



Realtime Analysis and Publishing of IED Data

Weekly News Update

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The RAPID Weekly News Update is a weekly collection of unclassified media and news bulletins focused on noteworthy improvised explosive attacks and trends in the EOD/C-IED community. To subscribe to this weekly publication and/or to receive additional IED-related reports, please request a RAPID login at <https://rapid.a-tsolutions.com> using your government (.mil or .gov) email account.



Police released this photograph of the interior of the bunker in the backyard of the Barrie, Ont., home where dozens of explosive devices have been found. (Barrie Police Service)

[See [More Explosives Found In Barrie, Ont. House](#)]

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1. [Attack, Afghanistan] Suicide Bomber Kills Top Official, 22 More At Afghan Wedding

Saturday, July 14 2012

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/07/14/us-afghanistan-attack-idUSBRE86D02N20120714>

A suicide bomber killed a prominent anti-Taliban politician and 22 other guests at a wedding reception in the northern Afghan province of Samangan on Saturday, officials said.

The bomber blew himself up as he hugged lawmaker Ahmad Khan Samangani, who was celebrating his daughter's marriage, police said. The blast also killed the provincial intelligence chief and a senior police commander.

Samangani was close to Uzbek warlord Abdul Rashid Dostum, and commanded thousands of men in the area. The Uzbeks are part of an uneasy coalition of minority tribes that fight the Taliban in their area.

The attack, among the most lethal in recent months, raises the risk of greater insecurity in the relatively peaceful province, analysts said.

At least 23 people were killed and 60 others wounded, said a statement from President Hamid Karzai condemning the attack.

"The enemies of Afghanistan once again targeted mujahideen figures who strive for national unity," Karzai said.

The wounded were in critical condition and the death toll could rise, said regional police spokesman Lal Mohammad Ahmadzai.

Samangani had told guards at the party not to inconvenience guests with security searches, said provincial police chief Khalil Andarabi.

The Taliban, which has been behind a series of suicide attacks this year, denied responsibility. The group often distances itself from attacks with high civilian death tolls.

"We don't have a hand in this," spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said. "Ahmad Khan (Samangani) was a former commander of the mujahideen, he was notorious and many people could have had problems with him."

Samangani, an ethnic Uzbek, fought against the Soviets in the 1980s, and against the Taliban



during their 1996-2001 rule. He may have had enemies other than the Taliban, said Kabul-based political analyst Waheed Mujhda.

"Former warlords have frequently been targeted in the past," he said. "Ahmad Khan Samangani was a strongman in terms of security for Samangan province. His loss will certainly affect security in that region."

Witnesses described scenes of carnage.

"I saw parts of bodies, blood all over the reception," said Ahmad Jawed, a guest at the wedding. "Many wounded people were crying for help."

Another witness, Barat Khan, said: "It took some 15 minutes for the smoke to clear, then I saw bodies and pools of blood."

Afghanistan is experiencing some of the worst violence since the Taliban government was toppled by U.S.-led Afghan forces more than a decade ago.

In a separate incident on Saturday, a police official was gunned down in the southern city of Kandahar, the governor's spokesman said.

On Friday, a car bomb killed a leading female politician, Hanifa Safi. No one has claimed responsibility.



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2. [Attack, Afghanistan] Afghan Minister Escapes Assassination Attempt

Sunday, July 15 2012

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/asia/2012/07/201271563323179872.html>

An Afghan government minister survived a bomb attack on his motorcade in northern Afghanistan on Sunday, the second assault on a high-profile politician in two days, but two of his bodyguards were wounded, provincial officials said.

Obaidullah Obaid, the higher education minister, was travelling from Baghlan to Kunduz province on Sunday when one of the cars in his convoy hit a roadside bomb. Munshi Majid, the provincial governor of Baghlan was in the same motorcade, told Reuters.

"The minister is safe," Munshi said. "Two policemen were wounded in the bomb attack," he said, adding that the bomb exploded on a highway outside Baghlan city.

Sunday's attack came a day after a suicide bomber blew himself up at a wedding reception in Samangan province, also in the north, killing a top Afghan official and 22 others.

On Friday, a car bomb killed a regional head of women's affairs in the east of the country.

Insurgents have spread their reach from their traditional strongholds in southern and eastern areas of Afghanistan to northern parts of the country once considered relatively safe.

Homemade bombs are by far the most lethal weapons deployed by insurgents and remain the single biggest killer of civilians, as well as foreign and Afghan troops.

Violence in Afghanistan is at its fiercest since US-led Afghan troops overthrew the Taliban government in 2001.

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3. [Trend, Pakistan] Stray Mortar Bomb Kills Four In Khyber

Sunday, July 15 2012

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/408635/stray-mortar-bomb-kills-four-in-khyber/>

A stray mortar bomb smashed through a house in a village in northwestern Pakistan early Sunday, killing three children and their mother and injuring their father, police said.

The pre-dawn incident took place in Shaikhan village, a suburb of Peshawar close to the Khyber tribal district, where the military is fighting against local warlord Mangal Bagh and his Lashkar-e-Islam faction.

“The victims were asleep. A mother and her three children died on the spot,” Shafiullah Khan, a senior police officer told AFP.

The two sisters and their brother were aged between two and nine years, Khan said.

The officer said it was not yet clear who fired the mortar bomb but troops and Mangal Bagh’s fighters exchange fire on a daily basis.

More than 250,000 people have fled the fighting in Khyber since January, according to Pakistani officials.

Khyber is part of Pakistan’s semi-autonomous tribal belt on the Afghan border, considered to be the world’s premier al Qaeda hub despite the killing of Osama bin Laden by United States troops last year.

Separately, Taliban militants on Sunday bombed a government-run high school for boys in the outskirts of Peshawar, partly destroying the building.

The remote-controlled bomb was planted on the outer wall of the school.

Militants oppose girls education and have destroyed hundreds of schools, mostly for girls, in northwest Pakistan in recent years.

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4. [Attack, Afghanistan] Bomb Targets Third Afghan Politician In Three Days

Monday, July 16 2012

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/07/16/us-afghanistan-bomb-idUSBRE86FONY20120716>

A magnetic bomb blew up the car of a district governor in Afghanistan's northerly city of Kunduz on Monday in the third attack on senior government officials in as many days.

The governor of Khan Abad district was not in the car, but the bomb killed a bodyguard and wounded eight civilians, police said.

On Saturday, a suicide bomber killed a top anti-Taliban lawmaker and 22 other people at a wedding reception in Samangan province, also in the north.

And on Sunday, Higher Education Minister Obaidullah Obaid survived a roadside bomb attack on his motorcade in the adjoining province of Baghlan.

Violence in Afghanistan is at its fiercest since U.S.-led Afghan troops overthrew the Taliban government in 2001, and as most foreign combat troops look to leave the country by the end of 2014, handing over to Afghan security forces.

Islamist Taliban and other insurgents have spread their reach from their traditional strongholds in southern and eastern areas of Afghanistan to northern parts of the country once considered relatively safe.

Also on Monday, two NATO soldiers died in an insurgent attack in southern Afghanistan, while a roadside bomb hit a van in the border town of Spin Boldak, in Kandahar province, killing five civilians, said Ahmad Faisal, the provincial governor's spokesman.

Insurgent attacks across Afghanistan have jumped 10 percent in three months as a severe winter damaged poppy crop harvests and caused fighter-farmers to pick up guns earlier than last year, said German Brigadier-General Gunter Katz, spokesman for NATO forces.

More Afghan soldiers and police were also confronting Taliban and other militants in more remote areas outside major cities which had previously been havens for insurgent fighters.

"We have more troops in the field today than in 2011. Those safe havens are no longer safe for the insurgents, so they push them harder and we fight more," Katz told journalists.

He said attacks for the year to date were actually at similar levels to the same period last year, despite high-profile attacks in Kabul in April and June that highlighted the continuing ability of militants to penetrate security lines.

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5. [Security, Pakistan] Twelve Kg Bomb Defused Near Rangers' Sachal Wing In Karachi

Monday, July 16 2012

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/409021/12kg-bomb-defused-near-rangers-sachal-wing-in-karachi/>

The Bomb Disposal Squad on Monday defused a bomb placed in an empty plot near Super Highway in Karachi. The plot was located near the Rangers' Sachal Wing headquarters.

The bomb carried 12 kilograms of explosives as well as ball bearings and was made in an oil canister.

A Rangers official said that it is too early to comment on whether the bomb was intended to target the rangers or not. "We will wait till the investigation into the matter is completed," he said.

The official also added that the bomb was made in a similar way as the one defused earlier at the Jinnah hospital on June 24. He said there is a possibility that both the bombs were made by the same group.

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6. [Attack, Afghanistan] Roadside Bomb Kills Two NATO Troops, Three Civilians

Monday, July 16 2012

<http://www.airforcetimes.com/news/2012/07/ap-2-nato-troops-3-civilians-killed-in-afghanistan-071612/>

Two troops with the U.S.-led international military coalition and three Afghan men died Monday in violence in southern Afghanistan, local and NATO officials said.

The Afghan men died when their car hit a roadside bomb in Spin Boldak district of Kandahar province, said provincial police chief Gen. Abdul Razaq.

The coalition said the two service members were killed in an insurgent attack in the south where Afghan and international troops are trying to retain control of territory they seized during the past two years.

The coalition did not disclose any more details about the deaths.

So far this year, 237 international service members have been killed in Afghanistan, including at least 168 Americans.

On Sunday, three Afghan women died when the tractor they were riding hit a roadside bomb in Khakrez district of Kandahar province, said district police chief Gul Jan.

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7. [Attack, Afghanistan] Eight Fall Prey To Deadly Landmines; Four Injured In Bomb Attack

Tuesday, July 17 2012

<http://paktribune.com/news/Eight-fall-prey-to-deadly-landmines-Four-injured-in-bomb-attack-251535.html>

At least eight civilians were killed and four others wounded in separate roadside bomb explosions in Spin Boldak and Khakrez districts of Kandahar province, police said Monday.

A civilian motorcar struck a landmine in the limits of Spin Boldak district, leaving five occupants dead and a women wounded, General Abdul Raziq, police chief of Kandahar province, told AIP.

In another development, he said, a landmine exploded on a tractor trolley in Chinar area of Khakrez district yesterday, killing three women and wounding another.

Landmines are a big threat to the people of Afghanistan but neither the government nor the international community has so far been able to eliminate this threat despite spending millions of funds. Both the government and anti-government armed groups accuse each other responsible for these attacks.

Meanwhile, a roadside bomb attack, targeting Khanabad district chief, left four people wounded in Kunduz City, capital of northern Kunduz province, afternoon, police said Monday.

The roadside bomb exploded when administrator of Khanabad district, Nizamuddin Aasher, was passing through the area, said Abdullah, head of counter-terrorism police, in Kunduz province. The district chief escaped unhurt but his driver and three passers-by were wounded in the explosion.

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8. [Attack, Pakistan] Bomb Kills At Least 12 Shiites In Pakistan's Tribal Area

Wednesday, July 18 2012

http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/world_now/2012/07/bomb-kills-at-least-12-shiites-in-pakistans-tribal-area.html

A pickup truck packed with Shiite Muslim passengers struck a powerful roadside bomb in one of Pakistan's volatile tribal areas on Wednesday, killing 12 people and wounding three others, officials said.

The attack in the Orakzai agency may have had sectarian overtones; the victims were traveling from a Shiite village to a nearby town. The explosion tore the vehicle apart, leaving behind flaming debris and charred bodies.

The injured were taken to Peshawar, the urban hub of Pakistan's northwest, for medical treatment. Security forces cordoned off the area, but no arrests were immediately reported.

Orakzai is considered a major bastion of the Taliban and other insurgent groups despite an offensive in 2009 by Pakistani security forces. The government exerts some control in Shiite-dominated areas, but insurgents have free rein elsewhere in the agency.

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9. [Attack, Afghanistan] Taliban Bomb Destroys 22 NATO Fuel Tankers

Wednesday, July 18 2012

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-18882247>

A bomb planted by the Taliban in northern Afghanistan has destroyed 22 Nato fuel tankers carrying supplies to coalition forces, local officials say.

The vehicles were hit by a pre-dawn explosion which triggered a huge fire that engulfed them in flames, they say. At the time, the trucks were parked overnight in Samangan province, as they headed from Uzbekistan towards Nato forces in the south.

Police told the BBC that the fire caused by the bomb is still burning.

An intelligence official said the device was attached under one of the trucks, which were parked close together.

"Since it was early in the morning, there were not a lot of people around. Otherwise, it could have caused a lot more casualties," the official told the BBC.

In a statement, the Taliban said they carried out the attack, which officials say is the first of its kind in northern Afghanistan.

The trucks were attacked in the same province where well-known Afghan politician Ahmad Khan Samangani was killed in a suicide attack on Saturday while attending his daughter's wedding.

Nato has relied heavily on overland supplies from Central Asia since last November when Pakistan banned Nato convoys after US airstrikes killed 24 Pakistani soldiers on the Afghan border.

Although Pakistan lifted its blockade earlier this month, Nato traffic has yet to return to normal.

While attacks on Nato tankers have been commonplace in Pakistan in recent years, correspondents say such attacks in Afghanistan have been much less frequent.



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10. [Attack, Pakistan] Fourteen Killed In Orakzai Bomb Blast

Wednesday, July 18 2012

<http://www.nation.com.pk/pakistan-news-newspaper-daily-english-online/national/18-Jul-2012/bomb-kills-eight-in-orakzai-official>

A bomb tore through a vehicle in Orakzai on Wednesday, killing 14 members of the same clan, including three children, officials said.

"It was a remote-controlled bomb planted on the road. The bomb exploded near a pick-up van carrying passengers," senior administration official Zakir Hussain told AFP of the incident in Sepoy village, Orakzai district.

Eight people were killed on the spot and six died in Kohat hospital, Hussain said.

The dead included three women, two 11-year-old boys and a three-year-old girl, he said. All the victims were part of the same clan or same extended family.

"It was a militant attack, the aim was to create panic in the area by killing ordinary people," Hussain said.

Doctor Mohammad Naeem of Kohat District Hospital confirmed the toll and said that an 11-year-old boy with serious injuries was transferred to Peshawar for specialist care.

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11. [Attack, Afghanistan] Bombs Kill Eight Afghan Civilians, Two Nato Soldiers

Thursday, July 19 2012

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/south-asia/Bombs-kill-8-Afghan-civilians-2-NATO-soldiers/articleshow/15043285.cms>

Eight Afghan civilians were killed in a Taliban bombing in northern Afghanistan on Thursday and two NATO soldiers were killed in similar bombs elsewhere in the troubled country, officials said.

The civilians died in northern Faryab province when their mini-van struck a home-made bomb of the kind widely used by Taliban insurgents in attacks aimed at military forces.

"Eight civilians, including a woman and child, were killed and six others wounded," provincial police chief, Abdul Khaliq Aqsai said, adding that a police convoy had been passing as the bomb exploded.

Jawed Badar, a spokesman for the provincial administration, said the civilians were travelling to the provincial capital for Ramzan, the Muslim fasting month which is set to start within days.

In separate but similar explosions two NATO soldiers were killed in eastern and southern Afghanistan on Thursday, the military said, giving no further details.

Roadside bombs are the most the common weapon used by Taliban insurgents waging a war to bring down the government of President Hamid Karzai, which is backed by some 130,000 US-led NATO troops.

Most insurgent activity is centred in southern and eastern Afghanistan, but the militants have stepped up attacks in the previously peaceful northern and western parts of the country.

On Wednesday, a bomb that authorities said was planted by the Taliban destroyed 22 fuel tankers carrying supplies for NATO troops in Samangan, a province along a key highway that connects Kabul, Afghanistan's capital, to the north.

Earlier in the week a suicide bomb attack on a wedding party in the same province killed 17 people, including a prominent MP.

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12. [Attack, Nigeria] Suicide Bomber Targets Mosque In Nigeria

Friday, July 13 2012

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/africa/2012/07/2012713153221739855.html>

A suicide bomber has killed five people at the central mosque in the northeastern Nigerian city of Maiduguri, the military has said, the latest attack in a region plagued by Islamist group Boko Haram.

"Five people have been killed and six others injured in the Maiduguri central mosque suicide bomb attack," military

spokesman Sagir Musa told reporters on Friday.

The attack narrowly missed the deputy governor of Borno state, Zanna Umar Mustapha, and Borno's Shehu, or regional

religious leader, Abubakar Umar Garbai El-Kanemi, who were attending Muslim Friday prayers.

"The suicide bomber, who was about 15 years old, was pushed between me and the Shehu before detonating the bomb. Fortunately we both escaped unhurt," Mustapha told reporters.

A military official said two soldiers assigned to guard Kanemi were "critically injured" in the attack.

No group has claimed responsibility for the attack, but Boko Haram has targeted the Shehu in the past and claimed the assassination last year of Kanemi's brother.

Boko Haram has said it wants to create an Islamic state in northern Nigeria and has disowned traditional religious leaders like Kanemi for allowing themselves to be ruled by Nigeria's secular government.

In a statement released on Monday, the group also vowed to "continue to hunt for government officials, wherever they are."

Boko Haram has killed hundreds of people this year, often targeting places of worship, usually Christian churches.

The group claimed responsibility for attacks that killed more than 65 people in volatile central Nigeria last weekend.

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13. [Attack, Nigeria] Bomb Explosions In Okene As Worshippers Scamper For Safety

Monday, July 16 2012

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201207161323.html>

Worshippers in Living Faith and Deeper Life Churches in Obehira in Okene, Kogi State Sunday scampered for their lives when a car loaded with explosives exploded during the church services.

The incident, which occurred at about 9:30am, caused pandemonium as the worshippers and residents of the area ran in different directions.

The police authorities in the state confirmed the bomb blast.

The state Police Public Relations Officer, Mr. Ile Simon, however said that there was no casualty.

He also hinted that one of the two occupants of the car has been apprehended and that investigation was ongoing to get to the root of the bomb blast that generated considerable fear across the state.

An eyewitness who spoke with THISDAY on the condition of anonymity narrated how the blast occurred.

He noted that the intention of the occupants of the exploded car was to wait for the church services to end before striking.

The witness also added that the intention of the bombers was that car, which was parked in a nearby filling station would proceed to the church when the worshippers are leaving the church.

According to him, unfortunately, one of the two occupants of the car was making a call outside the car when the bomb went off.

While he escaped, his accomplice who was in the car was not as lucky. He was apprehended by security agents.

The blast coincides with widespread fears among residents of Lokoja over a purportedly predicted attack on the state capital by renowned Lagos-based preacher.

In fact, following the prediction, some students of the state-owned Kogi State Polytechnic had to vacate the school.

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14. [Attack, Somalia] Car Bomb Kills Ex-Minister In Somali Capital

Monday, July 16 2012

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/africa/2012/07/2012716104555689807.html>

A car bomb went off Monday in Somalia's volatile capital Mogadishu, killing a former trade minister and wounding six

people nearby, officials said.

"The driver who died in the car bomb was Mohamed Abdinur Garweyne, he was a former trade minister and a lawmaker," said Mohamed Dhere, another lawmaker.

"The police could not identify his body initially because it was so badly burned in the explosion," he added.



Police Colonel Ali Mohamed confirmed the "driver of the car was killed and six civilians walking nearby were injured, some of them seriously".

Some witnesses said the explosion could have been a bomb attached beneath the driver's seat - a tactic reportedly used previously by the al-Qaeda-linked Shabab armed group - as the front of the vehicle was worst hit.

"The explosion was very heavy," said Hassan Muhidin, a witness. "The front part of the car was totally destroyed and the severed dead body of the driver is still lying there."

Police said they were still investigating the exact cause of the blast.

"My sister, who was selling tea near the scene of the explosion, was seriously injured," said Farhiyo Ahmed, another witness. "I saw several other bleeding people who were injured."

No group has immediately claimed responsibility for the blast, which follows a string of explosions including roadside bombs and grenades that have rocked the Somali capital.

The city has seen a series of such attacks since the hardline Shebab abandoned fixed positions there last year and switched to guerrilla tactics against the Western-backed government and a 17,000-strong African Union force.

The Shebab face increasing pressure from pro-government forces and regional armies, having lost a series of key towns and strategic bases in recent months. However, experts warn they are far from defeated and remain a major threat.

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15. [Attack, Nigeria] Nigeria Muslim School In Jos Targeted By Rocket

Tuesday, July 17 2012

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-18871816>

A 10-year-old boy has died after a rocket was fired at a school in the Nigerian city of Jos but missed and hit a nearby building, officials say.

The school authorities say the boy was not a pupil at the large co-educational institution owned by the city's Muslim community.

The BBC's Ishaq Khalid in Jos says the students were sitting their exams at the time of the blast.

Jos has witnessed years of inter-ethnic and religious violence.

Our reporter says it is not the first time that the Nurul Islam junior and senior school has experienced trouble.

Several weeks ago some people were arrested and a bomb defused in the area surrounding the school, he says.

Jos is the capital of Plateau state, which lies on the fault line between Nigeria's mainly Muslim north and Christian and animist south.

The militant Islamist group Boko Haram, which is fighting to overthrow the government and create an Islamic state, has also been behind various attacks in the city, mainly on churches.

Last week it said it had killed two politicians who were attending a funeral for people who died during communal violence in Plateau state.

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16. [Attack, Somalia] Beledweyne Residents Wake To Explosions

Tuesday, July 17 2012

http://www.garoweonline.com/artman2/publish/Somalia_27/Somalia_Beledweyne_residents_wake_to_explosions.shtml

A string of early morning explosions rocked the central city of Beledweyne targeting Ethiopian and Somali troops, Radio Garowe.

According to local sources, the attacks which officials speculate were improvised explosive devices (IEDs) targeted allied forces as they were preparing to conduct the morning operations in Beledweyne, the capital of Hiraan region.

It is unclear how many casualties were killed in the successive blasts that residents of Beledweyne rouse to. Both Transitional Federal Government (TFG) officials and Ethiopian military officials have not yet released statements on casualties in Tuesday morning's blast.

However local sources on the ground in Beledweyne say that the troops fired indiscriminately after the attacks and that there is a possibility of civilian casualties.

There have been no confirmations on if the attacks came from Al Shabaab.

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17. [Security, Nigeria] Police Recover 46 Bombs From Building Housing Church, Mosque

Tuesday, July 17 2012

<http://tribune.com.ng/index.php/front-page-news/44298-kogi-police-recover-46-bombs-from-building-housing-church-mosque>

After a car with registration number Kogi LKJ 919 AA, rigged with explosive devices, exploded in Okene on Sunday, a bomb and explosive factory has been discovered in an apartment in Kogi State.

The building also houses a church and a mosque at Okaito, a remote village in Okehi LGA of the state. On the building was an inscription: "Any weapon fashioned against me shall not prosper."

The Kogi State Police Commissioner, Mr Muhammed Katsina, while addressing newsmen, on Monday, said that through the efforts of the police command's expanded strategic network, it got intelligence report on the location of the factory, where the bombs and explosives were being manufactured.

According to him, what baffled him was that, in the same bomb factory were a church and a mosque, adding that bibles, rosaries, pictures of Jesus Christ and other Christian worship materials were found, just as copies of the Holy Qur'an were also recovered from another room that served as mosque.

He said, in a joint operation between the police and the army, the security officers stormed the factory and recovered the items.

The police boss, who declined to mention the owner of the said building, stressed that investigation was ongoing and warned property owners, particularly landlords, to investigate properly those who they were renting their houses to.

He added that anyone involved in the process of causing crisis in and around the state, no matter how highly placed, would not be spared.

Katsina, who also paraded the suspect and items recovered from the bomb factory, described the incident as a case of miscreants who were engaged in criminal activities across the state.



Items recovered from the bomb factory included, 46 Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs), 15 capacitors, 15 fuses, three bottles of potassium chloride, five litres of acid and one electrical detonator.

Others were, roll of firing cables, 250m detonating cord, three remote controlled siren GSM sets, nails of various sizes, ammunition, motorcycle, bibles, Qur'ans and other household items.

It will be recalled that from December 2011 till date, four different bomb factories have been uncovered in Kogi State, with one in Kabba, the western axis of the state, while the remaining three were in Okene, Okehi and Adavi areas, all in the central area of the state.

Meanwhile, a suspected terrorist in Kaduna has led the police to a hideout in Rafin Guza village, where explosive devices were manufactured to cause mayhem and kill innocent people, the Commissioner of Police in Kaduna State, Mohammad Jinjiri Abubakar, has said.

Mr Abubakar spoke to newsmen on Monday shortly after he displayed materials for the manufacture of Improvised Explosive Device (IED) and a cache of arms and ammunition recovered, following the confession of an unnamed terrorist, who was arrested in Kaduna.

The commissioner said in the police continued clampdown on criminal elements in the state, on Monday, July 16, a confessed terrorist led a team of detectives to Rafin-Guza area, where a hideout was raided and a bomb-making powder, different cans of explosives, two bags of chemicals, two masks, eight car alarms, four khaki uniforms and one AK47 with 27 rounds of live ammunition were recovered.

Commenting on the arrest of two gunmen in Kaduna on Sunday, Abubakar said that, 'on Sunday, July 15, at about 1030hours, following distress calls, as sporadic gunshots were being fired at Hayin Taro-Taro, Rigasa area, a police patrol team raced to the scene. The team discovered that three gunmen on a motorcycle were attacking the residence of one Aliyu Abdulwahab, the district head of Afaka, when people who sighted them raised the alarm.

"The gunmen continued to shoot indiscriminately in their bid to escape, injuring seven persons in the process. Police and army patrol teams, assisted by youths around, went in hot pursuit and arrested two of the gunmen, Nura Abubakar and Mohammed Kabir, who had been injured at Mahuta village.

"IEDs and two AK47 rifles, three magazines and ammunition were recovered from the two gunmen. The two suspects are in the custody of the 1 Division Nigerian Army, while seven injured victims are being treated at 44 Army Reference Hospital, Kaduna," he said. In a related development, the police have arrested three bandits out of a gang of four operating on two motorcycles, who stormed a gas station at Maraban Yakawada .



The Kaduna State commissioner of police gave the names of the armed bandits who were arrested, while attempting to rob the manager of the gas station as Ibrahim Usman, Zakari Hassan and Umar Mohammed, saying the police recovered an IED, one AK47 rifle with 28 rounds of ammunition, one Revolver with six rounds of ammunition, four expended ammunition, one Nokia handset and one motorcycle from them. He assured that his command would not relent in its efforts to keep the state free of criminal elements.

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18. [Attack, Kenya] Grenade Attack In Northeast Kenya Wounds Five

Wednesday, July 18 2012

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/07/18/us-kenya-violence-idUSBRE86H19Y20120718>

Two grenades hurled at a restaurant in the northeastern Kenyan town of Wajir, near the border with Somalia, wounded five people on Wednesday, provincial officials and residents said, in the latest in a spate of attacks in the region.

Kenya has been hit by a series of grenade and bomb blasts since its troops crossed into Somalia in October to fight Islamist militants.

Nairobi has blamed Somalia's al Shabaab, a movement linked to al Qaeda. The attackers have targeted Kenya's northeast, the capital and the port city of Mombasa, threatening the country's lucrative tourism sector.

"I heard two blasts and people screaming behind my house," Ibrahim, a resident in the neighborhood, told Reuters.

Five people were wounded and some were being treated at the district hospital, provincial medical officer Abdikader Sheikh said.

"No deaths have been reported, only cases of injuries from a twin explosive attack," he added.

Three Kenyan police officers were killed in an ambush in the northeastern border town of Liboi on Monday.

Al Shabaab merged with al Qaeda this year and has declared war on Kenya because of its incursion into Somalia.

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19. [Trend, Yemen] Suspected Militant Killed By Own Bomb

Sunday, July 15 2012

<http://www.sacbee.com/2012/07/15/4632260/yemen-suspected-militant-killed.html>

A Yemeni security official says a suspected al-Qaida militant accidentally set off a bomb he was preparing in a metal workshop in the capital, killing himself and injuring one other person.

The official said the explosion happened early Sunday in Sanaa's southern Hizzayz district.

At least 10 police cadets were killed last week when a suspected al-Qaida bomber detonated his explosives among the cadets as they were leaving the police academy in Sanaa for the weekend.

In the southern port city of Aden, meanwhile, security forces arrested two people Sunday who were driving a car rigged with explosives but a third person managed to flee, another official said.

Both officials spoke on condition of anonymity according to regulations.

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20. [Attack, Iraq] Roadside Bomb Explosion Kills Two Soldiers In Northern Iraq

Monday, July 16 2012

http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/middle_east/iraqi-officials-roadside-bomb-explosion-kills-2-soldiers-in-northern-iraq/2012/07/16/gJQAXL2OoW_story.html

Iraqi officials say a roadside bomb has killed two soldiers in the country's north.

Two police officers in Ninevah province say the Monday noon attack killed two off-duty soldiers near the city of Mosul, 225 miles (360 kilometers) northwest of Baghdad.

The officials say the two soldiers were heading home when the bomb struck their civilian car. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they are not authorized to talk to the media.

Violence has ebbed in Iraq, but government employees and security forces are frequently targeted by insurgents.

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21. [Attack, Syria] Four Killed In Syria Bomb Attack

Saturday, July 14 2012

<http://www.irishexaminer.com/breakingnews/world/four-killed-in-syria-bomb-attack-559136.html>

A suicide bomber blew up his car in a central Syrian town today, killing three civilians and one security officer, Syria's state news agency said.

SANA said the attacker, who camouflaged the bomb with onions, detonated the explosives in the town of Muhrada.

The anti-regime Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said the bomb targeted the local military security headquarters. Both reports said the dead included two women and a child.

The Observatory provided a photo of what it said was the bomb site. It showed the facades blown off buildings on opposite sides of a street.

Bombings of security buildings throughout Syria have grown more common as the uprising against President Bashar Assad has turned into a rebel insurgency. Many worry the attacks reflect the rise of Islamist extremists and possibly al Qaida in the anti-Assad struggle.

Activists say more than 17,000 people, mostly civilians, have been killed since the uprising started with protests calling for political reform in March last year. The government says more than 4,000 security personnel have been killed. It does not provide numbers for civilians killed.

Credible claims of responsibility for such attacks are rare, although a shadowy militant group calling itself the Al-Nusra Front has claimed some of them in postings on militant websites. Little is known about the group.

The government blames them on armed gangs and terrorists which it says are behind the uprising. Syria's rebels often accuse the government of orchestrating the bombings to discredit the opposition.

Muhrada is 13 miles north west of the central city of Hama and is the nearest large town to Tremseh, the village where activists say government troops killed scores of people on Thursday.

The United Nations blamed government forces for the Tremseh assault, saying UN observers nearby saw government troops using heavy weaponry and attack helicopters.

Activists said the army surrounded and shelled the village before storming it with pro-government gunmen who killed people in the streets. They provided videos showing tanks in the town and dozens of bodies.

Late yesterday, numbers of confirmed dead ranged between 74 and 150 as residents collected bodies and compiled names.

The government said the army intervened while armed terrorists were harassing the town. Today, the state news agency posted photos of rifles, hand grenades, mortars, cell phones and video cameras it said had been found in the town.

Government and activist claims could not be independently verified.

The killings in Tremseh cast new doubt over whether the international community's efforts to find a diplomatic solution to Syria's crisis remain relevant.

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22. [Trend, Syria] Footage Shows Bomb Attack On Syrian Tanks (Video)

Tuesday, July 17 2012

<http://www.itn.co.uk/home/50547/Bomb+attack+on+Syrian+tanks>

Unverified footage has been released, showing a truck filled with explosives being blown up outside a Syrian army outpost.

Amateur video appears to show Free Syrian Army troops watching a government tank position in the village of Salqin, Idlib on Sunday.

The film cuts to a truck, which appears to be the source of a huge explosion moments later.

The scene is filled with dust which does not clear before the video cuts - the outcome of the attack is unknown but the narrator says more will follow.

Syria has spiralled into conflict following what began as an Arab Spring inspired protest movement.

However a crackdown by forces loyal to President Assad saw the opposition become increasingly heavily armed.

The International Committee for the Red Cross now classifies the conflict in Syria as a civil war.

Video: <http://www.itn.co.uk/home/50547/Bomb+attack+on+Syrian+tanks>

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23. [Attack, Syria] Syria Defense Minister Gen. Dawoud Rajha Killed In Explosion In Damascus

Wednesday, July 18 2012

http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-202_162-57474510/syria-defense-minister-gen-dawoud-rajha-reportedly-killed-in-explosion-in-damascus/

An explosion inside the Syrian national security headquarters in Damascus targeted ministers from President Bashar Assad's regime who were meeting with defense officials on Wednesday, killing two of the most senior members of Assad's inner circle, including his brother-in-law.

The Syrian Army said Defense Minister Gen. Dawoud Rajha and his deputy Asef Shawkat were both killed in the explosion.

Shawkat, Assad's brother-in-law, also held the title of Deputy Chief of Staff. Other ministers and military officials were seriously injured in the explosion, according to the state-run TV channel.

"The attack makes Syria, its armed forces, people and leadership, more determined to stand up to terror groups and amputate the arm of anybody who seeks undermine Syrian security," continued the Army.

Syrian State TV denied another report that Interior Minister Mohammed al-Shaar was dead, saying he was hospitalized in stable condition.

CBS News correspondent Elizabeth Palmer explains that, in spite of increasing attacks in recent weeks, Damascus had remained a bubble of relative normality in Syria. Wednesday's crippling blow, however, will almost certainly put an end to that image - even among those regime supporters who have tried to ignore the encroaching reality.

Fierce gun battles and other explosions were reported around the capital following the attack on the security headquarters.

Opposition leader Kamal al-Labwani told al-Arabiya, a pan-Arab satellite channel, that a member of the rebel Free Syrian Army planted a TNT and C-4-based device inside the building ahead of the meeting, and then detonated the bomb remotely before fleeing to safety. There were conflicting claims, however, from other opposition figures, some of them claiming a suicide belt had been used in the attack.

CBS News' George Baghdadi reports from the scene of the explosion that the blast did not appear to be very large. There have been previous bomb attacks inside Syria targeting regime officials, but they have been much larger explosions and targeting much lower-ranking members of the government and security forces.

The national security headquarters is among the most tightly secured buildings in Damascus, suggesting the individual who planted the device likely was an insider. Officials told Al Jazeera that the person who planted the device was one of the cabinet member's personal bodyguards.

The armed uprising against Assad's regime has intensified rapidly in recent weeks, with mounting military and political defections eroding his family's long-time grip on power as rebel forces engage his troops more frequently in Damascus, the president's seat of power.

The Free Syrian Army announced in a statement on Monday the launch of an offensive dubbed "the Damascus volcano and earthquakes of Syria," reports CBS News' Khaled Wassef.

The statement said the FSA had begun carrying out attacks on all security stations and branches in Syrian cities and the countryside. It called for attacks on military forces and pro-regime militia checkpoints across the country, as well as cutting off all international highways.

The Muslim Brotherhood, a political party which has risen to new heights in nearby Egypt since the overthrow of President Hosni Mubarak, is the main faction in the biggest Syrian opposition group, the Syrian National Council. The Brotherhood issued a statement Tuesday urging the Syrian people to rise up and back the rebels locked in what the group called a "decisive battle" against Assad's troops in Damascus.

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24. [Attack, Yemen] Car Bomb Kills South Yemen Police Chief

Thursday, July 19 2012

<http://www.brecorder.com/world/middle-east/68890-car-bomb-kills-south-yemen-police-chief.html>

A car bomb on Thursday killed the police chief of Yemen's southern city of Aden when he was on his way to office, a police official said, accusing Al-Qaeda of carrying out the attack.

Colonel Abdullah al-Mouzai, the head of the police in Aden, "was killed when a device placed in his car exploded," the police official said, adding that the blast occurred when the police chief left home for his office.

A medic told AFP that Mouzai was "seriously injured and taken to the hospital where he succumbed to his wounds."

The police official blamed Al-Qaeda for the attack.

"Al-Qaeda elements placed the explosives in the colonel's car," he said, adding that Mouzai had previously survived four assassination attempts in Aden as well as in the neighbouring Lahij province where he used to work.



The official further said that security forces had "dismantled four explosive devices placed in vehicles of police officers across Aden since the beginning of July."

In a separate incident in Aden, a gunman was injured when he threw two bombs early Thursday at the local administration's headquarters, a security official said.

"He threw a bomb that fell into the compound, while a second bomb hit the outer wall and bounced back on the assailant wounding him," the security official said, without giving any details of the attacker.

There were no reports of other casualties in the incident.

Al-Qaeda militants had strengthened their presence over the past year across the south, taking advantage of a central government weakened by an Arab Spring-inspired uprising.

But on May 12, the military launched an all-out offensive against them, making significant advances.

Aden is also a stronghold of the Southern Movement that groups activists pushing for greater autonomy for the south and those who want full independence for the region, which was a separate state until 1990.

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25. [Attack, Turkey] Turkish Police And Kurds Clash, Bomb Wounds 12

Saturday, July 14 2012

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/sns-rt-us-turkey-kurdsbre86d060-20120714,0,144785.story>

Riot police fired water cannon and teargas as they clashed with stone-throwing Kurdish protesters in south-east Turkey on Saturday, and militants elsewhere in the region detonated a bomb that wounded 12 police officers.

Kurdish members of parliament were caught up in the rioting as police and demonstrators battled on the streets of the main south-eastern city of Diyarbakir, where the pro-Kurdish Peace and Democracy Party (BDP) had sought to hold a rally.

Some of the demonstrators tried to pull up paving stones and break them to throw at the police; others pushed over refuse containers in an attempt to barricade some streets.

Police, demonstrators and at least one BDP deputy were hurt in the rioting, and some protesters were detained, witnesses said. No figures were immediately available.

The local governor had refused the party permission to hold the rally, planned in part to call for the release of jailed Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) militant leader Abdullah Ocalan.

The rally coincided with the first anniversary of a declaration of "democratic autonomy" by Kurdish politicians, and it was also exactly one year after PKK guerrillas killed 13 soldiers in an attack in Diyarbakir.

Police issued warning calls for the crowds, which included children, to disperse before officers in riot gear moved in to break up the groups.

In the eastern town of Edremit, in Van province on the border with Iran, PKK militants detonated a roadside bomb by remote control, wounding 12 police officers after they got out of a vehicle, security sources said.

The wounded police were not reported to be in serious condition.

More than 40,000 people have been killed since the PKK took up arms against the state in 1984 with the aim of creating a separate state in mainly Kurdish south-east Turkey.

POLICE AND MPS IN STANDOFF

In Diyarbakir, tensions were high between police and members of the BDP seeking to reach the planned site for the rally. Police first blocked a BDP bus, then blocked the path of some 50 politicians who were walking toward the site, leading to shoving between the two sides.

"You cannot block the path of members of parliament. You are committing a crime," BDP Chairman Selahattin Demirtas told the police.

One BPD deputy got soaked by a water cannon in the central commercial district of Ofis as the police dispersed the crowd.

Elsewhere in the southeast, on the road between Siirt and Sirnak provinces, a group of PKK militants set up a road block on Saturday afternoon and halted vehicles to carry out identity searches of vehicles passing through.

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26. [Security, United Kingdom] Members Of Terror Watch List Reportedly Pass Through London Airport Security Ahead Of Olympics

Sunday, July 15 2012

<http://www.foxnews.com/sports/2012/07/15/members-terror-watch-list-reportedly-pass-through-london-airport-security-ahead/>

Britain's Olympic security plans fell under fresh scrutiny Sunday, with a newspaper reporting that several people on a terror watch list have been waved through airport border controls without being flagged and officials trying to calm the uproar over a security contractor's failure to provide its promised number of staff.

The Observer newspaper's report is the latest in a series of last-minute concerns to surface as London gets ready to host the Olympic Games from July 27 to Aug. 12.

The paper said that, since the start of the month, immigration staff at London's Heathrow Airport had missed several people on a security watch list whose arrival in the country was meant to have been reported to counter-terrorism police or Britain's domestic intelligence service.

The newspaper cited unions as suggesting that staff brought in to help relieve the pressure at Heathrow, which has faced recurring problems handling large influxes of passengers, weren't being properly trained. The airport, Europe's busiest, has recently struggled to clear huge lines that build up at immigration checkpoints during peak times, leading to fears of Olympics-related chaos as tourists fly in to watch the games.

The report left it unclear whether the people on the watch list were still in the country, whether they were intercepted later, or exactly why they had attracted the attention of counter-terrorism officials in the first place. Britain's Home Office declined to comment Sunday on the Observer story.

British authorities already are under pressure over the failure of security contractor G4S to deliver some 10,400 personnel to protect stadiums and other events. The blunder has forced the government to call in an extra 3,500 troops to guard the games — that's over and above the 7,500 troops already promised to help out at some 100 venues and sensitive sites.

The Independent on Sunday newspaper reported that top Home Office officials had been warned by police nearly a year ago about concerns over the ability of G4S to provide enough staff for the Olympic Games, while the BBC quoted the chief of Britain's National Association of Retired Police Officers as saying that his group could have helped fill the shortfall in manpower — if only G4S had bothered getting in touch.

"With enough notice we could have provided a significant number (of retired officers)," he told the BBC. "They have made no effort to do that."

The British minister in charge of the Olympics appeared on a talk show Sunday to try to contain the scandal — noting that G4S boss Nick Buckles had apologized and would be footing the bill for the last-

minute military deployment — as well as up to 20 million pounds (\$31 million) for failing to live up to his company's end of the deal.

"I don't think this is a moment for getting into the blame game actually," Hunt told the BBC's "Andrew Marr Show." "G4S has been quite honorable. They put their hands up. Nick Buckles, their chief executive, has said they got it wrong. They've apologized. They're going to cover all the costs."

Hunt insisted that the government realized only last week that G4s would not be able to meet its targets and that it immediately activated its contingency plans.

"I think it's completely normal that you're going to find some contractors on a project of this size who aren't able to deliver what they've promised," he said, stressing that security for the games would not be compromised. "We have contingency plans for all eventualities."

London organizing chairman Sebastian Coe seemed to express sympathy with G4S, saying that "the reality is that it was only when the rubber hit the road that we were able to see, as G4S identified, a gap," he told BBC radio.

In a separate interview with The Sunday Telegraph, Buckles said he had considered resigning over the blunder — although he didn't seem in any hurry to go.

"I want to stay," he told the newspaper, after admitting that the failure had been a "big setback" for the company. "I am very committed to staying. It just depends, doesn't it?"

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27. [Attack, Bulgaria] Israelis Killed In Bulgaria Bus Blast

Wednesday, July 18 2012

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/europe/2012/07/2012718153738369580.html>

A bus carrying Israeli youth has exploded in a Bulgarian resort, killing at least four people and wounding 27, police and hospital officials said.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called Wednesday's blast "an Iranian terror attack" and promised a tough response.

The explosion took place in the Black Sea city of Burgas, some 400km east of the capital, Sofia. Images shown on Israeli and Bulgarian media showed smoke billowing from the scene - a parking lot at the local airport, where the Israeli tourists had apparently just landed.

Several buses and cars were on fire near the carcass of the targeted vehicle.

Bulgaria, an eastern European nation bordering Greece and Turkey, is a popular tourist destination for Israelis.

It was not yet certain what caused the blast - whether it was the result of a suicide bomber or a device remotely detonated - and no group immediately claimed responsibility.

Israeli officials confirmed that Israeli citizens were targeted in the attack.



"What we know is that sometime close to 5:00 pm there was a flight that landed in Burgas, the passengers went onto a bus and then there was an explosion that we don't know the source of," said Ilana Stein, deputy spokeswoman for the Israeli foreign ministry.

"What we know is that there are casualties and probably not only injured but also dead. We know that some were Israelis but we don't know if all of them were," she told AFP.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu blamed Iran for the attack, warning that his country would "respond forcefully" to strikes by Tehran.

"All the signs lead to Iran," he said in a statement. "Israel will respond forcefully to Iranian terror."



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28. [Attack, Bulgaria] Bulgaria Says Suicide Attacker In Baseball Cap, Sneakers, Shorts Attacked Israeli Tourist Bus (Video)

Thursday, July 19 2012

http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/middle_east/israel-vows-tough-response-to-iran-after-deadly-bus-attack-kills-7-in-bulgaria/2012/07/18/gJQArk9ZuW_story.html

A lanky, long-haired man wearing a baseball cap and plaid shorts with a fake Michigan driver's license carried out a deadly suicide attack on a bus full of Israeli vacationers, Bulgarian officials said Thursday.

Israel stuck by its claim that the attack was carried out by Iranian-backed Hezbollah, a Lebanese guerrilla group, and threatened retaliation. Seven people — five Israelis, the Bulgarian driver and the bomber — died in the blast Wednesday.

No group claimed responsibility for the attack. But Israel has attributed a series of attacks on its citizens around the world in recent months to Iran, threatening to escalate a shadow war between the two arch-enemies.

The attack occurred shortly after the Israelis boarded a bus outside the airport in the Black Sea resort town of Burgas, a popular destination for Israeli tourists — particularly for high school graduates before they are drafted into military service — about 400 kilometers (250 miles) east of the capital, Sofia.

Bulgarian television aired security camera footage Thursday showing the suspected bomber wandering in and out of the terminal shortly before the blast. He was dressed as a tourist himself, wearing a baseball cap, T-shirt, plaid shorts and sneakers with short white socks. He carried a large backpack with wheels, as well as a smaller bag.

Interior Minister Tsvetan Tsvetanov said the bomber was believed to have been about 36 years old and had been in the country between four and seven days.

"We cannot exclude the possibility that he had logistical support on Bulgarian territory," the minister said.

Officials were using DNA samples to try to establish his identity. Bulgarian Prime Minister Boiko Borisov told reporters that a Michigan driver's license was retrieved, but he said U.S. officials reported that "there was no such person in their database." Michigan is home to one of the largest Arab communities in the United States.

The Israelis had just arrived on a charter flight from Tel Aviv carrying 154 people, including eight children. Some of them told Israeli television that they were just boarding the white bus in the airport parking lot for a ride to their hotel when the blast occurred.

Officials reported overnight that an eighth person had died, but later said that was incorrect.

Israel's military said a military plane carrying 33 Israelis injured in the bombing arrived Thursday in Israeli. At least two critically injured Israelis were sent to Sofia for treatment, according to the head of the Israeli military medical corps, Brig. Gen. Itzik Kreis.

A Bulgarian government plane will fly home 100 other Israelis who were not wounded but who want to cut short their vacation.

Bulgarian authorities Thursday dispatched 200 police to hotels where about 1,000 Israelis were staying just north of Burgas. A representative of the Ortanna tour company said about 10,000 Israelis had booked vacations in Bulgaria through the firm this summer and about half had canceled after the attack.

Israel blamed Iran and its Hezbollah proxies for the attack, saying they are waging a campaign against Israeli targets everywhere.

Israel blamed Iran and its Hezbollah proxies for the attack, saying they are waging a campaign against Israeli targets everywhere. Hezbollah used suicide attackers against Israeli troops during the occupation of Lebanon but does not have a history of suicide strikes abroad.

"All signs point to Iran," Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said. "This is an Iranian terror attack that is spreading across the world. Israel will react forcefully to Iran's terror."

"The direct executors are Hezbollah," added Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak. "Israel will do all it can to find those responsible and punish them, both those who carried it out directly and those who dispatched them."

On Sunday, Cypriot authorities said they had arrested a 24-year-old man on suspicion of planning terror attacks. Cypriot radio said he was of Lebanese origin and carrying a Swedish passport. Netanyahu blamed Iran for the alleged plot.

On Thursday, Iran's state TV called Israel's claims that it was responsible for the Bulgarian attack "ridiculous" and "sensational."

In Berlin, German Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle urged the Israelis to show restraint until "the real perpetrators and backers" are found.

While Iran denied involvement in Wednesday's attack, it routinely makes accusations against Israel that feed speculation that it could support attacks on Israeli targets. Iran claims Israel's Mossad spy agency has been behind the slayings of at least five nuclear scientists since 2010, as well as other clandestine operations such as planting powerful computer viruses.

In April, computer malware known as Flame infiltrated key government networks in Iran and forced a temporary shutdown of Internet links at the Oil Ministry and a key oil shipment facility. In the most recent targeted killing of an Iranian scientist, a director of the country's main uranium enrichment facility was killed in January when a magnetic bomb attached to his car exploded in Tehran.

Israel has not directly replied to the Iranian charges. But Israeli leaders have repeatedly said that “all options are on the table” in trying to disrupt Iran’s nuclear program — a phrase that is widely interpreted as meaning the possibility of a military strike and other measures that could include cyberwarfare.

In Washington, the Obama administration condemned the blast “in the strongest possible terms.” White House press secretary Jay Carney said U.S. “commitment to Israel’s security remains unshakeable.”

Israel dispatched a military medical and relief team to Bulgaria, a European Union nation of 7.3 million that borders Greece and Turkey.

Bulgaria’s government resisted Nazi demands to deport Jews to death camps in World War II. Many of them migrated to Israel when the Communists seized power after the war. Since the fall of Communism, Bulgaria and Israel have maintained friendly ties.

The Burgas airport was closed and traffic redirected. In Sofia, the capital, Mayor Yordanka Fandakova ordered a stronger police presence at all public places linked to the Jewish community. Some 5,000 Jews live in Bulgaria, most in Sofia.



Video: <http://nyti.ms/SJScxH>

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29. [Attack, Russia] Top Muslim Cleric Shot Dead In Russian Province Of Tatarstan; Another Wounded In Car Bomb

Thursday, July 19 2012

http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/top-muslim-cleric-shot-dead-in-russian-province-of-tatarstan-another-wounded-in-car-bomb/2012/07/19/gJQADd2GvW_story.html

A top Muslim cleric in Russia's Tatarstan province was shot dead Thursday and another was wounded by a car bomb, attacks that the province's leader and local religious authorities said were probably related to the priests' criticism of radical Islamists.

Valiulla Yakupov, the deputy to the Muslim province's chief mufti, was gunned down Thursday as he left his house in Tatarstan's regional capital of Kazan, Russia's Investigative Committee said. Minutes later, chief mufti Ildus Faizov was wounded in the leg after an explosive device ripped through his car in central Kazan, it said.

Both clerics were known as critics of radical Islamist groups that advocate a strict and puritan version of Islam known as Salafism. Investigative Committee spokesman Vladimir Markin told Russian media his agency was looking into the clerics' stances as a possible reason for the attacks.

The rise of Salafism in this oil-rich Volga River province has been fueled by the influx of Muslim clerics from Chechnya and other predominantly Muslim provinces of Russia's Caucasus region, where Islamic insurgency has been raging for years. Last year, Doku Umarov, leader of embattled Chechen separatists, issued a religious decree calling on radical Islamists from the Caucasus to move to the densely-populated Volga River region that includes Tatarstan.

The 49-year-old Faizov became Tatarstan's chief mufti in 2011 and began a crackdown on radical Islamists by dismissing ultraconservative preachers and banning textbooks from Saudi Arabia, where the government-approved religious doctrine is based on Salafism.

He has also been criticized by media in Tatarstan for allegedly profiting on tours he organized for Muslim pilgrims and for trying to gain control of one of the oldest and largest mosques in Kazan, which receives hefty donations from thousands of believers.

Tatarstan's regional leader condemned the attack and called for tougher measures against radical Islamists.

"What happened today is an obvious challenge," Rustam Minnikhanov was quoted by the Interfax news agency as saying. "Our position must be much tougher. Traditional Islam has never allowed such things."

Minnikhanov visited the wounded mufti in the hospital, where Faizov told him he jumped out of the car right as soon as he heard a bang. "Good thing I was not buckled up," he was quoted by state media as saying.

More than a half of Tatarstan's 4 million people are Sunni Muslims. Tatars converted to Islam more than a thousand years ago, and the province became an important center of Muslim learning and culture under Tatar-Mongol rulers who controlled Russia and parts of Eastern Europe.

Islamic radicals from the Caucasus have called for the establishment of a caliphate, an independent Islamic state under Shariah law that includes the Caucasus, Tatarstan and other parts of Russia that were once part of the Golden Horde — a medieval Muslim state ruled by a Tatar-Mongol dynasty.

A Muslim leader from a neighboring region blamed local authorities for failing to thwart the assassination of Faizov. Muhammedgali Khuzin, mufti of the Perm region, told the Interfax news agency that he submitted a report in April to regional authorities about the dangers of radical Islamist groups.

“No due security measures have been taken,” Khuzin was quoted as saying.

In 2008, a court in Kazan sentenced a radical Islamist leader to life in prison for organizing a group that planned terrorist attacks in Tatarstan. Sixteen of his followers received prison terms ranging from three to 12 years.



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30. [Special Interest, India] Lashkar Planning 'Big Strikes' In Kashmir, Rest Of India

Friday, July 13 2012

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/India-news/NewDelhi/LeT-plans-big-strikes-in-J-and-K-rest-of-India-Jundal/Article1-888349.aspx>

With a Kashmir at peace not to their liking, the Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba is planning major terror attacks in the state and elsewhere in India, Abu Jundal, one of the arrested handlers of the 2008 Mumbai attackers, has revealed to his interrogators.

Jundal, believed to be "a mine of information" on the Lashkar and its anti-India plans, also told his interrogators that the group was planning to push hundreds of trained gunmen and weapons into Kashmir.

"The group wants to revive militancy in Jammu and Kashmir, particularly make its presence felt in urban areas," a reliable source privy to his interrogation details told IANS.

The source said that Jundal, believed to be the highest ranking Indian in the terror outfit, had stayed for some time in Pakistan-administered Kashmir before and after the Mumbai attack and became close to the Kashmiri militant leadership in Muzaffarabad.

He told his interrogators that the United Jihad Council (UJC), an amalgam of terror groups that operates out of Muzaffarabad, was making elaborate plans to push fresh groups of terrorists into Jammu and Kashmir through non-traditional routes along the Line of Control (LoC) - a de facto border that divides Kashmir between India and Pakistan.

Jundal, deported to India from Saudi Arabia last month, has revealed that these groups were planning to enter Kashmir through Poonch and Rajouri in the Jammu region.

These militants, as per the Lashkar plans, will then be sent to different parts of India where they will target places of worship and other crowded spots.

"Peace in Kashmir has in particular upset the Lashkar. The Lashkar leadership has asked the UJC commander (Syed Salahuddin who also heads the Hizbul Mujahideen) to pull up its socks," the source quoted Jundal as saying.

"They (militants) are planning big strikes in Kashmir," the source added, citing Jundal's interrogation.

Sources in Jammu and Kashmir Police told IANS that the information had been shared with them.

Subsequently, security has been beefed up, particularly for the hundreds of thousands of Hindus visiting the Amarnath cave temple near the south Kashmir tourist resort Pahalgam.

Kashmir Police sources said two recent militant strikes in south Kashmir in which a soldier and two policemen were killed may be part of the latest Lashkar strategy.

Jundal, who is being questioned at the heavily guarded Special Cell office of Delhi Police, has told his interrogators that it was actually a Kashmiri Lashkar commander who got him into the group.

Aslam Kashmiri, a known militant commander in the custody of Delhi Police after his arrest in 2009, met Jundal in Beed district of Maharashtra in 2005 through another Lashkar militant, Fayaz Kagzi.

Kashmiri, the sources said, had been given the job of recruiting into the outfit young Indian Muslims who could be radicalised.

They said Jundal was an easy target for Kashmiri because he was highly sentimental and was mesmerised by his jihadi talk.

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31. [Security, India] KNLF Places Bomb In Ccpur

Sunday, July 15 2012

<http://www.e-pao.net/GP.asp?src=7..160712.jul12>

An armed outfit has placed a hand-grenade at the residential gate of Churachandpur's DRDA Executive Director early today in an apparent attempt to coerce the official on their monetary demand.

A piece of paper attached to the bomb that was detected early today has a hand-written note 'Warning KNLF/MPLA' inscribed over it in red ink.

The local police have suspected that the bomb might have been placed sometime last night.

Highly placed sources said the KNLF has demanded Rs 40 lakhs from the DRDA through a letter served Tuesday last.

Police have impounded the demand letter as well as the bomb used for intimidating the official.

Not only was the safety pin of the bomb was still intact, but has an additional piece of cloth wrapped around it.

Sources inside the DRDA said their Executive Director C Hangshing was out of station when they receive the demand letter from the KNLF sometime last week.

Taking a serious note on the act of planting a bomb in their locality, the Young Paite Association, Hiangtam Lamka has strongly condemn the armed group responsible for it.

In a separate statement, the Zomi Students' Federation has dubbed the incident as an attack on a Zomi officer, and calls on those responsible to refrain from repeating their act.

It will not remain to be a mute spectator if any such incident of intimation or warning recurs to Hangshing or any other Zomis, said the ZSF.

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32. [Law Enforcement, India] Suspect Arrested Along With Explosives In Jharkhand

Tuesday, July 17 2012

http://www.satp.org/satporgtp/detailed_news.asp?date1=7/17/2012&id=10#10

The Police arrested a suspect for carrying 200 pieces of detonators and 50 kilograms of ammonium nitrate on his car during surprise checking on National Highway-33 in Seraikela-Kharsawan District on July 15 night, reports The Times of India. The accused, Manoj Kumar Sinha of Patamda in the East Singhbhum District, who was arrested from Chandil area of the District, claimed to be the owner of a stone crusher machine and was ferrying the explosives on industrial purpose. He tried to escape while seeing Police but Police chased and arrested him. Police are suspecting Sinha to be in nexus with the Communist Party of India-Maoist (CPI-Maoist) and that he might have been ferrying explosives either to Dalma or Chilku forest cover.

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33. [Trend, India] Maoist Dump Seized In Odisha

Tuesday, July 17 2012

http://www.satp.org/satporgtp/detailed_news.asp?date1=7/17/2012&id=6#6

During a joint operation, personnel of Special Operation Group (SOG) and Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) seized a Communist Party of India-Maoist (CPI-Maoist) dump of 20 kilograms of ammonium nitrate from a remote location near Ganjam-Kandhamal border on July 16, reports The Hindu. Four barrels were also seized from the area, Superintendent of Police (SP) Rajesh Pandit said, adds The Times of India.

Meanwhile, a woman Maoist cadre of Odisha State Organizing Committee (OSOC) of the CPI-Maoist, identified as Sabita Mallik alias Sukanti (22), surrendered before SP Pandit in Ganjam District. Sukanti hailed from Mankadakhari village under Sorada Police Station limits in the District. She had joined the CPI-Maoist in 2009. She was part of the group led by Maoist leader Sabyasachi Panda and was operational in areas of Ganjam and Kandhamal Districts. She was serving the Maoist group as an armed sentry and as a cook for the rebels. She was entitled to use an INSAS rifle while with the Maoists. She was also adept in making tiffin bombs. She had recently attended a Maoist training camp held near Srirampur in Kandhamal District. According to the Police she was posted as a sentry when security forces had cornered and attacked the Maoist group comprising Sabyasachi Panda near Kerubadi in February.

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34. [Attack, Bangladesh] A Blast, Some Questions

Wednesday, July 18 2012

<http://www.thedailystar.net/newDesign/news-details.php?nid=242587>

A woman was injured when a bomb exploded in her handbag in the capital's Agargaon yesterday. Police suspect the explosive was activated by a mobile phone.

Police detained the injured, Ayesha Siddique, assistant programme officer of Bangladesh Computer Council (BCC), and her colleague Zubayer Ahmed and one Nurul Islam in this connection.

During primary interrogation, Zubayer confessed to planting the explosive in Ayesha's bag "to teach her a lesson". He claimed he had a romantic relationship with Ayesha but they had been coming up against some issues recently, said Zakir Hossain Mollah, officer-in-charge of Sher-e-Bangla Nagar Police Station.

Zubayer bought the bomb from Nurul Islam for Tk 20,000, police said, quoting Zubayer.

Ayesha, 31, was undergoing treatment at the National Institute of Traumatology and Orthopaedic Rehabilitation (Nitor) under police custody.

She told The Daily Star that Zubayer, programme officer at BCC, called her over her mobile phone, asking her to meet him at 11:00am in front of the Islamic Foundation, which is close to the BCC building at Agargaon.

When she went there, Zubayer gave her a packet, saying it was a mobile phone and asked her to keep it on his desk.

"The packet was heavier than that of a mobile phone. Zubayer told me that there were a few more things in it. So I left him and put the packet in my bag," she added.

Within a few minutes she heard a light sound and felt a vibration, she said, adding that immediately there was an explosion.

Her right hand and part of her waist on the right side were wounded. She was given three bags of blood, doctors said.

Doctors recovered three splinters from her right thigh and back, said Nitro Director Prof Abdul Awal Rizvi.

OC Zakir Hossain said police recovered the handbag, parts of a mobile phone set, a SIM card and parts of the bomb from the scene.

"We arrested Zubayer from the hospital when he went there to see Ayesha. On intelligence from him, we also arrested Nurul from Kazipara [in the capital]," he added.

Police were trying to arrest those who had made the bomb, he said.

Ayesha claimed Zubayer had been harassing her for the last several months and had proposed marriage two months ago.

"I rejected his proposal and had been avoiding him. Today, [yesterday] I went there to meet him as he said it was official," she added.

The Daily Star could not verify her claims independently.

Sanwar Hossain, additional deputy commissioner of detective police, said the bomb was highly sophisticated and was the first of its kind to be exploded in the country.

A mobile phone was used to activate the explosive, he said, adding: "I would say it was an improvised explosive device rather a bomb. Those who made it are highly knowledgeable and have experience of making such devices."

Police have opened an investigation into the explosion.

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35. [Security, Philippines] IED Found In Davao City Engineer's Office

Tuesday, July 17 2012

<http://newsinfo.inquirer.net/230185/ied-found-in-davao-city-engineer%E2%80%99s-office>

An improvised explosive device was recovered inside a government office here Tuesday morning, authorities said.

Based on a report, the Davao City Police Office said that the device was found concealed in the ceiling of the City Engineer's Office at around 8 a.m., following a call by an employee to the 911, the city's emergency response system.

Senior Police Officer 3 Jimmy Libranza of the DCPO's Explosives and Ordnance Division said the bomb was fashioned from a bottle of unleaded gasoline, a sponge, a detonating device and a cell phone supposedly as a trigger mechanism.

"It was possible that the intent was to create a fire," Libranza said.

He said they were still conducting follow up investigation and that no suspect had been identified so far.

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36. [Security, India] Cops Unearth Maoist Dump In Rayagada

Wednesday, July 18 2012

<http://orissadiary.com/CurrentNews.asp?id=35217>

In a huge haul, the district police and 8th Battalion of Central Reserve Police Forces (CRPF) unearthed a huge explosives and arms dump near Saplaguda forest area under Maoist hotbed Chandrapur police limits on Tuesday evening.

Basing on the input given by Ramesh Tama Dasarath Lakshmu, the self-styled Deputy Commander of Kashipur-Niyamgiri division who was nabbed recently, the cops raided the forest area bordering Andhra Pradesh and found the dump, told Superintendent of Police Anoop Krishna in a press note.

Better known as an IED expert, Deputy Commander (SLR Cadre) Dasarath, a native of Bijapur district in Chhatisgarh along with Kmbulu Majhi, Abhilas and Chinatamani Majhi were apprehended last week by the Rayagada police during an anti-Maoist operation Kashipur Tikiri PS area while they were on the way to Barigaon village under Laxmipur police limits in Koraput district.

Dasarath who was involved in series of offences like, killing of Laxmana nanda Saraswoti., Kailash Majhi and Sashi Majhi in village kanjagmandi under Kashipur police limits, CRPF Hav Tek Chand near Hanumantpur, Siba Sankar Sabar and Bibhisana Sabar under Chandrapur police limits, Gopi Lima under Gudari police limits involved in Nayagaraha and Dangsarada out post attack was revealed a lot of information during interrogation, police sources said.

The arms and ammunition recovered from the site included six landmines, one country-made pistol, 10 rounds of 8mm ammunitions and electronic detonators. The recovery of explosives came at a time when the rebels have called for the success of the martyrs' week from July 28 in Andhra-Orissa Border. The rebels were planted the dump with an intention to target the cops during combing operations, police said.



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37. [Security, Indonesia] Indonesian Police Foil Alleged Suicide Bomb Plot

Thursday, July 19 2012

<http://www.thejakartaglobe.com/news/indonesian-police-foil-alleged-suicide-bomb-plot/531480>

Two men who were allegedly plotting a suicide bomb attack on an unknown target have been arrested in Poso, Central Sulawesi by Indonesia's anti-terrorism squad Densus 88, the National Police said on Thursday.

Qhoribul Mujib, 25, and Naim, 26, are both alleged members of Abu Bakar Bashir's Jamaah Ansharut Tauhid (JAT) organization — a group recently labeled as a terrorist network by the US State Department.

The pair were allegedly involved in a number of terrorist activities, including hatching a suicide bombing plot, hiding wanted terrorism suspects and the fatal shooting of two police officers in Palu in 2011, before their arrest.

"Qhoribul had been prepared to become a suicide bomber by their group but it remains unclear where the action would take place," National Police spokesman Sr. Comr, Boy Rafli Amar said. "He also took part in hiding terror fugitives Santoso and Ageng Prasetyo."

Santoso, the alleged commander of the JAT's local Asykari military wing, was wanted in connection with the fatal shooting of two police officers outside a BCA bank branch in Palu.

Naim, who also goes by the names Romilus Bungka and Primus, was also wanted in connection with the police slaying.

They allegedly participated in terrorist training exercises in Gunung Biru and in the Malino mountain range, police said.

The men were arrested in Poso's central market on July 12 following the arrest of alleged extremist hacker Rizki Gunawan, who was picked up in May after reportedly hacking into an MLM website with two accomplices.

The hackers were allegedly providing the funds for terrorist training exercises and the September 25, 2011 bombing of the Kepunton church in Solo, police said.

"They are part of several elements, including JAT," Boy said. "They came from outside of Poso and had become JAT members there."

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38. [Special Interest, United States] Congressional Panel Holding Closed Hearing On IEDs

Saturday, July 14 2012

<http://www.thecuttingedgenews.com/index.php?article=74735&pageid=20&pagename=Security>

The Homeland Security Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Infrastructure Protection, and Security Technologies, chaired by Rep. Dan Lungren, is holding a closed hearing entitled "Securing Ammonium Nitrate: Using Lessons Learned in Afghanistan to Protect the Homeland from IEDs" this morning.

The scheduled hearing is examining the intelligence gathering, information sharing and inter-agency coordination between the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Defense on combating improvised explosive devices in the battlefield and their possible use within the U.S. homeland.

Committee members are hearing from several witnesses on ways to prevent attacks using IEDs, such as tracking the use of ammonium nitrate, a key ingredient used by terrorist bomb-makers. Because the House members and witnesses are discussing classified information at this hearing, the Subcommittee intends to move directly to close the hearing and transition to a secure hearing room in order to receive classified testimony.

"The IED is still one of the greatest threats to our troops in Afghanistan, and it remains a global threat. Just days ago, a blast went off in Mexico right before the Presidential elections. Earlier this year a potential attack on the U.S. Capitol was thwarted. [This] hearing will focus on the lessons learned from our wartime experiences to combat this global threat and to protect the Homeland," said Chairman Lungren in a statement.

Terrorists are constantly changing their tactics to avoid detection and achieve successful operations and that includes the design of IEDs, said former NYPD bomb technician and training officer at the New York City Police Academy. For example, counterterrorism officials have often warned American and foreign airlines that terrorists may be planning to surgically implant bombs inside the bodies of airline passengers. The threat brings new meaning to the term "suicide bomber" and "improvised explosive device," one official told the Law Enforcement Examiner.

"Recent intelligence brought to light the possible terrorist scheme but no specific plot had been uncovered," according to a source. Rep. Peter King, chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee, said on Fox News Channel that a bomb implanted in airline passengers is something government security officials have been worried about for "a while." "This is a concern about human bombs," King said. "We believe we've informed everyone."

A U.S. security official stated that a body bomb implanted is likely to come from overseas rather than domestically and that precautionary steps have been taken internationally and in the United States to be on guard for such terrorism suspects.

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39. [Security, Canada] More Explosives Found In Barrie, Ont. House

Sunday, July 15 2012

<http://www.torontosun.com/2012/07/15/more-explosives-found-in-barrie-ont-house>

A weekend in a normally peaceful north-end Barrie neighbourhood has been anything but, as police and bomb experts have so far removed about 50 explosive devices from 30 Virgilwood Cres.

Almost 60 residents of that street and those nearby who have been evacuated are hearing it will still be a few days before they can return home.

"It's going to take longer. They (residents) are definitely going to be out of their homes until Wednesday, at least," Barrie Police Const. Angie Butler said Sunday afternoon.

A dedicated area has been set up at the City of Barrie Operations Centre on Ferndale Drive to dispose of the explosives.

The drama began after a father and son who lived at the home were arrested and charged in a 1978 cold case murder in Barrie.

Donald Feldhoff, 54, is charged with the murder of Michael Traynor, 26, more than three decades ago. Feldhoff's father, William 'Willy' Feldhoff, 75, is charged as an accessory in the slaying.

After closing off a portion of Virgilwood Crescent Thursday afternoon, police uncovered two cement bunkers in the rear of Feldhoff's home, one measuring about 20-by-10-feet long, by seven-feet high, and numerous homemade explosive devices and volatile chemicals inside and around the home. About 20 families have been evacuated.

"The numbers have increased and I'm told we're up to 50 explosives removed," Butler said. "They're going step by step through the house, very slowly, and keep coming across more items all the time.

"These chemicals aren't ones that are readily available to someone, that you or I could go and pick up at Home Depot. How they managed to come in possession of them is still part of our investigation. It'll be a couple more days at least, and we understand the inconvenience this is to residents, but they've been very supportive and understand we're doing this for their safety."

Butler said the process of locating and removing unknown, possibly unstable explosive devices and chemicals, isn't something you rush.



"It's all very tedious, very slow going. They have to take extreme precaution," she said. "You think, they have these big, hot and heavy bomb suits on and head protection, too. They have to work slowly to remove these items. They are very skilled and professional about their job."

Butler said charges are expected but not until until Barrie police and Ontario Provincial Police are finished combing through the residence and bunker.

"As you can imagine, they are going through and finding things, and making notes and documenting as they go along," she said. "All their documents will have to be checked and updated."

Butler said four families, some with health problems, have been receiving accommodation assistance by the Canadian Red Cross during the evacuation time

Shiplely said there have been ideas thrown around with the city regarding financially assisting residents displaced while the investigation continues.

"It's something (Mayor) Jeff (Lehman) and I have discussed, making sure people are looked after. But there's nothing decided officially, yet," he said."

But what neighbours can't understand is how such a dangerous setup could be right under their noses and undetected for years.

"I'm wondering who he's affiliated with. Probably more paranoid people," said one Virgilwood neighbour, who didn't want her name used. "He can't have just gotten a hold of all these chemicals and explosives by himself. Someone had to sell them to him."

The woman said she, like many living on the street, commented anonymously for fear of any repercussions.

"You just don't know with someone like that. You don't know what kind of people they're connected to," she said.

Neighbouring Deerpark Drive looks like a ghost town with driveways empty, backyards silent and the only sound is that of yellow police tape flapping in the breeze.

Otherwise, you could hear a pin drop.

A Barrie police cruiser blocks off entrance to homes, with only emergency service vehicles being allowed past.

"But because of this a---hole, this has been a big disruption to all of us," said the woman, looking past police tape toward the scene. "We can't get our mail, our garbage picked up. We've got a lot of kids and grandkids living down this street. There are brand new babies at (one house)."

Her son, Brandon, who wouldn't give his last name, said things have been in turmoil in the neighbourhood since Friday.

"A couple of days ago, it was pretty intense. It's not as bad now," Brandon said, adding he's not fond of his neighbour. "We've been living here since 1995 and we've never known anything about this going on."

Another man, who says he lives across the street from the elder Feldhoff, is among the evacuees.

"We've been staying with another neighbour for a few days, but we'll be going to a hotel now for a couple days," said the man, who asked his name not be used. "We've lived right across the street for 10 years, and I knew Willy. He's not a nice guy. He's one of those guys who'll come and talk to you, and then yell at your kids for walking too close to his property."

He said he believed Feldhoff and his wife, Renata, were the original owners of the house.

Coun. Doug Shipley checked out the scene Sunday morning.

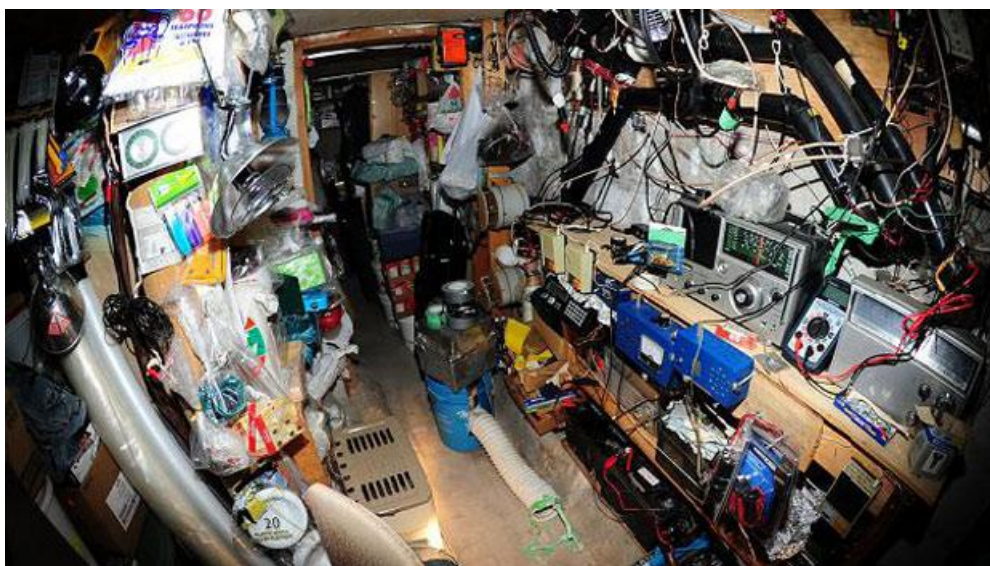
"I don't live far from here so I come down to see what's happening and get a briefing," he said, shaking hands with neighbours. "They're aren't going to be back home anytime soon. From what I'm told, they're still removing a lot of stuff from the home."

The murder victim, Michael Traynor, a plumber's apprentice, was last seen around 3 a.m. Sept. 13, 1978, at a bar with friends. In an interview at the time, his wife, Bev, said she spoke to him that evening and he told her he was going to an end-of-season party for the local baseball team he played for.

His family reported him missing Sept. 18. He was found by a hunter in a shallow grave, partially dressed, in what is now Springwater Township. He had been shot twice in the chest and his arms were bound behind him with copper wire, which was also wrapped around his feet.

Police have said there doesn't appear to be any type of a relationship between the victim and the two accused.

Both father and son remain in custody at the Central North Correctional Centre in Penetangishene, Ont., and are scheduled to make a court appearance via video this week.



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40. [Attack, Canada] Bomb Explodes In Orillia's South End

Monday, July 16 2012

<http://www.simcoe.com/news/article/1399705--bomb-explodes-in-orillia-s-south-end>

A homemade bomb that exploded in the city's south end over the weekend had the potential to cause serious harm, police say.

"It is dangerous, for sure," said OPP Const. Shannon Petryshyn.

Several officers from the Orillia OPP detachment responded to a report of gunshots on Clifford Avenue, located on Orchard Point, July 15.

Officers spoke with several people outside a residence in the area where the loud noises were heard.

Through those conversations police determined that someone had set off a homemade bomb that utilized dry ice as a component.

Police said a dry ice bomb is especially risky because it could explode without warning and has the potential to cause serious damage, including hearing loss.

"It's very risky," Petryshyn said.

The blast can propel fragments of the bottle used to contain the dry ice in a wide radius, police added.

"Pieces of plastic and the lid (can be propelled a considerable distance)," Petryshyn added. "If it ruptures within seconds the person could still be holding it."

In some instances, dry-ice bombs fail to explode and are left unattended, only to be discovered by unsuspecting children or other passersby, she said.

"Maybe by picking it up and moving it makes it more volatile too," she added. "I don't know that."

Petryshyn said the individuals responsible for the bomb – described as "young adults" – were not charged.

"They were warned and cautioned about this sort of behavior," she added, noting nobody was injured in the explosion and no property was damaged by the blast.

Petryshyn said police investigating an explosives call could lay a variety of criminal charges depending on the circumstances.

Property damage could lead to a charge of mischief, while an injury could potentially bring a charge of endangering life.

Other charges include criminal negligence causing death or bodily harm.

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41. [Security, United States] 'Bottle Bomb' At Cockeysville Senior Center Detonated By Police Robot

Monday, July 16 2012

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/explore/baltimorecounty/publications/towson-times/ph-tt-bottle-bomb-0718-20120716,0,814146.story>

Baltimore County Police report that its bomb squad detonated a homemade "bottle bomb" that was found in the parking lot/basketball court behind Cockeysville Senior Center on July 13.

An employee of the senior center, in the 10500 block of York Road, called police at 8:18 a.m. Friday to report that a suspicious 1-liter bottle was found upright in the lot, according to the police report. The bottle was a quarter filled with a green liquid, and the bottle appeared swollen, police said.

A bomb squad robot equipped with a high-pressure water cannon detonated the bottle, which exploded. There were no injuries and police have not yet identified the substance in the bottle.

Police spokeswoman Det. Cathy Batton said there were 15 such devices found in Baltimore County in the past year. She said the police refer to them as chemical reactive devices — but they are more commonly known as bottle bombs.

"These are seen as a prank or a joke, but making one is a felony," she said. "They can do serious harm if they explode, or can even cause chemical burns if they are handled."

She urges anyone seeing a swollen bottle with its cap on to call 911 and not touch it.

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42. [Security, United States] 'Bottle Bomb' Found Behind Supermarket

Tuesday, July 17 2012

http://news.opb.org/article/bottle_bomb_found_behind_supermarket/

The Oregon State Police bomb squad safely destroyed what officials described as a bottle bomb made from a 2-liter bottle wrapped in duct tape and filled with hydrochloric acid Sunday morning.

The suspicious object was reported at about 9:30 a.m. at Albertsons on North Ross Lane.

Medford police Lt. Mike Budreau said a passer-by notified authorities about the bottle. Police do not suspect the bottle was placed with the intent to harm anyone, as it was at the back of the store about 10 feet away from the building. The bottle was later determined to have been filled with hydrochloric acid, which would cause chemical burns to anyone near it upon detonation.

"Once you put the chemicals together, there's no detonator," Budreau said. "It could take a matter of minutes or more, so there's a long period that it could go off."

The bomb squad destroyed the bottle bomb with a water cannon shortly after it was found.

"We've seen people use dry ice and water; that will also cause a boom," said Budreau. "The offenders could face serious felony charges of unlawful manufacture or possession of a destructive device."

Budreau suggests if anyone sees a suspicious object such as a bottle bomb, he or she should not approach it.

"Even the experts themselves use the water cannon. No one should try to disarm it," Budreau said. "It can go off at any time and cause injury. Let the professionals handle it. It's what they get paid to do."

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43. [Security, United States] Modesto Police Say Pipe Bomb Exploded In Man's Pocket

Tuesday, July 17 2012

<http://www.modbee.com/2012/07/17/2285137/modesto-police-say-pipe-bomb-exploded.html>

A Modesto man is recovering from wounds suffered when a small pipe bomb exploded in his pants pocket, police said.

When Adrian Jiminez, 28, arrived at Doctors Medical Center's emergency room about 8 a.m. Monday, hospital personnel initially believed he had a gunshot wound in his left leg, Lt. Scott Blom said. Instead, they found shards of black PVC pipe in his left leg and groin area.

When officers arrived, Jiminez told them he had been the victim of a drive-by pipe bombing by two men along Oregon Drive in the airport neighborhood. When police went to the area to investigate, they found nothing to corroborate his story. They suspect he had a small pipe bomb that detonated while in his pants pocket.

"No arrests have been made," Blom said.

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44. [Security, Canada] Two Boxes Of Dynamite Missing

Wednesday, July 18 2012

<http://cnews.canoe.ca/CNEWS/Canada/2012/07/18/19998686.html>

Two boxes of explosives are missing after they fell off a truck in B.C., Mounties say.

Three boxes of the dynamite Power Pro fell off a truck near Terrace, B.C., on Monday. RCMP were called around 1:30 p.m.

"One of the three boxes was recovered on the roadway and police are making every effort in locating the remaining two boxes," Const. Lesley Smith said in a release Tuesday. "RCMP believe the boxes fell out of the truck during transportation and are hoping anyone who may have come across these clearly marked boxes will contact police right away."

Police noted Power Pro is nitroglycerin sensitized, extra gelatin dynamite formulated for use in surface and underground mining applications. It can be initiated by extreme instances of shock, friction or mechanical impact and therefore, extremely dangerous and should be handled with care.

RCMP say anyone who spots the missing boxes should not touch them, but call police immediately.

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45. [Law Enforcement, United States] Man Arrested After Alleged Bomb Found In Car In Milaca

Wednesday, July 18 2012

<http://www.kare11.com/news/article/983524/391/Police-arrest-man-with-bomb-in-car-near-Milaca>

A dangerous situation has been averted in central Minnesota after police arrested a man who is suspected of having a bomb inside his car. The incident happened around 11 a.m. Tuesday near the intersection of Highway 169 and Highway 23 in Milaca.

The Mille Lacs County Sheriff's Office said in a news release that during a traffic stop near Onamia, earlier in the day, a deputy noticed the driver was acting strange. The deputy also saw the suspect had a propane tank in the vehicle.

The deputy let the man go, but then alerted task force agents who began following the suspect in his car. The man was stopped again for driving erratically on Highway 23 around 10 a.m.

A K-9 officer was called to search the car. Authorities say they found an explosive device, possible burglary tools and a propane tank inside the vehicle.

According to authorities, the suspect told law enforcement officers the explosive device was a bomb with nails, gun powder, kerosene and an electronic detonation device.

The suspect was taken into custody by Mille Lacs County Deputies.

Authorities say the exits to Highway 169 and parts of Highway 23 were closed and area businesses were evacuated.

The Crow Wing County Bomb Squad detonated the bomb and around 3:00 p.m. the highways and businesses reopened.

The suspect, a 41-year-old Zimmerman man, is at the Mille Lacs County Jail.

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46. [Attack, Colombia] Colombia Rail Blast Slows Transport At Cerrejon Coal Mine

Saturday, July 14 2012

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/07/15/us-colombia-blast-cerrejon-idUSBRE86E00M20120715>

An explosion on a railway line that feeds into Colombia's biggest coal miner, Cerrejon, slowed transport between the mine and a Caribbean port in northern La Guajira province, local media reported.

The attack on Saturday, just as a coal train was passing by, was likely carried out by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, Caracol Radio cited police commander Elver Velasco Garabito as saying.

The blast, which blew up eight meters (26 feet) of track between Uribia and Puerto Bolivar, didn't cause major damage to the train or knock it from the rails, Julian Gonzalez, Cerrejon's vice president of social responsibility told Caracol.

Cerrejon officials could not immediately be reached for comment by Reuters. Cerrejon is jointly owned by BHP Billiton, Anglo American and Xstrata.

The railway line has suffered scores of attacks since Cerrejon began operations and demonstrates how vulnerable energy and mining companies remain to attacks from Colombia's various insurgent groups.

A government offensive over the past decade against the drug-funded FARC has improved stability and helped attract billions of dollars of foreign direct investment, mostly in the oil and mining sectors, to boost economic growth.

Still, attacks against economic infrastructure have increased in recent months as the rebels seek to gain the upper hand over the government.

Colombia is the world's No. 4 coal exporter behind Indonesia, Australia and Russia.

Colombia's coal industry is dominated by big producers with their own port and rail facilities such as Cerrejon, Glencore and U.S. miner Drummond.

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