapons depot in west Iraq's Anbar Province on Sunday, according to an Anbar Police Command's source.

"Intelligence information have enabled the Police forces in Haditha city, west of Anbar Province, to discover a rocket's depot in its Mohammadiat area, comprising 37 Austrian rockets, 21 ammunition containers and 2 rocket-launching pads," the Police source told Aswat al-Iraq news agency, charging that "security information had pointed out that the depot belongs for al-Qaeda organization."

He said the Police forces had also managed to arrest 2 wanted persons, charged with having carried out armed acts against civilians in the Province.

Ramadi, the center of Anbar Province, is 110 km to the west of Baghdad.

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23. [Security: Wassit] **Four Rockets, Ammunition Dumps Found in Wassit** (Aswat al-Iraq)
Thursday, 8 September 2011
http://en.aswataliraq.info/Default1.aspx?page=article_page&id=144722&l=1

An Iraqi military force has discovered 4 rocket and ammunition dumps in southern Iraq's Wassit Province on Thursday, a security source reported.

“An Iraqi Army Force from the Army's 8th Division has implemented an inspection process in Sewaira township, 135 km to the north of Kut, the center of Wassit Province on Thursday, where it discovered 4 rocket and ammunition dumps, hidden in an agricultural land,” the security source told Aswat al-Iraq news agency.

He said that the process took place, according to intelligence information, and the contents of the discovered dumps were moved to the position of one of the Division's brigade, in order to dismantle them by anti-explosives experts.

Kut, the center of Wassit Province, is 180 km to the south of Baghdad.

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24. [Security: Diala] **Explosive Belt, 6 Explosive Charges, Discovered in Diala** (Aswat al-Iraq)
Saturday, 10 September 2011
http://en.aswataliraq.info/Default1.aspx?page=article_page&id=144758&l=1

An explosive belt and six explosive charges have been discovered by police forces in Miqdadiya township, 45 km to the east of Baaquba city, the center of Diala Province, on Thursday, a security source reported.

“Security forces of Miqdadiya township had implemented a security operation in the area, where it discovered an explosive belt in a house belonging to al-Qaeda organization in Lessel village of Miqdadiya township, along with 6 explosive charges in Blour village of the same township,” the security source told Aswat al-Iraq news agency.

He pointed out that the said villages “had been among the strongest hiding places of al-Qaeda organization over the past few years, due to the existence of huge orchards, where its armed men had been hiding in.”

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

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25. [Security: Amara] **Six Wanted Men Arrested, Arms Depot Discovered in Amara** (Aswat al-Iraq)
Thursday, 8 September 2011
http://en.aswataliraq.info/Default1.aspx?page=article_page&id=144718&l=1

A Joint Iraqi Army and Police force has arrested six wanted men and discovered an arms and ammunition depot in Amara city, the center of southern Iraq's Missan Province on Thursday, the Chairman of Missan's Security & Defense Committee reported.

"A joint force from the Iraqi Army's 7th Division and the Police Force of Missan's Ali al-Ghaby township, has detained six wanted men in an inspection campaign in Chidea village of Komait township, 35 km north of Amara city," Miatham Lafta told Aswat al-Iraq news agency.

He said the same force had discovered an arms and ammunition depot, comprising 5 Kalashnikov rifles, 2 mortar-launching pads and a large quantity of ammunition.

Amara, the center of Missan Province, is 390 km to the south of Baghdad.

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26. [Security: Wassit] **Five Implicated in Kut Explosion Arrested** (Aswat al-Iraq)
Wednesday, 7 September 2011
http://en.aswataliraq.info/Default1.aspx?page=article_page&id=144695&l=1

Wassit's Police Commander announced that five terrorists implicated in Kut's explosion during Ramadan were arrested.

A double explosion by a bomb and trapped car took place on 15 August last which led to 40 dead and 68 wounded.

General Hussein Abdul Hadi said in a press conference, attended by Aswat al-Iraq that the police, in cooperation with the intelligence, were able to arrest five persons implicated in the explosion.

He added that the investigations proved that the car was trapped outside the province then entered the city through one of the terrorist, who was a police member at the internal affairs department of the interior ministry.

General Hadi disclosed that the five persons belong to Qaeda organization, who were able to implement the operation in cooperation with a number of people in the city, who are now under search.

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

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27. [Attack: Mosul] **3 Civilians, 2 Cops, Injured in Mosul Blasts** (Aswat al-Iraq)

Tuesday, 13 September 2011

http://en.aswataliraq.info/Default1.aspx?page=article_page&id=144824&l=1

Three civilians and a policeman have been injured in an attack by 2 hand-grenades against two police patrols in Mosul, the center of Ninewa Province, on Tuesday, a security source reported.

“Two hand-grenades blew off against two police patrols in central Mosul’s Bab al-Tob district,” he said, adding that the attacks wounded 3 civilians and a policeman.

Mosul, the center of Ninewa Province, is 405 km to the north of Baghdad.

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28. [Attack: Mosul] **6 Cops, 1 Civilian Wounded in Car Bomb** (Aswat al-Iraq)

Monday, 12 September 2011

http://en.aswataliraq.info/Default1.aspx?page=article_page&id=144808&l

Six cops and one civilian were wounded in a car bomb explosion directed against a police patrol west of Mosul, security sources said today.

The source told Aswat al-Iraq that a suicide car driven by a terrorist exploded, resulting in the casualties, including a major and civilian.

Investigations were carried out in the area, the source added.

Mosul, center of Ninewa province, lies 405 km north of the capital, Baghdad.

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29. [Attack: Balad] **Seven Civilians Injured in Explosive Charge Blast in Balad Township** (Aswat al-Iraq)

Tuesday, 13 September 2011

http://en.aswataliraq.info/Default1.aspx?page=article_page&id=144817&l=1

At least 7 civilians have been seriously injured in an explosive charge blast under their car in Balad township of Salahal-Din Province on Monday night, a security source reported.

“An explosive charge blew off under a civilian car on Monday night in al-Saoud area of Balad township, south of Salahal-Din Province, seriously wounding 7 persons,” the security source told Aswat al-Iraq news agency on Tuesday.

He said “the explosive charge blew off close to a mourning procession of the father of a police officer in.

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30. [Attack: Baghdad] **Nine Persons, Including 5 Cops, Injured in Baghdad Blast** (Aswat al-Iraq)

Tuesday, 13 September 2011

http://en.aswataliraq.info/Default1.aspx?page=article_page&id=144797&l=1

At least 9 persons, among them 5 policemen, have been injured in an explosive charge blast against a police patrol in eastern Baghdad on Monday, a security source reported.

“An explosive charge blew off against a police patrol in eastern Baghdad’s Baladiyat District, wounding 5 policemen and 4 civilians,” the security source told Aswat al-Iraq news agency.

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31. [Attack: Baghdad] **4 Civilians Injured in Baghdad Blast** (Aswat al-Iraq)
Sunday, 11 September 2011
http://en.aswataliraq.info/Default1.aspx?page=article_page&id=144779&l=1

Four Iraqi civilians have been injured in an explosive charge blast in central Baghdad on Sunday, a security source reported.

“An explosive charge blew off on the roadside in central Baghdad’s Alawi garage on Sunday, wounding 4 civilians,” the security source told Aswat al-Iraq news agency.

He said the wounded persons were driving to a nearby hospital, whilst the security sources began investigations about the incident.

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32. [Security: Sweden] **Sweden Terror Suspects Tied to Islamists** (The Local)
Monday, 12 September 2011
<http://www.thelocal.se/36086/20110912/>

The four terrorist suspects held in Gothenburg on Sunday have ties to the Somali Islamist movement al-Shabaab and were plotting an attack using bombs and firearms, according to a Swedish media report.

Sweden terror suspect denies crimes (12 Sep 11)

Four arrested for preparing terror crimes (11 Sep 11)

Neither Sweden's Security Service (Säpo) nor the police have confirmed the report, and have released few details about the arrests.

"Police suspect the men were about to carry out a terrorist attack with firearms and bombs," Gothenburg regional daily GT said in its online edition.

"Police sources have told GT the suspects are linked to the terror network al-Shabaab," the paper said, without disclosing its sources.

According to the TT news agency, the four suspects are all male between the ages of 23- and 26-years-old and are residents of Gothenburg.

Three of the men are born in Africa and the fourth in the Middle East, it said. The man born in the Middle East and two of the Africa-born men are Swedish citizens while another holds a Swedish residency permit, it added.

Swedish intelligence agency Säpo issued a short statement on Monday saying all information concerning the ongoing investigation was classified.

"Säpo's assessment is that there is no cause for widespread concern nor any reason to introduce tighter security measures," it said.

An elite counter-terrorism unit and police arrested four people in Gothenburg, Sweden's second city, and evacuated hundreds of people from a building in the city hosting an art fair "after concluding that there was a threat that could endanger lives or health or cause serious damage," officials said Sunday.

Police then searched the building thoroughly, breaking open seven lockers, the paper said.

It is not known why the venue was seen as a target, and art fair organisers have not been given an explanation, GT said.

The paper speculated that a Swedish artist who has received death threats from al-Shabaab for depicting the Prophet Muhammad as a dog had planned to attend the event but did not in the end.

"I will myself with great interest attend the event," Vilks wrote on his blog last week.

In an interview with the local Göteborgs-Posten daily he explained that he never intended to attend Saturday's inauguration, but didn't rule out that he was perhaps the intended target.

"If it is Islamists, which it seems to be, nothing is impossible," he said.

Lars Vilks has faced numerous death threats and a suspected assassination plot since his drawing of the Muslim prophet with the body of a dog was first published by a Swedish regional newspaper in 2007, illustrating an editorial on the importance of freedom of expression.

Gothenburg city officials and others have criticised Säpo for neglecting to inform the city about the planned raid, and for being so tight-lipped following the arrests.

“We would have liked to have gotten the information directly from Säpo, and not through the media,” city director Åke Jacobsson told the TT news agency.

Officials from Gothenburg and Säpo met on Monday morning to discuss the threats and ensuing arrests.

But Säpo was still refusing to offer any further details other than that four people were arrested in Gothenburg on Saturday evening.

“I can't go into any other details because of the confidentiality of the preliminary investigation,” Säpo spokesperson Michael Gunnarsson told TT.

Prosecutor Agnetha Hilding Qvarnström also refused to shed any light on the case.

Wilhelm Agrell, a professor on intelligence analysis, also made note of what he called a “total [media] blackout” on the part of Säpo regarding the case.

“Even if we've had blackouts in other terrorist cases, this one seems to go very far,” he said.

“Terror investigations can be very sensitive. You want to avoid every detail that can have a negative effect on the investigation and it can be hard to know ahead of time what sort of information has that character,” Agrell told TT.

Al-Shabaab is an al-Qaeda-linked militia has waged a years-long insurgency against Somalia's weak, western-backed transitional government and controls much of the south and centre of the Horn of Africa country.

"Wherever you are, if not today or tomorrow, know that we haven't yet forgotten about you," a Swedish al-Shabaabmember, Abu Zaid, said in a video, according to US monitoring group SITE.

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33. [Attack: India] **HUJI Claims Bombing at Delhi High Court** (Long War Journal)
Wednesday, 7 September 2011
http://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2011/09/huji_claims_bombing.php

A Pakistan-based terrorist group that is closely linked to al Qaeda has claimed credit for a bombing today that killed 11 people and wounded scores more at a security checkpoint outside the Delhi High Court.

A bomb planted in a briefcase was detonated at a queue where lawyers and other visitors obtain security passes. Police said that 11 people have been killed so far and 76 more were wounded, some critically. The blast left a "deep crater" in the ground.

The Harkat-ul-Jihad-al-Islami, or HUJI, said it detonated the bomb to force India to repeal a death sentence of Afzal Guru, who has been placed on death row for the December 2001 terror assault on the Indian Parliament that killed six policemen, a civilian, and five members of the assault team. The Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Mohammad carried out the 2001 attack in Delhi.

HUJI sent an email to Indian news agencies immediately after the attack to claim it.

"We owe the responsibility of today's blasts at high court delhi..... our demand is that Afzal Guru's death sentence should be repealed immediately else we would target major high courts & THE SUPREME COURT OF... [sic]," the email read, according to the Hindustan Times.

HUJI is an al Qaeda-linked group that operates in Pakistan, India, Afghanistan, and Bangladesh. The US designated HUJI as a terrorist entity in 2010, and its leader, Ilyas Kashmiri, was also added to the list of global terrorists.

Kashmiri has also been linked to Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence directorate, which has viewed him as an asset due to his prowess in fighting the Indians in Jammu and Kashmir.

The US believes Kashmiri was killed in a Predator airstrike in South Waziristan on June 3. But questions have emerged about Kashmiri's death, as the martyrdom statement is suspect and a photo of Kashmiri's purported corpse was actually that of a Lashkar-e-Taiba operative who was killed during the terror assault on Mumbai in November 2008. Indian intelligence officials now believe that Kashmiri faked his death in an attempt to dodge the Predators and the US special operations forces who entered Pakistan to kill bin Laden. [For more information on problems with reports of Kashmiri's death, see LWJ report, Questions emerge over HUJI's statement on al Qaeda leader Ilyas Kashmiri's death, and Threat Matrix reports, Is Ilyas Kashmiri really dead? and Kashmiri faked death: Indian intelligence.]

Same Incident as Above: Bomb Had More PETN, Less Shrapnel (Indian Express)

Thursday, 8 September 2011

<http://www.indianexpress.com/news/Bomb-had-more-PETN--less-shrapnel--Cops/843271/>

The composition of the two bombs that exploded outside the High Court in May 25, and later on Wednesday, indicate the intent of the perpetrators as the recent one had less shrapnel inside but was laced with the highly-impactive pentaerythritol trinitrate (PETN), police said.

Remnants of the explosive device prima facie indicate that it was an Improvised Explosive Device (IED). Traces of ammonium nitrate laced with pentaerythritol trinitrate (PETN) have also been recovered from the blast site, officials said.

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Though there are no traces a timer device yet, investigators said “a sophisticated and powerful bomb cannot go off without an aid”. Also, less shrapnel was used in this explosive device, when compared to the earlier one, which had rusted nails.

On May 25, a small explosion took place when a bomb placed beneath a car in the High Court campus failed to detonate properly. The parking attendant saw fumes coming from under the car and alerted the police.

The bomb, which was used on Wednesday, was packed in a small briefcase and the impact was so great that the wall near the blast site developed cracks.

Many of the injured also suffered burns, which could have been possible due to the presence of PETN — a pressure-based explosive. Police have collected samples of the explosive from a lawyer’s BMW car, which was parked nearby. The impact of the blast was such that a two-by-four-foot crater was formed on the pathway where it went off.

Police said they have not found any remnants of the briefcase yet. “All we have found of the briefcase is an aluminium strip that was attached to it. The briefcase was really small, of the size of a file,” said Dharmendra Kumar, Special Commissioner of Police (Law and Order).

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34. [Attack: Somalia] **Explosion Kills 2 Men in Central Somalia** (Mareeg Online)

Thursday, 8 September 2011

<http://www.mareeg.com/fidsan.php?sid=21042&tirsan=3>

Two are reported to have killed after an explosion targeted to Guri'el district commissioner, Osaman Ise Nor occurred this morning in Guri'el district of G/gudud region, central Somalia.

The district commissioner of Guri'el of Ahu-Suna administration, Osman Ise Nor escaped from the explosion but killed two men passing by the road side, reports said.

“It was a roadside bomb and I'm saved now but two men who were civilians dead”, Guri'el district commissioner, Osman Ise known as Tar-dhuled said.

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35. [Attack: Philippines] **Bomb Blasts Miss DILG Chief's Convoy in Cotabato** (Phil Star)
Tuesday, 13 September 2011
<http://www.philstar.com/nation/article.aspx?publicationscategoryid=200&articleid=726771>

Police said two explosions hit a road in Cotabato City where the convoy of Interior and Local Government Secretary Jesse Robredo was supposed to pass by.

Senior Superintendent Roberto Badian, city police chief, said that the explosions hit a bus terminal in front of Notre Dame Hospital along Sinsuat Avenue around 12:15 p.m.

Badian said that initial findings of responding explosive and ordinance teams of the Philippine Army and the police showed that the bomb was made of 81mm mortars.

A report by ABS-CBN News said that according to regional police chief Felicisimo Khu, the bomb attack was meant to disrupt Robredo's visit to the city, where he will attend a forum for the candidates of the officers-in-charge for governor and vice-governor of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM).

In a text message to Philstar.com, Robredo said that he was not hurt. He said he has personally visited the site of the explosion.

"Am okay. Went to site where bomb exploded," Robredo said.

Gian Alexis Borgonio of the Department of Interior and Local Government's public information office said that Robredo's convoy was supposed to pass by Sinsuat Avenue, but they decided to take another route from the regional governor's office in the city.

Borgonio said that Robredo was travelling with candidates for officers-in-charge for ARMM governor and vice-governor.

"The secretary and the rest of the ARMM regional governor and vice-governor nominees are safe," he said.

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36. [Attack: Ohio] **Explosions at Two Sites Were Result of Explosive Devices** (Huber Heights Courier) Thursday, 8 September 2011
<http://www.tcnewsnet.com/main.asp?SectionID=3&SubSectionID=3&ArticleID=156426>

Investigators with the Division of State Fire Marshal, Huber Heights Fire Department and the Huber Heights Police Department have determined last Thursday's explosions were the result of improvised explosive devices (IED) and the act was intentional. The incidents occurred at 7220 Taylorsville Road and 4941 Wakeview Court in Huber Heights.

Blue Ribbon Arson Rewards have been posted at both properties. A Blue Ribbon Arson Reward of up to \$5,000 is being offered to anyone with information leading to the identification of the person or persons responsible for the explosions. All tips should be considered significant; it could be the information that investigators are seeking.

The devices are currently being analyzed by the Division of State Fire Marshal's Forensic Laboratory in Reynoldsburg. Results of the analysis could be made available to investigators as early as this week. Specific information about the devices will not be released at this time.

The first incident occurred at the Element Salon on Taylorsville Road; the second was reported a short time later at the home on Wakeview Court.

Witnesses report seeing some type of device exploding into a fireball; there was little or no fire following the initial fireball from the devices.

Investigators say no injuries were reported; both structures sustained significant damage. Both the business and the home were occupied at the time of the explosion.

Anyone with information is encouraged to call the Division of State Fire Marshal at 1-800- 589-2728, the Huber Heights Fire Department at 937-233-1564 or the Huber Heights Police Department at 937-237-3542.

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