

RAPID

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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-tolutions.com> using your government (.mil or .gov) email account.



Afghan Militants Say Bomb Revenge For Film; 12 Dead

A suicide bomber blew up a mini-bus carrying foreign and local contract workers near Kabul airport.

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1. [Attack, Pakistan] JI Leader Among Three Injured In Orakzai Blast

Friday, September 14 2012

<http://dawn.com/2012/09/15/ji-leader-among-three-injured-in-orakzai-blast/>

Three people, including a Jamaat-i-Islami leader, were injured in a roadside blast in lower Orakzai Agency on Friday.

A bomb planted along the road near central mosque in Khialimat village of Utmankhel area exploded by a remote control at 3:10pm just after Friday prayers.

The blast injured agency chief of JI Raj Mohammad, levies force's Mohammad Khan and local resident Akhtar Muneer. They all were taken to DHQ Hospital in Kalaya area. The levies force's personnel rushed to the blast site and began rescue work.

Sources said a patrol of the levies forces that crossed the place shortly before the blast was the apparent target. They said explosives weighing five kilogrammes were used in blast, which damaged some shops.

In Shakai area of South Waziristan Agency, religious scholar Maulana Lal Mohammad narrowly escaped a predawn explosion outside his house on Friday.

Sources said improvised explosive device exploded at the main gate of the house of Mr Mohammad, a close aide of JUI MNA Maulana Abdul Malik, at around 3:00am.

They said the blast damaged the main gate and a portion of the boundary wall, but caused no harm to human life.

Sources said Mr Mohammad arranged a function at the house a few days ago in the honour of MNA Malik and the explosion might have a link with it.

The explosion triggered panic among local residents.

Militants groups have threatened to attack local politicians and residents over participation in elections.

In Chanda area of Haleemzai tehsil in Mohmand Agency, blast of an improvised explosive device targeted the vehicle of Baizai peace committee on Friday.

The blast partially damaged the vehicle, but caused no harm to human life.

Security forces later inspected the place, conducted a search operation and arrested seven suspects.

The suspects were shifted to Mohmand Rifles headquarters in Ghalanai area.

Security forces also defused an IED in Nasapai area of Haleemzai tehsil.

Meanwhile, a mentally challenged man suffered critical injuries in Landi Kotal on Friday after security officials took him for a militant and opened fire at him.



Sources said the incident took place near a check post in Qambarabad area where security officials fired gunshots at the man person approaching them despite repeated warnings.

They said the injured man had been shifted to a local hospital.



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2. [Attack, Afghanistan] ISAF Troops Defeat Camp Bastion Attackers

Saturday, September 15 2012

http://www.rttnews.com/1966308/reports-isaf-troops-defeat-camp-bastion-attackers.aspx?type=gn&utm_source=google&utm_campaign=sitemap

Nearly 20 insurgents infiltrated the perimeter of Camp Bastion in Helmand province, Afghanistan, Friday and attacked International Security Assistance Force personnel and facilities using small arms, rocket-propelled grenades and suicide improvised explosive device vests, the American Forces Press Service reported citing military officials.

The attack, which began Friday shortly after 10 p.m., killed two ISAF service members, wounded several and caused damage to multiple aircraft and structures along the base's flight line, officials said.

ISAF forces reacted to the assault, returned fire, and killed all but one of the known insurgents, defeating the attack. The remaining wounded insurgent attacker is in ISAF custody and is being treated in a medical facility.

Camp Bastion is currently secure, officials said. ISAF personnel cleared the large base of attackers early Saturday.

The reports said ISAF is in the process of fully assessing damages to aircraft and structures on the installation's airfield.

However, ISAF has determined that despite the damage, there will be no impact to ground or air operations from Camp Bastion.



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3. [Attack, Afghanistan] Bomb Kills 11 Women, Kids

Sunday, September 16 2012

<http://www.nation.com.pk/pakistan-news-newspaper-daily-english-online/national/16-Sep-2012/bomb-kills-11-women-kids>

A bomb attack killed 11 women and children from two families, destroying their vehicle in southern Afghanistan, officials said Saturday.

The device planted on the side of the road struck their minivan on Friday afternoon in Gereshk district of Helmand province, one of the toughest battlegrounds in a 10-year Taliban insurgency.

"Five women and a child from one family, and four women and two children from another family were killed in the blast," the Helmand governor's spokesman, Daud Ahmadi, told AFP. Ahmadi later clarified that eight women, not nine, were killed, along with two children aged seven to 12, and a third child under seven. He identified a 12th victim as a young man in his 20s who was driving the minibus.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility, but Ahmadi blamed enemies of Afghanistan for the blast, a term used by Afghan officials to refer to Taliban insurgents.

Farid Ahmad Farhang, Helmand police spokesman, confirmed the death toll.

Roadside bomb attacks are the weapon of choice for Taliban insurgents fighting to overthrow the Western-backed government of President Hamid Karzai.

Explosives are frequently planted to target Nato and government forces, but civilians are often the victims.

The United Nations says that of the 1,145 civilians killed in the war in the first six months of this year, 80 percent were killed by insurgents and more than half by roadside bombs.

The US-led NATO force has 112,579 troops left in Afghanistan helping the government to fight the Taliban, according to its website. The Pentagon said last week that there are 77,000 US troops in the country.



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4. [Security, Pakistan] Pakistan Tests Nuclear-Capable Missile

Monday, September 17 2012

<http://dawn.com/2012/09/17/pakistan-tests-nuclear-capable-missile-2/>

Pakistan's military says it has successfully test-fired a cruise missile capable of carrying a nuclear warhead.

An army statement says the Hatf-VII or Babur missile, which has a range of 700 kilometres (435 miles), was test-fired from a specially equipped vehicle in an undisclosed location Monday.

The statement says the missile has stealth features and can fly very close to the ground.

Pakistan has tested the missile in the past. Senior army officials and scientists attended Monday's test launch.

Pakistan and its nuclear-armed rival neighboring India routinely test different versions of their missiles.



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5. [Attack, Pakistan] Bomb Rips Through Van Carrying Pro-Govt Tribesmen

Monday, September 17 2012

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/437845/lower-dirbomb-rips-through-van-carrying-pro-govt-tribesmen/>

At least 16 pro-government tribespeople, including three women, were killed and nine were wounded in a bomb attack on a passenger van in the volatile Lower Dir district on Sunday.

The banned Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan immediately claimed responsibility for the attack which, it said, was to punish the tribesmen for siding with the government against the militants.

The militants detonated an improvised explosive device when the passenger van drove past in Landi Shah area, officials said. The van was en route to Munda Bazaar from Enzaro Banda village.

“It was a remote-controlled bomb blast,” local police official Farman Khan told AFP. The vehicle was targeted because it was carrying tribespeople known to be pro-government.

The local administrator said security forces have successfully sealed the Pak-Afghan border following cross-border raids by Afghanistan-based militants.

“Now in their desperation, the militants are killing innocent civilians, women and children in particular,” Mehmood Aslam Wazir, the district coordination officer (DCO) of Lower Dir, told The Express Tribune.

According to witnesses, the blast occurred at 7:15am. “The bomb went off minutes after the van stopped in the area to convey a funeral message to the locals,” witness Lal Faqir said.

Residents spoke of grisly scenes at the blast site where human limbs were strewn and blood splattered all over. They said the deafening sound was heard within a radius of several kilometres.

A Bomb Disposal Squad (BDS) official said the explosive device weighed around 15 kilogrammes. “The vehicle was turned into a heap of mangled metal, we have found the engine, though,” the BDS official, Jamshed, told The Express Tribune.

Some of the dead were identified as Muhammad Azeem, Wali Khan, Nasrullah, Attaullah, Shamoza, Gul Zameen, Asad Jan, Bakht Khan, Abbas Khan, Anwar Said Khan, Najeeb Khan, and three women. The injured were driven to the district headquarters hospital Timargara.

Medics at the hospital, however, said that some of the critically wounded people were referred to Lady Reading Hospital in Peshawar.

The TTP claimed responsibility for the attack. “These people have raised a militia to help the security forces against us,” TTP spokesperson Sirajuddin told journalists in a phone call from an undisclosed location. He warned that they would continue such attacks in the future.

It was the third such attack in the region, and it has whipped up fear among local tribesmen. “Our social life has

been disturbed. Markets close in the afternoon and no one ventures out of his home. We cannot attend funerals for fear of attacks from Afghan Taliban,” Zarin Zada, a resident of Banr village told The Express Tribune.





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6. [Attack, Afghanistan] Afghan Militants Say Bomb Revenge For Film; 12 Dead

Tuesday, September 18 2012

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/09/18/us-afghanistan-blast-idUSBRE88H05S20120918>

A suicide attack on a minibus in the Afghan capital killed 12 people on Tuesday, including seven foreigners, and the Hezb-e-Islami insurgent group claimed responsibility, saying the blast was retaliation for a film mocking the Prophet Mohammad.

"A woman wearing a suicide vest blew herself up in response to the anti-Islam video," said Zubair Sediqqi, a spokesman for the militant faction, which does not usually carry out such attacks.

The attack near Kabul airport underscored growing anger in Afghanistan over the film, which has enraged much of the Muslim world and led to the killing last week of the U.S. ambassador to Libya and three other Americans.

Thousands of protesters clashed with police in the Afghan capital on Monday, burning cars and hurling rocks at security forces in the worst outbreak of violence since February rioting over the inadvertent burning of Korans by U.S. soldiers.

The suicide attack was the first in Kabul involving a woman and the foreigners killed were mostly Russian and South African pilots working for an international courier company, senior police sources said.

The toll was the highest on foreigners in the city since last April when an Afghan air force pilot gunned down eight U.S. military flight instructors and an American civilian adviser after an argument at Kabul International Airport.

Hezb-e-Islami, which means Islamic Party, is a radical militant group which shares some of the Taliban's anti-foreigner, anti-government aims.

But the political wing of the group, founded by warlord and anti-Soviet fighter Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, has recently been in nascent talks with Afghan President Hamid Karzai on a peace deal to end the 11-year war.

The attack on the van took place as it stopped to refuel near the airport. Body parts were scattered over an area at the western end of the heavily fortified airport, outside a wedding hall.

Police said several civilians were caught up in the blast, which again underscored the ability of militants to bypass police checkpoints in the city, which had been manned by extra security forces after Monday's rioting.

"The target was a minivan carrying employees of a foreign company who had a contract with Americans. The seven foreigners killed were Russians and South Africans," said General Mohammad Dawod Amin, a deputy for Kabul's police chief.





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7. [Attack, Pakistan] Driver Of NATO Supply Vehicle Killed In Roadside Bomb Blast In FATA

Tuesday, September 18 2012

http://www.satp.org/satporgtp/detailed_news.asp?date1=9/18/2012&id=5#5

The driver of a trailer, supplying goods to NATO forces in Afghanistan, was killed and his assistant received critical injuries when their vehicle was targeted by an explosive device on Peshawar-Torkham road near Shahgai Fort in Jamrud tehsil (revenue unit) of Khyber Agency in Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) on September 17, reports Dawn. Officials said that unidentified militants targeted the vehicle, carrying two Humvee jeeps to Afghanistan, with an improvised explosive device planted along the roadside. The blast caused serious injuries to driver Nazar Mohammad and his assistant Gul Mohammad besides damaging the front portion of the vehicle. Officials said that the driver later succumbed to his injuries in a hospital.

Meanwhile, unidentified militants blew up a jewellery shop of Abdul Akbar at Niazi Market in Bara tehsil on September 16. The shop was closed for the last six months. The reason behind its blowing up could not be known.

Also in Bara, militants blew up the house of Dr Najib, a resident of Mandi Kas in Sipah area. The house was empty at the time of explosion as the family had moved out of Bara when a military operation was launched in the area in November 2011. Reason for destroying the house could not be ascertained nor had anyone claimed responsibility for the incident.



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8. [Attack, Pakistan] Fifteen Killed As Pick-Up Hits IED In Lower Dir

Monday, September 17 2012

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-13-17520-15-killed-as-pick-up-hits-IED-in-Lower-Dir>

Fifteen people, including two children, were killed and 12 others sustained injuries when a passenger vehicle hit an improvised explosive device (IED) in the Landay Shah area in Lower Dir district on Sunday, officials and eyewitnesses said.

The Munda-bound pick-up truck was targeted with an IED early in the day. The vehicle was destroyed in the explosion. The dead were identified as Mohammad Azam, Wali Khan, Nasrullah, Said Mohammad, Attaullah, wife of Said Mohammad, wife of Gul Raz, Gul Zameen, Asad Khan, Bakht Khan, Abbas Khan, Anwar Said Khan, Mehboob Khan, Najeeb Khan and Shamoza Bibi.

Even as the local administration and the police were trying to determine whether it was an act of terrorism or the result of some enmity, the outlawed Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) through its spokesman claimed responsibility for the roadside blast and said the attack was directed against the members of the pro-government peace body opposed to the militants.

In the past also, the TTP has targeted members of anti-militant peace committees and lashkars in both the tribal and settled areas. Some of the injured in the blast were identified as Anwar Zeb, Ali Sher, Khankhela, daughter of Mahmood, Jehanzeb, Abdul Aziz, Asif Khan and Mehboob. They were shifted to the District Headquarters Hospital in Timergara.

The explosion was a powerful one and was heard far and wide; the body parts of those killed in the blast littered the site of the blast. Security forces rushed to the spot after the explosion and cordoned off the site. They also assisted in rescue activities. A search operation was launched in the area, but no arrests could be made.



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9. [Attack, Pakistan] Bomb Blast Kills At Least Two Near Quetta

Tuesday, September 18 2012

<http://dawn.com/2012/09/18/bomb-blast-kills-at-least-four-near-quetta/>

A roadside bomb ripped through a passenger bus carrying Shia Muslim pilgrims in southwestern Pakistan on Tuesday, killing at least two people and wounding about a dozen, officials said.

Earlier security sources said that four people killed by the attack but Deputy commissioner Mastung confirmed the killings of two people.

Six security personnel who were assigned to provide security to the bus also received injuries.

The blast took place in Mastung district, about 25 kilometres south of Quetta, the capital of insurgency-hit Balochistan province.

“It was a roadside bomb which targeted the bus,” senior administration officer Irfan Shah told AFP.

“The bus caught fire after the blast,” he said adding that initial reports said “at least two people were killed and about a dozen wounded”.

The injured, some of them in serious condition, have been taken to hospital in Quetta.

Officials said the bus, carrying up to 40 pilgrims, was returning from Iran after taking pilgrims to Shia holy place

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack.

The oil and gas rich province which borders Iran and Afghanistan is plagued by sectarian violence, attacks by Taliban militants and a tribal insurgency.

Baloch rebels rose up in 2004, demanding political autonomy and a greater share of profits from the region’s mineral resources.

Bomb blasts and attacks on police and security forces are frequent in the province, which is one of the most deprived areas of Pakistan.

Balochistan has also been a flashpoint for violence between majority Sunnis and Shiites, who make up around 20 percent of the population.





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10. [Attack, Pakistan] At Least Six Killed In Bomb Blasts At Pakistan Market

Tuesday, September 18 2012

http://www.rttnews.com/1967846/at-least-six-killed-in-bomb-blasts-at-pakistan-market-reports.aspx?type=gn&utm_source=google&utm_campaign=sitemap

At least six people have been killed after two near-simultaneous bomb explosions ripped through a busy market in Pakistan's southern port city Karachi, media reports citing local officials said Tuesday.

The two bomb explosions reportedly took place in quick succession at the busy Hyderi Market in eastern Karachi. A young girl and a three-month-old baby were among those killed in the blasts, which also left at least 24 others injured.

Local authorities believe the bombings targeted a mosque belonging to the Bohra Ismaili Shia community, an Islamic minority sect. Most of the casualties in the explosions were said to be members of the sect. While the first explosion was caused by a bomb planted on a motor cycle, the second blast was caused by a bomb hidden in a car. Earlier on Tuesday, at least five people were killed and 13 others injured after a bus carrying Shiite Muslim pilgrims was hit by a roadside bomb explosion in Pakistan's Balochistan province. The incident, which happened near the city of Quetta, was blamed on Sunni militants active in the region.

Notably, militant attacks on both civilian and security targets in Pakistan have been on the rise ever since al-Qaeda founder Osama bin Laden was killed in a raid by U.S. Special Forces in the garrison city of Abbottabad in May 2011. The incident, coupled with U.S. drone attacks inside Pakistan, have strained relations between Islamabad and Washington.

Washington is also unhappy over Pakistan's failure to act against Haqqani Islamist militants who use the border region of North Waziristan as a base for launching attacks on U.S. forces and other foreign coalition troops in neighboring Afghanistan.

Pakistan has so far resisted U.S. calls to take on Islamist militants in North Waziristan despite launching anti-Taliban operations in six other regions in the country's troubled north-west. Nevertheless, latest reports indicate that Islamabad is in the midst of preparations for an anti-militant operation in North Waziristan also.

There has been marked improvement in relations between Pakistan and the United States after Islamabad decided to reopen NATO supply routes it had closed earlier after a NATO air-strike killed 24 Pakistani soldiers in November. The routes were reopened in July after Washington tendered a formal apology on the issue.





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11. [Attack, Pakistan] Nine Dead In Pakistan Blast

Wednesday, September 19 2012

<http://www.cnn.com/2012/09/19/world/asia/pakistan-blast/index.html>

Nine people were killed in an explosion Wednesday in northwestern Pakistan, authorities said.

Police suspect the blast on the outskirts of Peshawar targeted a vehicle carrying Pakistani air force officials, they said.

Pedestrians and shoppers died, and three officers were among more than two dozen people injured, said government official Javid Marwat and Peshawar Police Chief Tahir Ayub. The explosion destroyed a van and nearby shops.

Police are working to find out where the bomb was planted.

Pakistani TV showed the wreckage of the van and emergency crews carrying away bloodied victims.

Peshawar is the capital of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province and the gateway to Pakistan's tribal region, which is largely ungoverned and has a strong militant presence.

For more than a decade, Peshawar has been the front line for the Pakistani government's fight with militant groups.



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12. [Attack, Afghanistan] Bomb Kills Three In Southern Afghan City

Wednesday, September 19 2012

<http://www.brecorder.com/world/north-america/80611.html>

A bomb targeted a police vehicle in the largest city in southern Afghanistan on Wednesday, killing two police officers and a child, officials said.

The remote-controlled bomb, which was placed on a motorcycle, hit a police truck in district 14 of Kandahar city and also wounded six other people.

"This evening a bomb placed on a motorbike ripped through a police vehicle that killed two police and a child, and wounded six others including five police", provincial spokesman Jawid Faisal told AFP.

Doctor Pukhla, head of the Kandahar public health department, confirmed the casualties saying the dead and wounded had been taken to the Kandahar's Mirwais hospital.

"It was a very big blast, all the windows of our shops are broken. I saw many wounded people taken by police vehicles," Haji Naeem, a shopkeeper, told AFP.

The attack comes a day after a female suicide car bomber attacked a van in Kabul, killing 12 people, including eight South Africans, in an assault insurgents said was in revenge for an anti-Islam film made in America.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for Wednesday's bombing, but the Taliban militia leading an 11-year insurgency against the Western-backed government frequently carry out such attacks.

Kandahar is the birthplace of the group, which was toppled from power by a 2001 US-led invasion.



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13. [Attack, Pakistan] Seven Killed, 22 Injured In Triple Blasts In Karachi

Wednesday, September 19 2012

<http://news.oneindia.in/2012/09/19/7-killed-in-triple-blasts-in-karachi-1073093.html>

Seven persons were killed and 22 others injured when three improvised explosive devices went off this evening in a densely populated area in the Pakistani financial hub of Karachi with a sizeable Shia population.

The explosions took place near a shopping mall just outside the bustling Hyderi market. The Hyderi area has a sizeable population of Bohra Shias. Seven persons were killed and 22 others injured, security officials told reporters.

A woman and a young girl were among the dead and another girl was seriously injured. The blasts went off near a mosque and a community hall, local residents said. Senior police officials said the Bohra community was the target of the attack.

Senior Superintendent of Police Asim Qaimkhani told PTI that the explosions appeared to have been caused by remote controlled devices fixed in motorcycles in the parking lot of a shopping mall, Dolmen Mall.

"The first explosion was not a major one but the next two explosions were severe and loud and have caused lot of damage," he said, adding police and paramilitary forces have cordoned off the area.

A witness told a TV news channel that the first blast occurred in a garbage dump and second near a car in a parking lot. Officials of the Abbasi Shaheed Hospital said they had received six bodies, including that of a young girl.

Injured people were taken to nearby hospitals. No group claimed responsibility for the blasts. The bombs contained several kilograms of explosives and were packed with pellets or ball bearings that caused extensive damage to nearby buildings, police officials said.

The powerful blasts, heard from several kilometres away, blew out the windows of several buildings. Several cars and a motorcycle were damaged by the blasts, which police officials said were caused by IEDs planted in the area.

Footage on television showed several damaged cars and carts.



AFPAK

14. [Attack, Afghanistan] Afghan Suicide Attack Kills One, Wounds Three

Wednesday, September 19 2012

<http://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2012/09/19/news/national/afghan-suicide-attack-kills-one-wounds-three/>

A suicide bomber targeted NATO troops in a remote district of Afghanistan near the Pakistan border on Tuesday, wounding three Western soldiers and killing an Afghan civilian, officials said. A spokesman for the US-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) confirmed the incident in Watapur district of Kunar province shortly before 5:00 pm (1230 GMT).

“Some ISAF soldiers were fixing a bridge in Watapur and they were engaged by a suicide IED (improvised explosive device) attack, we believe, which resulted in three ISAF casualties — one fairly serious and two not so serious,” the spokesman said, adding that the wounded had been evacuated. He said no NATO soldiers were killed. Afghan officials said American troops were on the road searching vehicles when a suicide bomber blew himself up alongside them.



AFPAK

15. [Security, Pakistan] Security Forces Recover Huge Cache Of Arms In Swat

Thursday, September 20 2012

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-2-132937-Security-forces-recover-huge-cache-of-arms-in-Swat>

The security forces recovered a huge cache of arms and explosives from caves and agricultural fields during search operation on the border between Torghar and Shangla districts, an official said on Wednesday. Briefing reporters, the Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) spokesman in Malakand region, Col Shahid said the light and heavy weapons along with bombs were recovered from mountain caves. The seized rocket launchers, mortars, improvised explosive devices, machine guns, pistols, guns and explosives were displayed at the Pakistan Army Headquarters in Khwazakhela in Swat.



AFRICOM

16. [Trend, Kenya] Terror Suspect Admits Bomb Possession And Being A Member Of Somalia's Al-Shabab In Kenya Court

Monday, September 17 2012

http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/africa/terror-suspect-admits-bomb-possession-and-being-a-member-of-somalias-al-shabab-in-kenya-court/2012/09/17/21c64788-00be-11e2-bbf0-e33b4ee2f0e8_story.html

A Kenyan man pleaded guilty Monday to possession of six bombs including four suicide vests and being a member of al-Shabab, the Somali Islamist extremist group allied to al-Qaida that has threatened terrorist attacks in Kenya. Abdi Majid Yassin Mohammed, 26, also known as Ali Hussein, had no defense attorney with him as he entered a guilty plea before magistrate Lucy Nyambura on charges that he was caught engaging in an organized criminal activity by being a member of al-Shabab, which has been outlawed in Kenya. The U.S. designated Al-Shabab as a foreign terrorist organization in 2008.

Mohammed also admitted that he was in possession of the explosives, 12 grenades and 481 bullets but denied that he was in possession of four AK-47 rifles. His co-accused, Omar Abdi Ada, 24, also known as Salman Abdi, denied 10 charges against him including the weapons charges. The two suspects were unrepresented in court and spoke through interpreters. Ada is Somali.

Nyambura ordered Mohammed be taken for a psychiatric examination and be arraigned in court on Tuesday so that charges can read to him again.

The suspects were arrested Friday in a raid on a house in a residential area which police said disrupted the final stages of planning of a major terrorist attack. The house is in Eastleigh neighborhood in Nairobi where a large Somali community resides, earning it the name "little Mogadishu" —after Somalia's war-torn capital city.

After the raid police displayed suicide vests rigged with hundreds of metal ball bearings, two improvised explosive devices, also rigged with ball bearings, four AK-47 assault rifles, ammunition and 12 grenades. Police said that the vests are similar to the type used in attacks in Uganda on crowds watching the soccer World Cup final on TV in July 2010, killing 76 people.

Al-Shabab claimed responsibility for the bombings in Uganda, saying it was in retaliation for Uganda's participation in the African Union's peacekeeping mission in Somalia. Al-Shabab has vowed to carry out terror attacks in Kenya after the country sent troops into Somalia in October to fight the militants.

Mohammed becomes the second Kenyan to admit being a member of the al-Shabab and taking part in terrorism. In October Elgiva Bwire Oliacha, also known as Mohammed Seif, was sentenced to life in prison after pleading guilty to taking part in a grenade attack that killed one person.

During his arrest Oliacha, 28, was found with six guns, 13 grenades and hundreds of bullets in his house in a slum called Kayole in eastern Nairobi.



AFRICOM

17. [Attack, Kenya] Two APs Injured After Explosive Hits Vehicle

Sunday, September 16 2012

http://www.standardmedia.co.ke/?articleID=2000066241&story_title=Two-APs-injured-after-explosive-hits-vehicle

Two Administration Police officers were injured after an explosive hit their vehicle in Mandera town.

The device had been planted on the roadside on Saturday at 11am.

This came less than two hours after local residents demonstrated to show solidarity with their Muslim brothers in the Middle East and North Africa in denouncing the film that insulted Prophet Mohamed.

The demonstrators burnt American flags and chanted slogans to denounce the West for disrespecting Islam. However, authorities said the two incidents were not linked.

The officers were part of a team responding to an earlier explosion near the Kenya/Somalia border. Ten other officers survived the explosion.

Police said the officers had on Saturday morning been alerted of an explosion a few metres from their station when their vehicle was hit by an Improvised Explosive Device that had been planted on the road.

Other officers were not injured as they decided to walk to the scene of the explosion.

Killed militants

“The earlier explosion occurred at River Dawa near the Kenya-Ethiopia border where grenades had been thrown.

Two officers were injured but they are in a stable condition,” said North Eastern PPO Philip Tuimur. He blamed the Al Shabaab militants for the incident. Police on Friday foiled a major terror attack when they seized explosives in Nairobi and arrested suspects. The officers are hunting for eight suspects who escaped.

The incident happened as Kenyan troops in Somalia on Friday captured Bibi Town from Al Shabaab. Kenya Defence Forces spokesman Cyrus Oguna said Amisom troops killed three militants while the rest fled during the 12.45pm onslaught.

“The forces faced little resistance from Al Shabaab militants, who were easily repulsed,” Col Oguna said.

Assorted ammunition was recovered. “Three Somalia’s Transitional Federal Government soldiers sustained minor injuries,” he said.

On Saturday evening, the troops captured Jana cabdalla town.



AFRICOM

18. [Security, Nigeria] Nigerian Troops Discover Explosives In Kano

Wednesday, September 19 2012

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2012-09/19/content_15768125.htm

Nigerian troops in Kano State in the northwest of the West African country on Tuesday said 36 prepared improvised explosive devices (IEDs) were part of the recovery made by the security operatives during the capture of two members of the terrorist sect.

One of the sect members suspected to be the media coordinator was killed in a gun battle on Monday by a combined team of Department of State Security (DSS) personnel and the Joint Military Task Force (JTF) in Kano.

Spokesperson of the JTF in Kano, Lieutenant Ikedichi Iweha, said the security operatives recovered two AK 47 rifles, two pump action rifles, one Berretta rifle, one smoke discharger.

Other items seized in the operation include 433 rounds of 7.62 Nato ammunition, 80 rounds of 7.62 special ammunition, two AK 47 magazines, 13 laptops, two motorcycles, four printers, one photocopier, one 33 slots Zenith Disc writer, one TG 3900Ez generator set, religious nooks, large quantity of CD plates, two decoders.

Lieutenant Iweha said the latest encounter with the terrorist group foiled its planned attack to wreck havoc on the good people of Kano State.



AFRICOM

19. [Attack, Somalia] At Least Six Killed In Mogadishu Suicide Bombing

Thursday, September 20 2012

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2012/sep/20/six-killed-mogadishu-suicide-bombing?newsfeed=true>

Two suicide bombers walked into a restaurant in central Mogadishu and blew themselves up on Thursday killing at least six people, witnesses said, less than a week after militant bombers targeted the country's new president.

A Reuters photographer said he could see six bodies as well as the severed heads of the two bombers. Chairs and tables were strewn across the restaurant and pools of blood covered the flooring.

"Two suicide bombers targeted a restaurant called The Village opposite the theatre. There are bodies and there are wounded people," said Mohamed Sheikh, a security guard at the National Theatre located opposite the blast site.

The election of Hassan Sheikh Mohamud as president last week was hailed by his supporters as a vote for change in a country mired in conflict for more than two decades.

But the latest attacks underscore the security challenges the political newcomer faces as African forces battle to quash a five-year insurgency waged by the Islamist rebel group, al-Shabaab.

The restaurant is owned by a well known Somali businessman who returned to Somalia from Britain recently.



CENTCOM

20. [Security, Iraq] Al-Qaeda Gunman Killed While Trying To Plant IED West Of Baghdad

Saturday, September 15 2012

http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2012/09/15/newsbrief-09

An Iraqi military spokesperson said Saturday (September 15th) that an al-Qaeda gunman was killed and another was arrested while trying to plant an improvised explosive device (IED) near a popular café west of Baghdad.

"Civilians informed the security forces early this morning about the presence of gunmen trying to plant an IED near a café," Maj. Yasin al-Falahi, spokesperson for the Iraqi army's sixth division, told Al-Shorfa.

"When an army force went to the location, clashes broke out and a gunman was killed, another was wounded, while a third fled," he added. "Security forces are now conducting intensive searches for [the latter]."

He said that an army's engineering team managed to defuse the IED.



CENTCOM

21. [Attack, Yemen] Bomb Kills Three Yemeni Soldiers

Sunday, September 16 2012

<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/breaking-news/bomb-kills-three-yemeni-soldiers/story-e6frf7k6-1226475222822>

Three Yemeni soldiers have been killed and six others wounded in a roadside bombing that targeted the convoy of a security chief in the southeastern city of Mukalla.

The bomb went off as a three-vehicle convoy passed through the Huwaysh neighbourhood of the coastal city on Sunday, witnesses said.

It targeted the convoy of Colonel Abdulwahab al-Waeli, head of Central Security in the city, a security official said.

It was not clear who was behind the attack but Al-Qaeda remains active in the south and east of impoverished Yemen.

Al-Qaeda loyalists have carried out a spate of deadly attacks against security forces and their militia allies since President Abdrabuh Mansur Hadi came to power earlier this year pledging to crush the militants.

Al-Qaeda took advantage of a nearly year-long uprising against Hadi's predecessor, veteran strongman Ali Abdullah Saleh, to seize large swathes of the south and east.

In an all-out offensive launched in May, the army retook a string of towns in Abyan province, which neighbours Aden to the east.



CENTCOM

22. [Attack, Iraq] One Killed In Funeral Bombing

Sunday, September 16 2012

<http://www.boston.com/news/world/middle-east/2012/09/16/iraqi-police-killed-funeral-bombing/FIVxiMx4rDMWtysJ8oZRCJ/story.html>

Iraqi officials say a car bomb has killed one mourner and wounded 15 other people when it exploded near a funeral procession south of Baghdad.

Police said the Sunday evening attack happened in the village of al-Hamza, outside the mostly Shiite Muslim city of Hillah.

Authorities quickly sealed off the area and began a search for the attackers. Hillah is located about 60 miles (95 kilometers) south of Baghdad.

It was not clear if the death toll would rise.

Hospital officials in Hillah confirmed the casualties.

All officials spoke on condition of anonymity as they were not authorized to release the information.



CENTCOM

23. [Attack, Iraq] Suicide Car Bomb Kills Four In Baghdad

Monday, September 17 2012

<http://dawn.com/2012/09/17/suicide-car-bomb-kills-four-in-baghdad-officials/>

Iraqi officials say a suicide car bomb struck one of the gates to Baghdad's heavily guarded Green Zone, killing four people, including three security officers.

The officials say Monday's explosion took place during the morning rush hour near the bridge over Tigris River connecting the Karradah district and the Green Zone, where most government offices, the parliament and several embassies and foreign missions in Iraq are located.

They officials say sporadic gunshots followed the blast.

A hospital official says 14 people were wounded in the explosion.

All officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they are not authorized to talk to the media.



CENTCOM

24. [Security, Iran] Iran Says Nuclear Facility Sabotaged

Monday, September 17 2012

<http://english.al-akhbar.com/content/iran-says-nuclear-facilities-sabotaged>

Explosive blasts cut power lines to Iran's underground nuclear facility at Fordo last month, the head of Iran's atomic agency said at a meeting of UN atomic watchdog member states Monday.

"On ... 17th August 2012, the electric power lines from the city of Qom to the Fordo complex ... were cut using explosives," Fereydoon Abbasi Davani told the 155-nation International Atomic Energy Agency gathering in a speech.

Davani did not accuse anyone in particular, but in the past Iran has blamed Israel and the United States for the assassinations of its nuclear scientists and computer viruses targeting its atomic facilities.

He also suggested that the IAEA requested a visit the next day in order to assess the damage.

"During the early hours of next morning an Agency inspector requested to conduct an unannounced inspection. Does this visit have any connection to that detonation?" Abbasi asked through an interpreter.

"Who other than the IAEA inspectors can have access to the complex in such a short term to report and record failures? It should be reminded that the same act had been performed on the power lines to the Natanz facilities."

Fordo is a key site in Iran's nuclear program, dug deep into a mountain to protect it against air strikes and enriching uranium to purities of 20 percent, a short step from the 90 percent needed for a nuclear weapon.

Iran says its nuclear program is peaceful and that uranium enrichment is for power generation and medical purposes, while the west and Israel accuse Iran of seeking nuclear weapons.

Russia, Iran's main backer, says no evidence exists to suggest Iran is attempting to build nuclear weapons.

Israel has threatened airstrikes on Iran's nuclear facilities.

Abbasi, due to hold talks later Monday in Vienna with IAEA chief Yukiya Amano, said however that sabotage attempts against Iran's nuclear activities have failed and would continue to fail – as would any air strikes.

"The plotters of attacks against Iranian nuclear facilities have realized, through the IAEA's published reports, that they have not gained any success in this regard," he said.

Abbasi said that Iranian experts were now able to anticipate unwanted events "and ward off threats by targeting virtual packages of cyber attacks, industrial sabotage and use of explosives.

"They have also devised certain ways through which nuclear facilities remain intact under missile attacks and air raids."

He also blamed the IAEA for the failure of a string of meetings this year aimed at clarifying the agency's suspicions



that prior to 2003, and possibly since, Iran had a structured program of activities it said were "relevant to the development of a nuclear explosive device."



CENTCOM

25. [Attack, Iraq] Militants Kill Five In Attack On Iraqi Soldiers, Police

Wednesday, September 19 2012

<http://english.al-akhbar.com/content/militants-kill-five-attack-iraqi-soldiers-police>

Militants assaulted a police station north of Baghdad on Wednesday, killing one policeman, as four people including two soldiers were shot dead in other attacks, security and medical officials said.

Gunmen also shelled the police station in Hibhib, the town where Al-Qaeda in Iraq leader Abu Musab al-Zarqawi was killed in 2006, before attacking the facility with light and medium weapons, a colonel in the Diyala Operations Command said.

One policeman was killed and two others were wounded, the colonel said, adding that during the fighting police killed three attackers wearing explosive belts.

Deputy Interior Minister Adnan al-Assadi said on Iraqiya state television that police in Hibhib had thwarted a militant operation aimed at freeing prisoners.

In Mosul in north Iraq, two soldiers were killed in an attack on an army checkpoint, while a man was shot dead in front of his house in the city, army First Lieutenant Khaled Falayih and Dr Tareq al-Nuaimi said.

And a provincial council security official was shot dead in western Baghdad, an interior ministry official and a medical source said.

Iraq has faced daily violence since the US-led invasion in 2003 largely uprooted state institutions, leaving a power vacuum filled by rogue militias and foreign jihadis.

Violence in Iraq is down from its peak in 2006 and 2007, but attacks are still near-daily occurrences.



CENTCOM

26. [Attack, Iran] Iranian Player Picks Up Bomb From Pitch - Seconds Before It Explodes

Thursday, September 20 2012

<http://www.metro.co.uk/sport/football/912642-iranian-player-picks-up-bomb-from-pitch-seconds-before-it-explodes>

A player in Iran nearly lost his hand after throwing aside an object which a fan had chucked onto the pitch – only to quickly realise it was in fact a live explosive.

Footage of the incident shows how the player narrowly escaped serious injury as he got rid of the small black object before it exploded when it made contact with the advertising hoarding.

Coins, lighters and seats have been used as projectiles by fans in the past but rarely before has an explosive device been lobbed onto the playing surface.

The local club match was being played in Isfahan, home to one of the country's controversial nuclear facilities.

The incident came shortly after the UN's International Atomic Energy Agency expressed concern that Iran had continued to defy directives over uranium enrichment and nuclear weapons development.

On the pitch, officials and players sprinted away from the smoke and the match was quickly abandoned - police are now investigating the case.





CENTCOM

27. [Attack, Syria] Blast Kills At Least 30 In Syria's North

Thursday, September 20 2012

<http://blogs.voanews.com/breaking-news/2012/09/20/blast-kills-at-least-30-in-syrias-north/>

A Syrian rights group says a blast in northeast Syria has killed at least 30 people and wounded dozens of others.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights quotes witnesses as saying the blast occurred when an air strike hit a fuel station in al-Raqqa province Thursday. The group's director says witnesses told him they saw at least 30 bodies, with the death toll likely to rise.

Earlier reports said at least 50 were killed in the blast.

Meanwhile, Syrian state television says a military helicopter that crashed near Damascus clipped the tail of a Syrian passenger plane in midair. The report said the passenger jet landed safely Thursday at Damascus International Airport with 200 people onboard.

Opposition activists said rebels shot down the helicopter. Fighters opposed to Syrian President Bashar al-Assad have claimed to have downed military helicopters before, including late last month in Damascus.

The Syrian state report did not include eye witnesses to the alleged incident.

VOA correspondent Elizabeth Arrott reported heavy shelling in the capital Thursday. She says classrooms are crowded in the al-Abbasiyin neighborhood not far from the shelling, as parents bring their children from nearby towns where fighting rages.

Meanwhile, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon says the government and the opposition in Syria appear determined to resolve the crisis militarily. He told reporters Wednesday that military means will not bring an answer, and the crisis should be resolved through political dialogue.

Mr. Ban said Syria will be a top issue as he meets with world leaders at the U.N. General Assembly, saying they must urgently address the situation.



EUCOM

28. [Attack, Turkey] PKK Bomb' Kills Turkish Police

Sunday, September 16 2012

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-19615995>

Eight police officers have been killed by a roadside bomb in the southern Turkish province of Bingol, security officials say.

The device was detonated as their bus passed on a road in the Karlioiva district of Bingol province, they said.

Sources blamed the attack on Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) militants.

Fighting between the army and PKK rebels in south-eastern Turkey has escalated in the past year, with hundreds of lives lost.

Nine officers were wounded in the blast on Sunday morning, the officials said.

The army has mounted scores of operations in that region, and in neighbouring northern Iraq, in a bid to drive out the rebels.

The PKK has been fighting for an ethnic homeland in south-eastern Turkey since 1984. It is classified as a terrorist organisation by Turkey, the US and EU.

In all, more than 40,000 people have died in the conflict.



EUCOM

29. [Security, Denmark] Explosives Discovered In Copenhagen

Monday, September 17 2012

<http://cphpost.dk/news/local/explosives-discovered-copenhagen>

Police say danger has passed after the military secure a bag of explosives that was found on the street this morning.

Explosives were discovered by a pedestrian early this morning in Copenhagen's Sydhavn district.

Police received a phone call at 05:38 about the explosives on Borgmester Christiansens Gade and quickly evacuated buildings near the find and closed off the street to traffic.

Bomb sniffing dogs and military explosives experts were called in to investigate and the fire service was also on hand nearby.

The bag of explosives was found several hundred meters from the busy street Sydhavnsgade and several bus routes had to be diverted.

The police said it was a "substantial" find of explosives, though it did not pose a threat to people as they were not prepared to go off.

The military's explosives experts secured the find by placing it in a blast proof trailer that they drove away.

After establishing that there were no more explosives on the street, police reopened the street a little after 8am.

The police are now investigating how military explosives ended up in the south Copenhagen industrial district.





EUCOM

30. [Attack, Turkey] Seven Soldiers Dead In PKK Attack On Turkish Convoy

Tuesday, September 18 2012

<http://english.al-akhbar.com/content/seven-soldiers-dead-pkk-attack-turkish-convoy>

Kurdish militants fired rockets on a military convoy in eastern Turkey on Tuesday, killing at least seven soldiers and wounding 56 others, security sources said.

The convoy was travelling between the provinces of Bingol and Mus when it was hit by a rocket launched by members of the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) militant group, the sources said.

Dozens of wounded soldiers were transferred to nearby hospitals, Mustafa Hakan Guvencer, Bingol governor, told Anatolia news agency. The death toll may rise, according to local security sources.

The Turkish army retaliated with an immediate operation backed by air power in the larger Bingol area to capture the members of the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) who staged the attack, the agency reported.

The attack comes a day after Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan said 500 Kurdish rebels were killed over the past month.

The PKK took up arms in the southeast in 1984, sparking a conflict that has claimed about 45,000 lives.



EUCOM

31. [Attack, France] Bomb Explodes In Kosher Grocery Store In France

Wednesday, September 19 2012

http://www.mercurynews.com/nation-world/ci_21582169/bomb-explodes-kosher-grocery-store-france

A small package bomb exploded inside a kosher grocery store in a Paris suburb Wednesday, wounding at least one person, according to an agency that tracks anti-Semitic attacks in France.

The reason for the attack was unclear, but it rattled nerves amid global tensions surrounding a U.S.-produced film insulting to Islam. The French grocery store attack came a few hours after a satirical French weekly published caricatures of the Prophet Muhammad, prompting anger from French Muslim groups.

The Jewish Community Protection Service, set up to register anti-Semitic attacks in France, says on its website that two individuals dressed in black threw an explosive device inside a kosher supermarket in the Paris suburb of Sarcelles at lunchtime Wednesday. It says one person suffered small injuries, without elaborating.

Yves Jannier, the state prosecutor in the Val d'Oise region where Sarcelles is located, cautioned that evidence was still being compiled and it was too early to draw any conclusions about motives behind the attack.

"We'll need to analyze, quantify and measure all these elements, such as to know perhaps the type of explosives used," he said at a news conference. "But for now, we should avoid any extrapolation or hasty conclusions."

The Sipa news agency reported four injuries. It said the two assailants fled after throwing a rock through the shop's window shortly before the explosion, and that the victims are being treated for wounds to their arms and legs from the explosion and broken glass.

A French Jewish umbrella organization, CRIF, said in a statement that "it fears this attack" is connected to violent protests in recent days from Asia to Africa against the U.S.-produced film "Innocence of Muslims," which ridicules Prophet Muhammad. CRIF criticized those who are linking Jews to the making of the film and said "nothing can justify the wave of violence that has hit the world since its release."

France, which has western Europe's largest Jewish population, sees sporadic but persistent anti-Semitic acts, often vandalism of gravesites and synagogues. The nation also has the region's largest Muslim population, and mosques and Muslim gravesites are periodically desecrated.

Fears of a new wave of anti-Semitism in France resurfaced after a gunman claiming ties to radical Islam killed three children and a rabbi at a Jewish school in Toulouse in March, the worst such attacks in France since the 1990s.



EUCOM

32. [Security, Turkey] Bomb Found, Defused Near Turkish Airport

Thursday, September 20 2012

http://www.upi.com/Top_News/World-News/2012/09/20/Bomb-found-defused-near-Turkish-airport/UPI-75231348148773/

Flights at a Turkish airport were postponed Thursday while ordinance experts detonated a bomb on a bridge near a village, officials said.

Officials said the explosive device was defused after about two hours, Today's Zaman reported.

Security forces, acting on a tip, located the bomb on a bridge near Carikli in Diyarbakir province. The device reportedly was planted by the terrorist group Kurdistan Workers' Party near the airport that serves both military and civilian traffic.

Today's Zaman said Diyarbakir police contacted the Second Air Fleet Command, airport officials and the Eighth Main Jet Base Command to ensure military and civilian flights at the air facility were delayed after the explosives were found beneath a bridge near two runways.



PACOM

33. [Law Enforcement, Thailand] Fake Bomb Detectors Put Thais In Jail

Thursday, September 13 2012

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/article-67530-Fake-bomb-detectors-put-Thais-in-jail>

Implicated by the wand of a "bogus" bomb detector, Hassan became one of hundreds detained in Thailand's insurgency-racked south because of equipment that experts say is useless.

Scandal over the Thai army's use of the GT200 detectors has deepened rancour towards the authorities in the Muslim-majority border region, where nearly 5,300 people have died in an eight-year conflict that shows no sign of abating.

Human rights activists say more than 400 people have been locked up - some for up to two years - on the basis of spurious evidence gleaned by the device, which is at the centre of a British fraud probe.

"I was playing football at my school when someone shot at soldiers nearby," said Hassan, who was held for 29 days without charge over the 2008 incident in Yala province - a hot-bed of violence.

"The soldiers entered the school looking for the gunman. They lined us up and used the GT200. The antenna pointed to me... and they took me away," he added, asking for his identity to be withheld because he fears reprisals for speaking out over his detention.

Billed as being able to detect minute traces of explosives, gun powder and even drugs, the GT200 is the army's main detection tool.

The hand-held device, which is claimed to be powered by the user's static electricity rather than a battery, is advertised as using a substance-detecting "sensor card" inside a plastic handle to trigger a twitch of its antenna in the direction of explosives.

Evidence debunking the powers of the GT200 - sold by Britain-based Global Technical Ltd - has long been in circulation, with experts describing it as little more than a radio aerial stuck on a useless piece of plastic despite the company's claims that it can detect explosives from hundreds of metres away.

In July the man behind the GT200 was charged in Britain with "dishonestly representing" the device as "capable of detecting explosives".

Several other British businessmen are awaiting trial for selling similarly defunct equipment around the world - including to Iraq.

A Thai government probe concluded the device works only 25 percent of the time, a success rate critics attribute to nothing more than random chance.

"Tossing a coin would be more accurate," said Angkhana Neelapaijit, of the Justice for Peace foundation, which uncovered the scandal.

"People in the south knew the GT200 was fake from the first time it was used" in 2007, she said. "But the Thai au-



thorities refused to listen... all trust in the government and army has been lost."

Thailand's highest investigating agency is now mulling legal action against Global Technical and its Thai distributors.

But the powerful military has refused to concede it was duped over its rumoured \$20 million acquisition, or apologise to those held in what rights groups say is a flagrant miscarriage of justice.

Hassan said he was threatened and interrogated in detention and forced to point out friends from a school photograph.

Among them was Ayub who said he was arrested with no further evidence and held for two years before he was freed without a conviction or an apology.

"I'm so angry. They took two years away from me but I am scared it can happen again," Ayub told AFP, also asking for his identity to be protected.

He said he now carries the stigma of having been accused of links to the militants, who are believed to want greater autonomy and kill both Buddhists and Muslims in near-daily bomb or gun attacks.

The Thai army refutes accusations of arbitrary detentions based on the faulty device.

"We found real evidence - guns, weapons, grenades - that's why we arrested them," Colonel Pramote Promin, deputy spokesman for the Internal Security Operations Command said, addressing the wider issue of detentions.

"It might be a hallucination but we found (weapons) many times. It might be a fluke or coincidence that it worked," he said, adding that the effectiveness could be "something above science".

Despite his endorsement, the army appears to have stopped mass round-ups of men for "wandering" by the device, which were commonplace between 2007 and 2010, according to locals in Yala and Pattani provinces.

But soldiers still check cars and roadsides with the device, raising fears its continued use is exposing the security forces - and civilians they are supposed to protect - to greater risks.

"It's a big scandal," said Jessada Denduangboripant, a biologist at Bangkok's Chulalongkorn University who was one of the first Thai experts to question the device.

He is sceptical that a probe by Thailand's top investigative body will apportion blame to the "powerful people" behind the purchase of the detector.

But as long as authorities refuse to admit fault, victims will continue to be denied justice, said Kaosar Aleemama of the Muslim Attorney Centre, which represents Hassan and Ayub.

"These people have never heard someone say 'I am sorry' for taking their freedom," she added. "It is an issue of human dignity."



PACOM

34. [Attack, India] BSF Personnel Injured In IED Blast Carried Out By PLA In Manipur

Saturday, September 15 2012

<http://www.indiandefence.com/bsf-personal-injured-ied-blast-carried-pla-manipur-1562/>

One of the personnel serving with the Indian paramilitary organization Border Security Force (BSF) was hurt in a bomb explosion, which was later blamed on the rebel group People's Liberation Army of Manipur (PLA). According to local media reports, the incident occurred near the settlement of Tomal Makhong in the Thoubal district of inner Manipur. The BSF later confirmed the incident, and said that one of its jawans needed medical assistance as a result of the injuries sustained during the blast.

According to the Manipur State Police, the incident occurred at about 4:30 pm yesterday. The explosion took place near a waiting shed in Heirok Part II Ningthoujam Leikai, when a team of BSF personnel were passing through the area. The BSF personnel were returning to their base at Chingdongpok, after completing their routine patrol operations in Heirok Bazaar. Preliminary investigations indicated that the explosion was caused by an Improvised Explosive Device (IED). A civilian who was present near the site of the explosion also suffered minor injuries, after being hit by the bomb shrapnel.

The injured BSF personal was later identified as a 45 –year old member of the force from the Northern Indian state of Haryana. He is currently admitted to the Regional Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS), in the state capital of Imphal. BSF officials said that his condition is stable, and added that he had suffered injuries to his neck and right hand, after being hit by bomb shrapnel.

T Leishemba, senior PLA operative confirmed the participation of the rebel group in the attack. He claimed that a number of BSF personnel lost their lives, and many more were seriously injured during the explosion. He accused the paramilitary group of covering up its own casualties.

In a related incident, the Indian security forces prevented another bomb attack near the city of Lamphel, after they found and deactivated another explosive device later on yesterday. The device was located near the office of the Border Road Task Force (BRTF), and was later deactivated by the local police.



PACOM

35. [Law Enforcement, Philippines] Police Foil Blast In Isabela City

Sunday, September 16 2012

<http://www.philstar.com/Article.aspx?articleId=849727&publicationSubCategoryId=200>

Authorities foiled an explosion on Sunday in southern Philippine province of Basilan as they recovered an improvised explosive device (IED) in the port vicinity, police said.

A team of the Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) of the Police Special Action Force (SAF) recovered the IED along Valderosa street, Port Area in Isabela City at around 6:30 p.m., the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) Police Regional Office said.

Initial investigation conducted by the Isabela police revealed that a concerned citizen called up the police station regarding the discovery of the explosive.

Law enforcers cordoned the area, while the EOD team managed to detonate the IED after almost an hour.

"Particles of the IED were brought to the SAF headquarters for identification of its composition," ARMM police said, adding that the case was under investigation.



PACOM

36. [Law Enforcement, India] CEO, Eight Hyderabad Firm Employees Held With 'Explosives For Maoists'

Sunday, September 16 2012

<http://www.indianexpress.com/news/ceo-8-hyderabad-firm-employees-held-with-explosives-for-maoists/1003406/0>

Nine employees of a Hyderabad-based construction firm, including CEO A Bhupal, were arrested on Friday evening on charges of supplying explosives to Maoists in Malkangiri district.

Malkangiri SP Akhilesh Singh said the nine, working for Lekcon Infrastructure Private Ltd, had been held with 50 kg of improvised explosive devices, gelatin powder, potassium nitrate and a large amount of Maoist literature.

Threatened by Maoists and facing financial losses due to delay in completion of road projects, the company allegedly agreed to supply explosives to Maoists on the Andhra -Orissa Border area in exchange for letting work continue at its sites.

It was the sixth such incident this year of police intercepting vehicles of construction firms working in Orissa or Chhattisgarh and finding cash or goods meant for Maoists. In the past, the Andhra Police have seized medicines, food and rations, besides cash from employees of construction firms working in the two neighbouring states. The companies buckle in under threats by Maoists to kidnap or kill employees and destroy their equipment.

A Lekcon Infra official, Narender Naidu, denied the charges, saying the explosives were meant for construction and that they were not connected to Naxalites in any way.

The BSF and Orissa Police seized the explosives from the SUV of Bhupal. The eight others travelling with him were also arrested. The nine were produced before a local court on Saturday.

Enjoying a good reputation, the Rs 200-crore Lekcon Infrastructure is involved in road construction in Balimela, Kalimela and Padia areas of Malkangiri district, apart from roads and irrigation projects in other parts of the state and Chhattisgarh. It also has a small raw materials mixing plant near Potrel village.

The employees had left Hyderabad on Thursday and had crossed the border into Orissa from Khammam. They were nearing Potrel in Malkangiri district where they allegedly were to hand over the explosives to Maoists when they were intercepted.

SP Singh said they had become suspicious of Bhupal's movements as he had travelled once earlier to Malkangiri allegedly to deliver explosives to an arms dealer of the Maoists. "We received information that the vehicle carrying Bhupal and others was again on its way towards Potrel village and we intercepted it. Besides gelatin sticks, we also found nitric acid and 34 other types of explosives in various quantities in 12 gunny bags. Bhupal said he was going to deliver to Karunakar Reddy, who we believe is the arms dealer working for Maoists and is currently absconding. Bhupal as well as the owner of Lekcon Infra, Purshottam Naidu, are well aware that the explosives would ultimately reach the Maoists," Singh said.

"They had material which construction companies normally don't require. The material are normally used for making claymore mines," he said. "Around two weeks ago too they had brought around 80 kg of such explosives for



Maoists. Though we had intelligence inputs then, we could not catch them redhanded.”

Police also found several new mobile phones and Maoist literature in Telugu in the vehicle which the company had allegedly got translated and printed on Maoists’ demand. A couple of bags containing more explosives were allegedly found dumped behind a small factory owned by Leckon Infra in Potrel village. A Tata Xenon vehicle and a Bolero pick-up vehicle were also seized.

Malkangiri police officials said apart from Karunakar Reddy, another arms dealer working for the Maoists in Chittrakonda area, Sudhakar Reddy, was to collect the consignment but fled when police intercepted the vehicle.

Officials of the anti-Maoist Special Intelligence Branch said construction and infrastructure companies were major targets of Maoists and were forced to pay protection money or provide medicines, food and rations or arms and explosives to them in exchange for letting their projects smoothly. In April, the general manager of a Pune-based construction firm was arrested by the Khammam Police with Rs 50 lakh in cash that he was carrying to be paid allegedly as protection money to Maoists in Chhattisgarh.



PACOM

37. [Attack, Bangladesh] BNP Leader Killed In Bomb Attack In Jessore District

Monday, September 17 2012

http://www.satp.org/satporgtp/detailed_news.asp?date1=9/17/2012&id=6#6

A local Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) leader was killed and his co-villager injured in a bomb attack at Duttapara Bazar in Sadar sub-District of Jessore District on September 17 (today), reports The Independent. The deceased was identified as Jihadul Islam Zia (42), organising secretary of Ward BNP. Police and witnesses said a gang of miscreants swooped on Zia and Mohammad Ali (43) while they were gossiping at a teashop at the bazaar. The criminals hurled several bombs at them and later chopped them indiscriminately.



PACOM

38. [Attack, Philippines] Farmer Accidentally Killed By IED Explosion

Monday, September 17 2012

<http://newsinfo.inquirer.net/272364/farmer-accidentally-killed-by-ied-explosion>

One farmer was killed in Zamboanga del Norte following an explosion of an improvised explosive device Sunday morning, the military said.

Initial reports said the victim was on his way to his farmland in Balas village, Labason town at around 5 a.m. when he accidentally stepped on the IED that caused his death, said Captain Alberto Caber of the Army's First Infantry Division.

The victim was 48-year-old William Barbona of sitio Mahayahay of the same village.

The suspect behind the incident was led by a certain Omar Arasid alias Sapi of an extortionist group. The victim was said to have failed to give money to the group, Caber said.



PACOM

39. [Security, India] One Hundred Twenty-Five IEDs Recovered In Maoist-Affected Khunti

Monday, September 17 2012

http://zeenews.india.com/news/jharkhand/jharkhand-125-ieds-recovered-in-maoist-affected-k_800137.html

Altogether 125 improvised explosive devices (IEDs) were found on Monday planted under Bandu road in the extremist-affected Khunti district, probably targeting the security forces, police said here.

"All the explosives were connected with wire and planted serially beneath Bandu road under Rania police station. While 23 IEDs weighed 10 kg, the rest weighed two kg," officiating Superintendent of Police, Amarnath Mishra told reporters here.

Extensive interrogation of an arrested Maoist, Sunil Kerketa, led to the discovery of the explosives, he said, adding the CRPF and the district police personnel unearthed the IEDs, which were defused later. Kerketa was arrested recently at Bano in the neighbouring Simdega district.



PACOM

40. [Trend, India] Bomb Deluge Continues, IED Found At BRTF Complex

Friday, September 14 2012

<http://www.e-pao.net/GP.asp?src=1..150912.sep12>

After the RAW branch office of Lamphelpat was bombarded in the wee hours yesterday, another IED was found at the quarters of a BRTF Commandant, next to the RAW office and North of Lamphel police station.

According to information culled from the spot, 25th BRTF Commandant FS Mohan Lal's gardener Gautam Sahani first came across the object which later turned out to be an IED at about 8 am yesterday.

Gautam Sahani stumbled upon the object when sweeping the Commandant's compound and it was wrapped in a yellow polythene.

Unaware what was inside the polythene, Gautam re-wrapped the object and put it over the eastern RCC compound wall.

This morning Mrs Mohan Lal, perturbed by the bomb explosion in the neighbouring RAW office, asked Sahani to check if any suspicious object was present in the house.

At this, Sahani brought out the object and showed it to Mrs Mohan Lal and a sentry. A few minutes later, the object was taken to the 25th BRTF headquarters just a few metres away.

On opening the wrapper, an LED was seen first and this alerted the BRTF personnel.

They carefully lifted the object and put it near the compound wall just opposite to the AG quarters.





Then they informed police immediately.

After examining the object, explosive experts of Manipur Police confirmed at about 11.30 am that it was a bomb.

It was an improvised explosive device containing two cakes of TNT weighing 200 gms each.

It was a sophisticated remote-control explosive which did not have any splinter and its effective range was 100 metres, said the explosive experts.

The explosive experts detonated the bomb there and later taken to the custody of Lamphel police station.

A powerful bomb exploded inside the RAW branch office near its northern wall, just West of Lamphel police station at about 2 am yesterday.

However, there was no report of any casualty and police maintained that the explosive was of low intensity.

The proscribed RPF has already claimed its hand in the bomb blast.



PACOM

41. [Law Enforcement, India] Three Thousand Detonators And 90 Quintal Of Ammonium Nitrate Recovered In Bihar, Seven Held

Wednesday, September 19 2012

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/3000-detonators-and-90-quintal-of-ammonium-nitrate-recovered-in-Bihar-7-held/articleshow/16461300.cms>

Seven persons were arrested and a huge quantity of detonators and explosive materials were recovered on Wednesday from Gopi Bigaha village in Bihar's Rohtas district.

Acting on a tip off, the police raided the village and recovered 3000 detonators and 90 quintal of ammonium nitrate meant for use in illegal mining of natural resources, superintendent of police Manu Maharaj said.

The police has arrested seven persons in this connection, he said.

The accused were involved in illegal mining earlier, Maharaj said.



PACOM

42. [Security, Thailand] Five Kg Bomb Defused On Yala Road

Thursday, September 20 2012

<http://www.bangkokpost.com/news/local/313130/>

A potentially powerful home-made bomb and two bottles of benzene, believed to be part of a plot to create unrest, were found by a roadside in Yala province yesterday morning.

Police bomb experts rushed to Tuebor intersection in tambon Sateng Nok in Muang district about 6.30am after being alerted about a suspicious-looking plastic box hidden in a rubbish bin.

The box, containing a home-made bomb weighing over 5kg, was deactivated. The two bottles of benzene, each containing one litre of the petrochemical, were also found in the bin.

Police believed insurgents planned to set fire to houses in the area with the benzene and let off the bomb. The items were found by a team of military rangers on patrol.

Earlier this week Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra and Democrat Party leader Abhisit Vejjajiva sat down to discuss measures to combat the southern insurgency.

Deputy Prime Minister Yutthasak Sasiprapa said yesterday cooperation from all sides was needed to solve the southern violence.

The government accepted for consideration a nine-point proposal by the opposition to contain the unrest, he said.

It also explained its plan to set up a southern command centre to supervise the situation in the region.

The Internal Security Operations Command and the Southern Border Province Administration Centre both back the centre, although the opposition is opposed to it. Mr Abhisit said the centre was likely to hinder public participation in the effort to forge peace, and obstruct coordination.

Gen Yutthasak said an increase in the number of police officers in the deep South was also discussed. The region was in dire need of about 4,000-5,000 extra police.

National police chief-designate Adul Saengsingkaew would train additional officers to be sent to the region in six months, Gen Yutthasak said.



PACOM

43. [Attack, Thailand] Six Dead, Dozens Wounded In Thai South Car Bomb

Friday, September 21, 2012

<http://www.rnw.nl/english/bulletin/six-dead-dozens-wounded-thai-south-car-bomb-0>

At least six people were killed and more than 40 were wounded Friday after a car bomb exploded in a busy shopping street in Thailand's insurgency-hit south, officials told AFP.

Overwhelmed nurses scrambled to help as casualties poured into the main hospital in Sai Buri town, an AFP reporter at the scene said, describing blood trails smeared across the floor as the bodies of the dead were carried in.

"There are six dead now, three men and three women," a Public Health ministry official said in Bangkok -- a toll confirmed by the local hospital which said five civilians were among the dead.

"Altogether 41 people have been wounded either from shrapnel or burns," she said, adding 19 "seriously injured" people had been ferried to bigger provincial hospitals.

An army spokesman said CCTV footage showed three militants opening fire on shops in Sai Buri town centre shortly after Friday prayers in the Muslim-majority region, to lure security forces to the scene, before detonating the bomb.

A complex insurgency calling for greater autonomy has plagued Thailand's Muslim-majority far south near the border with Malaysia since 2004, claiming more than 5,300 lives, both Buddhist and Muslim, with near daily bomb or gun attacks.

The bomb, which sparked a fire that destroyed several shops, was meant as a warning to locals not to talk with security forces after nearly 100 suspected militants "surrendered" last week, according to Colonel Pramote Prom-in, an army spokesman in the south.

"The perpetrators are the hardcore and do not want a peaceful solution (to the conflict) so they wanted to terrorise residents not to take sides with government," Pramote said.

"We know who they are, they are the same group who incited other unrest incidents," he said, adding security teams were hunting the suspects.

In response to an increase in violence over the summer, authorities in Thailand, a predominantly Buddhist country, said they had renewed peace talks with militant leaders.

"Don't call it negotiations... but there are talks to achieve peace which is a crucial government policy," Yutthasak Sasiprapa, deputy prime minister in charge of national security, said in August.

But the attacks have continued.

Analysts say the lattice of militant groups operating in the lush, forested three southernmost provinces are using increasingly sophisticated tactics to carry out co-ordinated assaults.



Dozens of members of Thailand's security forces have been killed in recent weeks in ambushes and roadside bombs, while civilians perceived to have collaborated with Thai authorities are also routinely executed.

A series of car bombs killed 14 people and injured more than 500 in April in the deadliest attacks to hit the insurgency-torn far south of Thailand in recent years.



NORTHCOM

44. [Law Enforcement, United States] Yuba City Man Arrested With Alleged Bomb, Meth Materials

Saturday, September 15 2012

<http://www.appeal-democrat.com/news/explosive-119466-hesse-device.html>

A Yuba City man was arrested on Friday night after police found a chemical mask and an improvised explosive device in his van after a brief pursuit, prompting the evacuation of nearby residents and a call to the Beale Air Force Base bomb squad, the California Highway Patrol reported.

Michael Frederick Hesse, 32, of the 600 block of King Avenue, was arrested at 10:08 p.m. on Von Geldern Way on suspicion of being a felon in possession of body armor, evading a peace officer with disregard for safety, possessing a destructive device, possessing an explosive, possessing ammunition and misdemeanor driving under the influence.

He had attracted the attention of a California Highway Patrol officer because he was driving with a headlight out, and when the officer tried to pull him over, Hesse fled, according to the CHP.

During the vehicle pursuit, Hesse crashed the van into a drainage ditch on Von Geldern Way north of Sumner Street and began to run, tossing aside what was later found to be a hypodermic needle and 12-gauge sawed-off shotgun. The officer immediately apprehended him, the CHP said.

Additional CHP officers and Yuba City police helped search the van and found a bulletproof vest, a chemical mask and an improvised explosive device. Officers immediately moved to a safe distance and evacuated nearby buildings while waiting for the Beale Air Force Base explosive disposal team to arrive.

Once the device had been retrieved, officers continued searching the vehicle and found materials necessary to manufacture methamphetamine, additional improvised explosive devices and bomb-making materials.

Hesse, who was determined to be under the influence of a controlled substance, was booked into the Sutter County Jail. His bail is set at \$500,000.

An investigation is ongoing.



NORTHCOM

45. [Attack, United States] Soda Bottle Bombs Fray Nerves In Bridgewater Neighborhood

Monday, September 17 2012

<http://www.enterpriseneews.com/news/x326767900/State-police-bomb-squad-responds-to-Bridgewater-home?img=4>

Bob Lowder heard what he thought were gunshots outside his Grange Court home early Sunday morning – then he looked outside. It wasn't gunfire.

Three homemade explosive devices had been thrown onto Lowder's front lawn, and two had just exploded, he said.

"I looked out the window. I see something explode and a huge cloud of gas go off. I'm like, 'Wow,'" Lowder said. "I ran downstairs and called the police."

"Honest to God, it's crazy," he said, shortly before showing The Enterprise the damage to his front lawn, which included burnt grass and a charred sidewalk, in an upscale neighborhood of single-family homes on Sunday afternoon.

State and local authorities are investigating after the state police bomb squad responded to Lowder's home about 4 a.m. Sunday to diffuse the third homemade explosive device, which had not exploded on its own, said Fire Capt. Raymond Wilcox.

Two of the devices exploded before emergency crews arrived; the third device – a soda bottle filled with a combination of chemicals – was detonated by the state police bomb squad, Wilcox said.

Lowder said he picked up the third explosive device, which had been placed just 10 feet from his yellow Colonial home. But he put it back down immediately after seeing it still had fluid in it. He then called police.

No injuries were reported and no arrests had been made by 6 p.m. Sunday.

A neighborhood dispute may have led to someone placing the three homemade explosive devices onto Lowder's lawn, Wilcox said.

Lowder said he believes the perpetrator is a neighbor who has been repeatedly targeting his family for the past couple of years.

"I've got bombs going off in my front yard. We hear him saying, 'Ha ha ha. Hey, neighbors,'" Lowder said.

Another neighbor, who asked not to be identified, said Sunday the problems started after one neighbor became upset when Lowder "cut some of his property line."

"They've been retaliating ever since," she said.

Lowder said he started having problems after cleaning up some trees, hedges and branches in his backyard a few years ago.

"Since then, it's been crazy," he said.

Emergency crews responded to Grange Court after receiving a 911 call reporting that someone had thrown the explosive devices onto the front lawn at 4:06 a.m. Crews cleared the scene about 6 a.m.

Wilcox warned of the dangers of homemade explosive devices.

"They will take your hands off when they explode," Wilcox said.

Bridgewater and state police are investigating.



NORTHCOM

46. [Trend, United States] Improvised Explosive Device Found In Vehicle

Tuesday, September 18 2012

<http://www.wlns.com/story/19577562/improvised-explosive-device-found-in-vehicle>

A bomb has been found in a parked vehicle outside a Clinton County business.

The Clinton County sheriff's office says in a release that the improvised explosive device was left Tuesday on an employee's dashboard at ALR Trailers in Bingham Township, north of Lansing.

Deputies were called to the business about 9 a.m. and determined that 2 of the employee's personal vehicles had been broken into and vandalized.

Authorities say a state police bomb squad made the improvised explosive device "safe." A suspect in the case is believed to have fled the state.



NORTHCOM

47. [Trend, United States] Everett Police Seize Explosive Device After Small Blast

Monday, September 17 2012

<http://www.heraldnet.com/article/20120917/NEWS01/709179834>

Detectives continue to investigate what caused a minor explosion Saturday in downtown Everett.

Someone reported hearing possible fireworks around 8:40 p.m. Saturday in the 2400 block of Broadway.

Police found an explosive device tied to a power pole outside a business, Everett police officer Aaron Snell said.

The device had been detonated. There was very little damage to the pole and there were no signs of a fire. No injuries were reported.

Police seized the explosive device for additional testing. The investigation remains open.



NORTHCOM

48. [Security, United States] Bomb Squad Called In After Men Find Live Hand Grenade Near Bike Path

Wednesday, September 19 2012

<http://chronicle.northcoastnow.com/2012/09/19/bomb-squad-called-in-after-men-find-live-hand-grenade-near-bike-path/>

The Lorain County Bomb Squad found and destroyed a live hand grenade near the North Coast Inland Trail bike path yesterday.

Capt. Jim Drozdowski said the grenade was found about 11:30 a.m. by men who were cutting wood in the area for a homeowner.

The Bomb Squad arrived, confirmed it was indeed a live hand grenade, cleared the area out and destroyed it at the scene, he said.

Drozdowski said the grenade was found about 20 feet off the bike path in the area of West Ridge and Albrecht roads.

Drozdowski said he didn't have any idea how the grenade got there but added "it's not a totally unusual thing to come across."

"Years ago a lot of veterans brought them home as souvenirs," he said. "Now any military ordnance, you're not allowed to have."

Drozdowski added that the Bomb Squad occasionally gets calls from people who find this sort of thing while going through belongings when elderly family members pass away.



NORTHCOM

49. [Trend, United States] Man Claiming To Have A Bomb And A Gun Takes Hostage In Gateway Center Suite

Friday, September 21, 2012

<http://www.post-gazette.com/stories/local/neighborhoods-city/man-claiming-to-have-a-bomb-takes-over-floor-of-gateway-center-654368/>

Pittsburgh police are trying to negotiate with a man armed with a gun and who says he has a bomb on the 16th floor of 3 Gateway Center, Downtown.

Pittsburgh police chief Nate Harper said the man is in Suite 1625 of the building at 401 Liberty Ave. The suite is occupied by CW Breitsman Associates, LLC, a third-party firm that helps administer others' insurance, retirement and pension plans.

The man is ex-military and "relatively calm," the chief said. The man is not making threats, the chief said.

"We are negotiating with that individual," the chief said. "... We are willing to talk as long as it takes to resolve this in a safe and orderly fashion."

No shots have been fired and no one has been injured, Chief Harper said. Police cannot confirm what weapons he has nor his specific motivation, Chief Harper said.

"We don't know what upset this individual to go to that floor and take that hostage," he said.

The hostage was targeted specifically, Chief Harper said.

The city bomb squad and special weapons and tactics officers are at the scene, along with scores of police officers. The FBI is also there.

The building, completed in 1952, is 24 stories -- 344 feet -- high.

Chief Harper said the man walked into the suite at 8:10 a.m. and claimed he had a gun and a bomb. He asked questions about "an individual," the chief said, then took a hostage.

At least three other people in the office were ordered to leave, witnesses said.

Kathi Dvorak, who works across the hall from CW Breitsman, said a woman ran into her office yelling "Somebody's robbing us! Call 911!"

Another woman ran in, who grabbed a phone and also called 911.

They locked the door and stayed for five or 10 minutes until building security arrived to evacuate them.

Kevin Gormly works in a law firm on the 15th floor. He said he arrived for work about 8:05 a.m. and saw people running from lobby elevators yelling about a man with a gun.



He went up to the 15th floor anyway, he said, to make sure everyone was OK but instead met police, who escorted him back down and told him there was an "emergency situation."

"In the lobby the security guards were running everywhere and calling 911 and people were running out of the building," Mr. Gormly said.

Then police began evacuating the lobby and the 16th floor.

"We were thankful," he said. "We wanted to get out of there and we didn't want to risk going through the hallways."

Police have blocked streets and secured other floors of the building. Chief Harper said only the lobby and the 16th floor were evacuated because the situation is still fluid, though police believe the man is confined to one room.

Police have closed blocks of Penn Avenue, Commonwealth Place and Boulevard of the Allies. The Gateway Center T station is closed as is the Fort Pitt Bridge ramp into Downtown.

People evacuated from Gateway 3 massed outside 4 Gateway Center and were being directed toward Point State Park. Officers also cleared the Gateway Center courtyard.

Telling evacuees the man inside could have a rifle, authorities are asking them to move outside all sight lines to the building.



SOUTHCOM

50. [Attack, Colombia] One Policeman Killed, Two Injured In FARC Attack

Monday, September 17 2012

<http://colombiareports.com/colombia-news/news/26040-1-policeman-killed-2-injured-in-farc-attack.html>

FARC guerrillas have killed a policeman and injured two others during an attack in Colombia's troubled southwestern province of Cauca, reported local media Monday.

Patrolman Jhon Jairo Muñoz died Sunday night in the municipality of Argelia when insurgents threw explosives into the local police station, according to Cauca's police commander Colonel Ricardo Augusto Alarcon.

He also confirmed that two other soldiers were seriously injured in the blast and will be transferred to a hospital in Popayan, the capital of Cauca.

This is the second violent incident that has occurred in the municipality of Argelia since Friday, when an engine explosion killed 27-year-old Lieutenant Jonathan Uribe. Police attributed that attack to the FARC's 60th front.

"We had not recovered from the murder of Lieutenant Uribe, commander of the institution in Algeria, when terrorists appeared at El Mango," said Alarcon.

The recent series of attacks in the region coincide with the ongoing peace negotiations between FARC and the Santos administration, set to formally commence October 8 in the Norwegian capital of Oslo, and continue afterwards in Cuba's capital Havana.