



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.

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1. Afghan, ISAF Troops Kill IMU Leader In North

Monday, 30 January 2012

http://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2012/01/afghan_troops_kill_i.php

During a recent raid in Afghanistan's northern province of Takhar, Afghan and US troops killed an Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan leader who was involved in suicide operations. The Coalition's report of his death is the first report in nearly two months to mention the targeting of an IMU or al Qaeda operative in Afghanistan.

The IMU leader, who was identified as Ilhom, was killed along with an associate during a combined Afghan and Coalition raid in Taloqan district in Takhar. Ilhom was killed after he "engaged the security force with fragmentation grenades," the International Security Assistance Force press release stated.

Ilhom "facilitated the training of suicide bombers for attacks throughout the area" and was responsible for the last year's Christmas Day suicide attack at a funeral in Taloqan that killed 20 Afghans, including Abdul Mutalib Baig, a member of parliament.

The Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan is an al Qaeda-linked terror group that operates primarily in northern and eastern Afghanistan, as well as in Pakistan's tribal areas. It is closely allied to the Taliban and the Haqqani Network. In the north, IMU leaders have integrated into the Taliban's shadow government. [For more information on the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan and its activities in Afghanistan and Pakistan, see LWJ report, IMU cleric urges Pakistanis to continue sheltering jihadis in Waziristan.]

Today's report on the death of Ilhom is the first by ISAF to identify the targeting of an Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan operative since Dec. 8, when an IMU suicide facilitator was targeted in Chahar Darah district, Kunduz province. The last time an al Qaeda operative was reported to have been targeted was on Nov. 29, 2011. Prior to the Dec. 8 raid, ISAF routinely reported on raids that killed or captured members of the two radical Islamist terror groups.

In answer to a recent inquiry by The Long War Journal to the International Security Assistance Force Joint Command (IJC) requesting an explanation for the lack of reporting on the raids against the two terror groups, IJC said that raids may be occurring even if they are not being reported.

"ISAF continues to conduct combat operations against the spectrum of insurgent forces through-out Afghanistan year-round," IJC stated. "Lack of perceived specificity within operational press releases should not be misinterpreted as lack of operational rigor against those entities."

However IJC would not answer The Long War Journal's inquiries that asked if ISAF forces conducted any unreported operations against al Qaeda or the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan from Dec. 9, 2011, to Jan. 28, 2012.

The inquiries were prompted by a Jan. 27 press release by ISAF reporting on a raid that targeted "insurgent suicide bombers" in Chahar Darah district in Kunduz. "The security force detained several suspected suicide bombers during the operation," the ISAF press release stated.

The Long War Journal had requested information identifying the group to which the "insurgent suicide bombers" belonged. The Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan has a strong presence in the district and is known to run training camps in the province. Al Qaeda also operates in Kunduz.

IJC would not provide the identity of the insurgent group, citing "operational security" restrictions.

"The operation you are questioning has not been completed; therefore, for operational security purposes, no additional information will be released," IJC stated.

Operational security was cited despite the facts that the press release not only described the date and location of the raid but also noted the detention of several suicide bombers and the seizure of weapons and explosives. Yet in a similar operation - the Dec. 8, 2011 raid in the same district - the name of the terror group was identified even though the suicide facilitator who was targeted was not captured.

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2. Bomb Targeting NATO Aid Team Kills Four Afghans

Thursday, 26 January 2012

<http://www.navytimes.com/news/2012/01/ap-bomb-targeting-nato-aid-team-kills-4-afghans-012612/>

A suicide attacker detonated a car laden with powerful explosives Thursday in southern Afghanistan, killing four Afghan civilians and wounding 31 other people, including three British aid workers, officials said.

Britain's International Development ministry in London confirmed that three civilian members of the international aid team were among those injured in the blast. They were being treated for non-life-threatening wounds, the ministry said.

The bomb exploded as a convoy from the British-led Provincial Reconstruction Team passed by in Lashkar Gah, capital of Helmand province, said Daud Ahmadi, a spokesman for the provincial governor.

More than two dozen Provincial Reconstruction Teams operate in Afghanistan. The joint international military-civilian units work on projects to boost support for the Afghan government of President Hamid Karzai.

No one claimed responsibility for the car bomb. Helmand has been one of the most volatile areas in the Taliban insurgency's pushback against a U.S.-led initiative to bring southern Afghanistan under greater control of the central Afghan government as NATO heads toward a 2014 pullout target.

The blast ripped through the convoy of three armored vehicles, knocking at least one over and charring others. The explosion also shredded nearby storefronts and damaged at least 17 civilian cars nearby, a provincial statement said.

Afghan National Army soldier Dad Mohammad witnessed the attack while on patrol in the town.

"A car passed our vehicle and parked down the road," he said. "When the foreigners' vehicle was passing this road, it was targeted and there was an explosion."

A spokesman for NATO declined to comment on the attack, referring all questions to the Afghan provincial government.

Karzai, who is on a trip meeting European leaders, condemned the attack. A statement from his office Thursday blamed "the enemy of the Afghan people" for the violence, which it called "un-Islamic and against humanity."

Elsewhere, officials said a rocket fired by Taliban insurgents killed a woman and her child in eastern Afghanistan.

Insurgents fired the mortar round during a battle Wednesday with Afghan army soldiers trying to clear militants from a stronghold in Kapisa province's Alasay district, said the provincial governor's chief of staff, Abdul Sabor Wafa.

In the south, an Afghan toddler was accidentally killed and the child's parents were wounded when Danish soldiers blew up a roadside bomb Monday in Helmand province, the Danish army said. The army

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said in a statement issued Wednesday that soldiers typically create a security zone around such a device before detonation, but shrapnel struck the three. The case is being investigated.

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3. Two Afghan Soldiers Killed, Six Injured

Tuesday, 31 January 2012

<http://english.trib.ir/news/political/item/86870-two-afghan-soldiers-killed-6-injured>

At least two Afghan soldiers have been killed and six others wounded in a roadside bomb explosion in western Afghanistan. Press TV reports said that the Afghan Defense Ministry said in a statement on Tuesday that the blast happened against a military convoy in Bakwa district of Farah province.

Elsewhere in Kandahar and Ghazni provinces, at least three more Afghan soldiers were wounded in attacks on Tuesday.

No group has claimed responsibility for the incidents, but the Taliban militants usually carry out the roadside bomb explosions.

The US invaded Afghanistan in 2001 under the pretext of combating terrorism and toppling the Taliban regime.

However, insecurity continues to rise across Afghanistan despite the presence of thousands of US-led foreign forces in the country.

Washington has turned to negotiations with the Taliban militants after ten years of the US-led war on Afghanistan.

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4. Four Taliban Militants And Two Afghan Police Killed In Herat

Thursday, 02 February 2012

<http://www.khaama.com/4-taliban-militants-and-2-afghan-police-killed-in-herat-553>

According to local government officials in western Afghanistan, at least four Taliban militants were killed following armed clashes with the Afghan border protection police forces in western Herat province.

Gen. Toryalai Halimyar deputy commander of the border protection forces in the 4th western zone said, the clashes took place last night in Keshk-Robat Sangi district after a number of the Taliban militants attacked a security check post.

Gen. Halimyar further added, at least four Taliban militants were killed during the clashes which lasted at least two hours.

He also added, Afghan security forces did not suffer any casualties during the clashes and armed Taliban militants fled the area.

Taliban militants group yet to comment regarding the reports.

In the meantime at least 2 Afghan police service members were killed and three others were injured in a separate incident at Shindand district of western Herat province.

Local security officials said, the security forces were killed following a roadside bomb explosion in Azizabad area at Shindand district.

Gen. Syed Aqa Saqib provincial security chief said, the incident took place after Afghan security forces were tracing a group of the thieves in Shindand district.

Gen. Saqib further added, at least two police forces were killed and 1 of them was injured during the incident.

He also said, at least two other Afghan police forces were injured after an Afghan police Ranger vehicle struck with a roadside bomb in Azizabad area while they were on their way to assist the local residents who had suffered from natural disasters.

According to Gen. Saqib, the roadside bombs were planted by Taliban militants.

Taliban militants fighting the Afghan government and International coalition security forces claimed responsibility behind the incident.

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5. Crime Roundup: Fewer Bomb Blasts, More Heartbreak In 2011

Saturday, 28 January 2012

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/328075/crime-roundup-fewer-bomb-blasts-more-heartbreak-in-2011/>

Terrorism-ravaged Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (K-P) witnessed a decline in the number of bomb blasts in 2011 compared to 2010.

Yet this is hardly a cause to rejoice, as the death toll from the attacks was actually higher than the previous year.

According to a comparative study by the capital city police, a total of 34 bomb blasts took place in the province in 2011, killing 400 civilians and 134 police officials, while 37 blasts were witnessed in 2010 which killed 411 civilians and 99 security personnel.

However, the capital city showed a marked decline compared to 2010, thanks to the efforts of law enforcement agencies and the cooperation of locals.

According to statistics compiled by the police, incidents of attempted murders, robberies and kidnappings in Peshawar were significantly lower in 2011. However, the number of murder cases registered by the police increased by nearly five per cent.

Talking to The Express Tribune, Capital City Police Officer Syed Imtiaz Altaf said the police are trying their best to provide security to the people. "The police have heightened security at all entry and exit points to stop militants from entering the capital city."

Referring to the decrease in crime rate, he said the police would continue to perform diligently in future.

Locals interviewed felt satisfied with police performance. They were of the view that peace has been restored due to sincere efforts and vigilance by the police.

They highlighted that business and cultural activities were flourishing once again, compared to the past few years.

"I am generally satisfied with the police and wish to see an end to all kinds of criminal activities," said Rehmat Ali, a resident.

However, Dr Sajjad Ahmed of the University of Peshawar was of the view that the police have no role in the decrease in bomb blasts. "Since so many police officials have been killed in terrorist attacks, people have stopped pointing fingers at the police," he said.

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6. Explosives Laden Bike Seized But Rider Escapes

Wednesday, 01 February 2012

<http://www.dawn.com/2012/02/02/explosives-laden-bike-seized-but-rider-escapes.html>

Local police captured a motorcycle laden with explosives in limits of Peshtakhara police station late on Tuesday.

The rider, however, escaped benefiting from the darkness before the motorcycle seizure.

Senior superintendent of police, Peshawar, Tahir Ayub and superintendent of police, cantonment circle, Dr Mian Saeed Ahmad told a joint news conference here that the motorcyclist coming to Peshawar from Bara tehsil of Khyber Agency sped away after police signaled him to stop near the Achine Village Ring Road.

They said the rider, however, abandoned the motorcycle and fled after police chased him.

The SSP said the explosives seized included three kilogrammes explosive powder, three kilogrammes ball bearings and four mortar shells.

He said Peshawar police had beefed up security in the city, especially at sensitive areas bordering tribal areas, after Bara-based militant group, Lashkar-i-Islam, threatened them of attacks.

Mr Ayub said the motorcycle had a fake number plate but even then, police would continue searching for its owner.

He said a case had been registered against the escapee at the Peshtakhara police station. The SSP said Lashkar-i-Islam was probably involved in the recent terrorist activities in Peshawar.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for local police said the force had concentrated its attention on the arrest of proclaimed offenders and seizure of illegal weapons in the provincial capital.

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7. Thirty-Five Killed, 60 Hurt In Pakistan Blast

Thursday, 02 February 2012

http://www.qatar-tribune.com/data/20120111/content.asp?section=southasia1_2

A remote-controlled bomb blast killed 35 people and wounded more than 60 others on Tuesday in the deadliest attack in months in the Taliban-hit tribal region of northwest Pakistan.

The explosion took place in a market in Jamrud, one of the towns of the troubled Khyber tribal region, which also used to serve as the main supply route for NATO forces operating in Afghanistan.

Officials said the dead included two children, aged 9 and 10 years, and three tribal policemen.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the bombing but local residents suggested it was a tribal dispute, as most of the victims were members of the Zaka Khel tribe who oppose the local warlord, Mangal Bagh.

Trails of blood could be seen around the site of the blast, which had left a large crater in the road, an AFP reporter said.

"The total number of deaths in the blast is 35 while 69 people were wounded," a senior administration official, Shakeel Khan Umarzai, told AFP, adding 11 were in critical condition.

Another top official in Khyber, Mutahir Zeb, said the target of the attack was not immediately clear.

"According to initial information, it was a remote-controlled device planted in a passenger pickup van," he said.

The burnt out wreckage of at least 15 cars littered the scene next to the shattered glass of at least nine destroyed shopfronts. One of the wounded, 26-year-old Zulfiqar Khan, a van driver with a broken left shoulder, said he had been washing his car when the explosion hit.

"I fell at least three metres away from my car because of the impact of the blast," he said. "As I fell on the ground with severe pain in my left shoulder, pieces of human flesh hit my body." Another man, Ameenullah, 38, who goes by just one name, spoke to AFP from his hospital bed where he was being treated for head wounds and three broken fingers.

"I was driving my car when a powerful blast rocked the area which over-turned my car.

When I regained consciousness, I found myself on the hospital bed," he said.

Pakistan's remote and lawless northwestern region is a stronghold of Taliban and Al Qaeda operatives and other Islamist militants opposed to the government.

Insurgents largely based in the tribal border lands have carried out bomb and gun attacks killing nearly 4,800 people across Pakistan since July 2007.

But the market bombing was the first major Islamist militant attack in Pakistan since September 15 when a suicide bomber killed 46 people, targeting anti-Taliban militia at a funeral in the northwestern district of Lower Dir.

Pakistan has battled a homegrown insurgency for years, with more than 3,000 soldiers killed in the battle against militancy.

On Monday Pakistani authorities recovered the bodies of 10 soldiers in an exchange of bodies with Taliban militants following a clash two weeks ago in the tribal belt.

An official with the military's media wing said the soldiers had been missing in Orakzai district since December 21 when rebels attacked a checkpoint and killed 13 others.

That exchange came four days after the corpses of 15 members of Pakistan's paramilitary Frontier Constabulary were found in the northwestern town of Shawa, in North Waziristan tribal region near the Afghan border, almost two weeks after they were kidnapped.

There were about 120 bomb attacks in Pakistan in 2011, up on the 96 bomb blasts in 2010, but far lower than violence in 2009 when there were 203 bombings across Pakistan, according to an AFP tally.

The latest attack comes as the northwest border crossing for NATO supplies to foreign troops fighting in neighbouring Afghanistan remains closed, after NATO air strikes on November 26 killed 24 Pakistani soldiers.

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8. Die In Firing, Bomb Blast In Tribal Areas

Monday, 30 January 2012

http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2012\01\30\story_30-1-2012_pg7_7

At least four people, including two security personnel, were killed and six others injured in separate firing incidents and a roadside bomb blast in Khyber Agency, Kurram Agency and FR Kohat. According to details, a roadside bomb blast in Tehsil Jandola of South Waziristan killed one security official, a landmine blast in FR Jawakai area of Kohat killed Frontier Corps policeman and a volunteer of Aman Lashkar was also killed by terrorists in the same area. Two security personnel were injured in a mortar shell attack in the Jogi area of Kurram Agency and militants ambushed a pickup carrying labourers in the Sipah area of Bara tehsil, killing the driver.

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9. Four Killed In Peshawar Suicide Blast

Tuesday, 31 January 2012

http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5iMyS96rGJ_0UvojM12PUHkWv_mkQ?docId=CN.G.3805822e112de64f854324c7c664eed4.581

A suicide bomber killed an Islamist militant commander in northwest Pakistan who had escaped two previous assassination attempts, and three other people on Monday, police said.

The attack damaged a house that commander Haji Akhunzada was building in Pakha Ghulam on the outskirts of Peshawar, Pakistan's main northwestern city that borders Taliban and Al-Qaeda strongholds near the Afghan border.

He was considered a significant force within Ansar ul-Islam, a homegrown group based in the lawless tribal district of Khyber, and had moved to Peshawar after escaping two other failed attacks in the past.

"It was a suicide attack, four people have been killed. Haji Akhunzada is among the dead," Imtiaz Shah, a senior police officer, told AFP.

A bomb disposal official said it was a suicide attack.

"Evidence collected from site shows that a suicide bomber was involved," Hukam Khan told AFP.

Pakistani officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, blamed rival militant group, Lashkar-e-Islam for Monday's killings. Lashkar-e-Islam is another homegrown militant group in Khyber led by warlord Mangal Bagh.

Khyber is part of Pakistan's semi-autonomous tribal belt that is a hub for rival Islamist militant groups including the Taliban and Al-Qaeda affiliates.

Siraj Ahmad, the top government official in Peshawar, told AFP that Akhunzada and his son-in-law were among the dead.

The bomber was dropped off by a motorcyclist, then walked to the house under construction and detonated his vest, Ahmad added.

Ansar ul-Islam and Lashkar-e-Islam have a history of killing each other's fighters, police said.

Despite a relative lull in recent months, Islamist bombers and gunmen have killed more than 4,800 across Pakistan since government troops raided an extremist mosque in Islamabad in July 2007.

According to an AFP tally, bomb attacks killed 1,118 people in 2010 and 818 in 2011. So far in 2012, 68 people have died in such violence.

It was the first bombing in Pakistan since 16 Shiite Muslim worshippers were killed in the central district of Rahim Yar Khan on January 15, coming three weeks after 35 people were killed in the Jamrud town of Khyber on January 10.

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10. Car Bomb Kills 32 Civilians Near Baghdad Hospital

Friday, 27 January 2012

<http://www.allvoices.com/contributed-news/11391140-car-bomb-kills-32-civilians-near-baghdad-hospital>

A car bomb attack killed at least 32 people and wounded 50 near a funeral procession outside a hospital in the neighborhood of Zafaraniyah, east Baghdad on Friday, according to medics.

The funeral was held for an Iraqi man, his wife and son who were killed yesterday in the predominantly Sunni Yarmouk district of the capital.

Interior Ministry officials say the explosion in Zafraniyah was caused by a suicide attacker driving an explosives-packed car.

Witnesses said the massive blast shattered windows and engulfed nearby buildings in flames for hours.

Friday's attack came a day after violence in Iraq killed at least 10 people including women and children in a bomb attack in the city of Mussayib in the central Iraqi province of Babil.

A series of explosions went off in Baghdad's Shiite districts last Tuesday, killing 14 people and injuring over 70 people.

There were no immediate claims of responsibility for any attack. Since the beginning of the year, at least 200 people were killed in attacks across Iraq. This comes after the withdrawal of American troops and the ongoing political crisis between Shiite and Sunnis.

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11. Eight Civilians Injured In South Baghdad Blast

Sunday, 29 January 2012

http://en.aswatiraq.info/%28S%28q1dkbwu53gcvm55rpuhnhqz%29%29/Default1.aspx?page=article_page&id=146691&l=1

Eight Iraqi civilians have been injured in an explosive charge blast in southern Baghdad's Zaafaraniya district on Sunday, a security source reported.

"An explosive charge, planted close to a petrol filling station in southern Baghdad's Zaafaraniya district, blew up wounding 8 civilian, who were driven to a nearby hospital," the security source told Aswat al-Iraq news agency on Sunday.

Noteworthy is that a booby-trapped car blew up close to a police center in Zaafaraniya district 2 days ago, killing 18 persons and wounding 36 others.

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12. Eighteen Civilians Killed, 36 Wounded In Baghdad Explosion

Friday, 27 January 2012

http://en.aswatiraq.info/%28S%28q1dkbwu53gcvmp55rpuhnhqz%29%29/Default1.aspx?page=article_page&id=146661&l=1

Security sources announced today that 18 civilians were killed and more than 36 wounded in bomb explosion south east Baghdad, security sources said today.

The source told Aswat al-Iraq that these figures are the preliminary toll.

The explosion damaged nearby stores and cars.

Security sources surrounded the area, civilians removed from the vicinity, but no other details were given.

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13. Iraqi Police Officer Injured In Diala Blast

Sunday, 29 January 2012

http://en.aswataliraq.info/%28S%28q1dkbwu53gcvmp55rpuhnhqz%29%29/Default1.aspx?page=article_page&id=146689&l=1

An Iraqi police officer has been seriously injured in a sticky bomb that blew up under his car in central Diala on Sunday, a security source reported.

"A sticky bomb, planted under the car of a police officer in Diala's Passports Dept, blew up on Sunday seriously injuring him, the security source told Aswat al-Iraq news agency.

He said the security launched an investigation into the incident, whilst the injured officer was driven to a nearby hospital for treatment.

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

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14. Two Civilians Killed, Three Others Injured In Motorbike Blast In Kirkuk

Thursday, 26 January 2012

[http://en.aswataliraq.info/\(S\(q1dkbwu53gcvm55rpuhnhqz\)\)/Default1.aspx?page=article_page&id=146649&l=1](http://en.aswataliraq.info/(S(q1dkbwu53gcvm55rpuhnhqz))/Default1.aspx?page=article_page&id=146649&l=1)

Two Iraqi civilians have been killed and three others were injured on Thursday morning, by a booby-trapped motorbike explosion in northern Iraq's oil-rich city of Kirkuk, according to a statement by its Police Director.

"A booby-trapped motorbike has blown off close to a telephone exchange in northern Kirkuk's Tisin district on Thursday, killing 2 civilians and wounding 3 others," Lt-Brigadier, Sarhad Qader told Aswat al-Iraq news agency.

He said that the blast had caused huge material damage for several cars, parked around the venue of the blast, along with causing damage to houses and shops close to the venue, adding that the wounded were driven to nearby hospitals, whilst an investigation was opened about the incident.

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15. Arrest Man With Bomb Detonators

Sunday, 29 January 2012

<http://hornofafricanews.blogspot.com/2012/01/police-arrest-man-with-bomb-detonators.html>

Police raided the house of a suspected terrorist in Kilifi and recovered bomb detonators, grenades, guns and over 100 rounds of ammunition.

Police from the Anti Terrorism unit arrested Aboud Rogo on Sunday morning in Kikambala in what they termed as a major breakthrough in the fight against Al Shabaab.

During the raid, police recovered 102 bomb detonators, an AK-47 rifle, a Ceska pistol and 119 rounds of ammunition.

Coast province CID boss Ambrose Munyasia said the suspect will be arraigned in court on Monday.

Coast PPO Aggrey Adoli said they have been gathering intelligence on the suspect following a confrontation between police and suspected Al-Shaabab militants in Lamu where three people were shot dead and several weapons recovered on New Year's.

Rogo was among four Kenyans who were charged in connection with the bombing of an Israeli-owned hotel that killed 15 people in 2002.

He was released on bail after the arrest in 2003 but was acquitted in June 29, 2005.

He was rearrested at Kanamai in Kilifi by Anti terrorism police in 2010 and charged with engaging in an organised criminal activity by being a member of al-Shabaab.

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16. Explosives Found In Jail Compound

Monday, 30 January 2012

<http://www.nation.co.ke/News/Explosives+found+in+jail+compound+/-/1056/1316812/-/bowii1z/-/index.html>

Eight cans containing explosive material were on Monday found in Shimo la Tewa Maximum Prison compound in Shanzu, Mombasa County.

The explosives, packed in a box, were found in a bush by a warden on patrol a few metres from the main prison, raising questions over the motive behind dumping them there.

The find prompted a major security operation in the area, with a team of bomb experts and police officers from various departments sent to the area to examine the cans.

One of the experts at the site told the Nation that the substances might have expired going by the date on the cover of the cans.

“The materials are harmful; they can cause harm to both human beings and the environment when exploded. That is why we are collecting them for further examination,” said the expert.

He further explained: “Such substances might explode and cause harm if not properly packaged and handled, especially during transportation.”

Coast provincial prisons boss James Kodienny, who also visited the scene, said the substances were found in the compound at 9am.

Mr Kodienny said they had launched investigations to establish the motive of those who dumped them.

“We suspect those who abandoned the materials must have entered the prison’s compound from the Indian Ocean, which is adjacent to the rehabilitation centre,” said Mr Kodienny.

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He ordered prison warders to conduct a search in the vast prison compound for any other explosives.

“We are not taking anything to chance, that is why we have called the experts to examine the materials,” he said.

Mr Kodienny urged the public to help with more information on the materials.

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17. Al-Shabaab Roadside Bomb Hits Beledweyne

Wednesday, 01 February 2012

[http://www.somaliareport.com/index.php/post/2670/Al-Shabaab Roadside Bomb Hits Beledweyne](http://www.somaliareport.com/index.php/post/2670/Al-Shabaab-Roadside-Bomb-Hits-Beledweyne)

At least six Ethiopian soldiers were killed and more than five were injured as two explosions targeted troops passing through the center of Beledweyne, Hiraan region, on Wednesday morning, an eyewitness said.

According to local residents, following the attacks Ethiopian troops killed at least five civilians, including students, teachers, and women who were passing near the scene.

“The blast took place in Hawo-Tako neighborhood, where the Ethiopians fetch water every day. The Ethiopians captured many residents and killed them at the scene,” a local journalist who requested anonymity told Somalia Report.

“The first blast was a roadside bomb which destroyed an Ethiopian military vehicle, and the other was a grenade attack. Also, I have information that the Ethiopians killed the one who threw the grenade,” ; the source added.

Sources within the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) and Shabelle Valley Administration (SVA) confirmed the civilian deaths to Somalia Report, but would not speak on the record for fear of Ethiopian reprisals.

Ethiopian and TFG forces began a massive security operation in Nuur-hawaad and Hawo-tako neighborhoods, taking several residents into custody, including prominent elders and merchants. Tensions are very high, and many security personnel line the streets, restricting the movements of residents and vehicles.

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18. Suicide Bombing Targets Former Warlord

Tuesday, 31 January 2012

http://www.somaliareport.com/index.php/post/2664/Suicide_Bombing_Targets_Former_Warlord

A suicide bombing targeted the home of former warlord and Somali Transitional Federal Government (TFG) minister of mineral resources and water, Abdi Hassan Awale Qeybdiid, as he conducted a meeting between clan elders and Galmudug politicians in the southern part of Galkayo, the joint capital of the semi-autonomous regions of Puntland and Galmudug, and killed four people.

"A loud explosion was heard all across south Galkayo...the gate of the house has completely collapsed," Ali Hashi, an eyewitness in Galkayo, told Somalia Report.

Qeybdiid himself was unhurt and spoke to the media.

"Four were killed, including two of my guards, a woman, and the suicide bomber. There were two attackers and one escaped. One of them was suicide bomber. I was in the living room at the time of the attack meeting with some elders, and my guards has defeated them," said Mr. Qeybdiid.

Security forces have cordoned off the area and are investigating the incident. There has been no comment from Galmudug officials.

Al-Shabaab Commander Sheikh Abdi-Aziiz Abu Mus'ab today said the attack was conducted by one of their own 'well trained' suicide bombers.

"It was Jihad attack, which killed dozens of Qaybdiid's guards," the commander told Radio Andalus, a pro-al-Shabaab radio station. "Mr. Qaybdiid was a member of disbelievers, and he supports the transitional government," he added.

The bombing is the latest in a series of destabilizing incidents to rock Galkayo. Pirate groups operating in Mudug region have carried out several high profile kidnappings in Galkayo, including the abduction of Danish Demining Group aid workers Jessica Buchanan and Poul Thisted as well as the recent kidnapping of American journalist Michael Scott Moore.

Galkayo has also seen a surge in activity from the Islamist group al-Shabaab, as well as, over the past year.

During the civil war, Qeybdiid was associated with the Somali National Alliance rebel group, serving as interior minister to famed warlord General Mohamed Farah Aidid. Qeybdiid later split with Aidid in 1996, and in 2007 he relocated to Mogadishu and the TFG as a police commissioner, commanding a 500-strong militia. He would go on to become TFG's minister of water and mineral resources during the tenure of Prime Minister Omar Abdirashid Ali Sharmarke.

Qeybdiid has been actively involved in directing Galmudug's recent campaign to eradicate piracy though he currently holds no official position. He has also actively opposed al-Shabaab militants operating in the Galgudud region, which lies south of Galkayo.

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19. Al-Shabaab Suicide Bomber Targets Ethiopian Troops

Tuesday, 24 January 2012

http://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2012/01/shabaab_suicide_bomb_3.php

A Shabaab suicide bomber attacked an Ethiopian military compound in western Somalia today, killing an unknown number of troops. Shabaab claimed credit for the attack.

The attack took place in the city of Beledweyne near the border of Ethiopia. Shabaab said the suicide bomber from the "Martyrdom Brigade" targeted "a building known as the Regional Headquarters which housed the Ethiopian army," and claimed more than 200 Ethiopian troops and their officers were stationed there, according to a statement provided by the SITE Intelligence Group.

A local security official told the BBC that Ethiopian soldiers shot and killed the suicide bomber at the gate of the compound. The blast was sufficiently large enough to cause most of the building to collapse, however.

Ethiopian officials have not disclosed the number of casualties. African countries such as Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, and Burundi, which have forces in Somalia, often underreport their casualties.

Shabaab claimed that "33 Ethiopian soldiers, including 4 senior commanders" were killed "and up to 72 injured and the number is steadily increasing." The figures provided by Shabaab could not be confirmed, and the terror group is known to exaggerate the results of its operations.

Shabaab said that today's suicide attack "is part of the new strategy adopted by the Mujahideen as a bold response to the increasingly hostile enemies that have invaded Somalia." Shabaab withdrew from Beledweyne weeks ago after Ethiopian forces reentered Somalia in force. Shabaab has also withdrawn from most of the capital of Mogadishu after African Union forces went on the offensive last summer. Shabaab has launched suicide attacks, and conducted ambushes and assassinations in the capital.

Today's suicide attack in Somalia is the second in the war-torn country in the past week. On Jan. 19, a suicide bomber killed six people at a refugee camp in Mogadishu.

Shabaab, which has close ties to al Qaeda and serves as its affiliate in East Africa, and its predecessor, the Islamic Courts Union, have carried out more than 30 suicide attacks in Somalia since they sought to control the country in 2006. At least two of those suicide attacks were carried out by American citizens.

The US has been targeting senior al Qaeda and Shabaab leaders in drone strikes and special operations raids. Just last weekend, US drones killed Bilal al Berjawi, a senior al Qaeda leader who also served as a top commander for Shabaab, in a strike near Mogadishu.

African Union forces have launched offensives against Shabaab on three fronts over the past year, but Shabaab still holds much of central and southern Somalia [see map from BBC]. Ugandan and Burundian troops control of much of Mogadishu after battling Shabaab forces starting last summer. In the fall, Kenyan troops invaded southern Somalia, and took over some border areas. Later in 2011, Ethiopian troops entered Somalia and seized Beledweyne and the surrounding areas.

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For more information on Americans and foreigners who are fighting for Shabaab, see LWJ report, American Shabaab fighter and commander pictured together. For more information on Shabaab's links to al Qaeda, see LWJ reports, Somalia's Shabaab vows allegiance to new al Qaeda emir Zawahiri, and Al Qaeda leaders play significant role in Shabaab.

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20. Ethiopian APC Bombed In Beledweyne

Sunday, 29 January 2012

[http://www.somaliareport.com/index.php/post/2648/Ethiopian APC bombed in Beledweyne](http://www.somaliareport.com/index.php/post/2648/Ethiopian_APC_bombed_in_Beledweyne)

An Ethiopian armed personnel carrier was struck by an IED near the bridge through Beledweyne on Sunday. Locals in Beledweyne told Somalia Report that the number of Ethiopian casualties is unknown, but that Ethiopian forces shot and killed a man suspected of carrying out the attack. Ethiopian military and TFG forces have cordoned off the area and are investigating.

Eyewitnesses in Beledweyne confirmed the attack, "Early this morning, the Ethiopian forces travelling in several trucks were attacked, whereupon they opened fire in all directions, killing a young man who they suspected of being the attacker. We remain in our houses," Foos Abdi told Somalia Report.

"I saw an Ethiopian vehicle which was completely destroyed and left the place very quickly," Ali Ahmed told Somalia Report.

An al-Shabaab radio station in Mogadishu took responsibility for the attack and claimed the death of 20 Ethiopian soldiers.

In an attack earlier this week, a member of al-Shabaab drove a minibus packed with explosives into a compound housing Ethiopian soldiers, over 20 were killed.

The Ethiopian army and the Shabelle Valley Administration have yet to comment.

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21. German Kidnapped As Fresh Blast Strikes Nigeria's Kano
Thursday, 26 January 2012

<http://pakistan.onepakistan.com/news/world/43807-german-kidnapped-as-fresh-blast-strikes-nigerias-kano.html>

Gunmen abducted a German engineer on Thursday in the Nigerian city of Kano, where yet another explosion struck fear among residents plagued by unprecedented violence blamed on an Islamist sect.

A purported leader of the Boko Haram Islamists threatened more attacks in an Internet message, saying the group could strike schools and universities in revenge for government crimes.

Edgar Raupach, working with a construction company on the outskirts of the northern city, was seized by men who "came and handcuffed him and put him in the boot and zoomed away," said Kano police spokesman Magaji Majia.

The spokesman also reported the blast at a bus terminal, saying it caused no casualties. Local media said five people were injured.

Majia said Raupach was attached to Nigerian construction firm Dantata and Sawoe. An official from the German embassy in Nigeria told AFP its staff were trying to verify the police account.

"The foreign office and the German embassy are working very hard on this," said the official, who declined to be named.

The kidnapping of foreigners is rare in northern Nigeria and there were no immediate indications that Boko Haram was linked to the abduction.

But, in a message posted on Youtube, the group's purported leader, Abubakar Shekau, said more violence will come if the government continues to mistreat Muslims.

"Soldiers raided an Islamic seminary in (the northern town of) Maiduguri and desecrated the Koran. They should bear in mind that they also have primary and secondary schools and universities, and we can also attack them."

The audio recording in the Hausa language played above a picture of Shekau, with a kalishnikov set in the background.

The authenticity of the message could not be independently verified, but the photo matched up with previous ones said to be of Shekau and the voice was similar to earlier recordings.

A presumed Boko Haram spokesman previously claimed responsibility for coordinated bombings and shootings on January 20 in Kano which left at least 185 people dead. Police stations were the main targets.

"We were responsible," Shekau said in the message. "I ordered it and I will give that order again and again."

He also insisted the group does not target civilians, but only kills “soldiers, policemen and their collaborators,” whom he accused of torturing Boko Haram members.

In Kano, a brief Thursday morning calm was disrupted by a fresh explosion that targeted a bus terminal where members of the mainly Christian Igbo tribe board coaches headed to their home area in southeastern Nigeria.

Majia said the area was evacuated shortly after the blast, whose cause was not yet clear.

Nigeria’s security services have faced intense criticism amid the seemingly unchecked violence, and on Thursday a police official said a huge sweep of arrests had recently been carried out.

A senior Kano police official said some 200 people had been arrested, most of them Chadian “mercenaries,” following the January 20 attacks.

“We have arrested around 200 attackers and 80 percent of them are Chadians. They came in as mercenaries,” the official said on condition of anonymity.

A UN report on regional security said there was evidence suggesting the Boko Haram had Chadian members who had received training from Al-Qaeda’s north Africa affiliate.

But a Nigeria specialist with the International Crisis Group (ICG) said it was unlikely the sect had such a high number of foreigners in its ranks.

“I was shocked to hear that myself. Personally, I don’t believe it,” said Kunle Amuwo of the ICG.

“We know some foreigners have been implicated and continue to be implicated, but that number is huge,” he said, adding that, based on his research in the region, he believes most Boko Haram members are dejected Nigerian youths.

Boko Haram initially said it was fighting for the creation of an Islamic state in deeply impoverished northern Nigeria and launched an uprising in 2009 that was put down by a brutal military assault.

The group then went dormant for more than a year. It is now believed to have a number of factions with differing aims, including some with political links and a hard-core Islamist cell.

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22. Explosions In Rock Borno, Maiduguri

Thursday, 02 February 2012

<http://aitnews.com.ng/s/?p=4132>

Six persons have been killed early Thursday morning in Shehuri north area of Maiduguri metropolis in Borno state north east Nigeria.

The killing occurred in the area where eleven alleged Boko Haram sect members were reportedly killed over the weekend by members of the joint force JTF.

A statement signed by the public relations officer, lieutenant colonel Hassan Mohammed says the six persons may have been slaughtered by people suspected to be fellow sect members.

In a related development, six explosions have rocked Maiduguri early Thursday morning.

No casualties have officially been recorded.

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23. Bomb Squad Called To Embassies In Australia

Monday, 30 January 2012

<http://www.asiaone.com/News/AsiaOne%2BNews/Asia/Story/A1Story20120130-324774.html>

Bomb squad officers were called to the French and Israeli embassies in Canberra on Monday following the discovery of suspicious packages, police said.

Police said a bomb response team had been dispatched to the French diplomatic post in Yarralumla to deal with a "suspicious package".

"There's also one at the Israeli embassy," a police spokesman told AFP.

When asked whether the incidents were linked he said it was "too early in the response operation to say".

The embassies are in close proximity to one another in Yarralumla, a suburb of Canberra that is home to a large number of foreign diplomatic posts.

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24. Eighty-Five Murders Recorded In Cotabato City In 2011

Saturday, 28 January 2012

<http://www.philstar.com/nation/article.aspx?publicationsubcategoryid=200&articleid=772126>

After having been tagged as the “kidnapping capital” of Mindanao in the 1990s, the city might soon just be labeled with another moniker for having been the scene of 85 murders in 2011.

There are in fact dozens of peace activists from various foreign-assisted peace advocacy outfits now contemplating to embark on a roundtable forum to discuss the city’s security woes.

It was only after the January 10 near-fatal ambush of Cotabato Vice-Mayor Muslimin Sema that the city’s mixed Muslim and Christian sectors learned that 85 local residents have been killed from January to December last year.

An incumbent member of the city council, Froilan Melendrez, told reporters that only a small fraction of the murder cases have been solved by the local police.

“When they say solve, they mean corresponding cases have been filed in court,” Melendrez said.

He said the city council is now in possession of documents detailing how many people were killed here the past 12 months.

City police director Danny Reyes, in an interview with Catholic station dxMS here, did not refute the facts Melendrez revealed.

Reyes, however, assured the public that they are doing everything to prevent escalation of crimes in the city.

Along with the 85 killings in 2011 were more than a dozen bombings, more than a dozen supposed bomb attacks were foiled by members of the Army’s 6th Ordnance and Explosive Detachment with their prompt deactivation of powerful improvised explosive devices in different spots here.

Sources from the city’s media community, among them officials of the local chapters of the Kapisanan ng mga Brodkaster sa Pilipinas and the National Union of Journalists, said most of the unsolved murders were perpetrated by notorious guns-for-hire, virtually unfazed by the heavy presence of policemen and battle-ready combatants of the 7th Marine Battalion in the city’s key entry and exit routes.

Two popular hosts of a public affairs program of the Notre Dame Broadcasting Corporation here, Jeff Mendez and Marychill Faunillan-Hawtay, took turn in asking why the city police office has been reluctant to provide journalists with data on the crimes and other peace and security issues besetting the 37 barangays here.

Chua Yu Beng, a senior official of the city’s Filipino-Chinese Chamber of Commerce, earlier said there is an impression now among some of them that ordinary city residents are no longer safe because even the city’s supposedly influential and powerful vice mayor almost got killed in a daring attack last January 10.

Sema was on his way home from a session at the city council when one of two men riding a motorcycle in tandem opened fire at his 4x4 vehicle with a customized M-16 assault rifle fitted with a noise suppressor.

Sema, chairman of the most dominant of at least three factions in the Moro National Liberation Front, was hit in his jaw, hospitalized for six days in Davao City and returned to work last Tuesday.

Concerned sectors wanted the judiciary to deploy more judges in the city, where there is only one judge now, Bansawan Ibrahim, who is litigating hundreds of cases at the Regional Trial Court here.

Ibrahim's house was strafed with automatic rifles by unknown attackers two years ago in what he believed was a work-related attack.

Motorcycle-riding men gunned down last year Maguindanao's provincial prosecutor, Akil Balt, in a broad daylight attack at the busy Sinsuat Avenue here. The murder of Balt has remained unsolved.

The attack on the house of Ibrahim and the murder of Balt was preceded by the still unsolved ambush-slay of Judge Sahara Silongan also at the same thoroughfare about five years ago.

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25. Twenty Bombs Recovered

Tuesday, 31 January 2012

<http://www.thedailystar.net/newDesign/news-details.php?nid=220619>

Police last evening recovered 20 identical tape-wrapped objects, suspected to be bombs, inside a paper box from a spot between Baitul Mukarram National Mosque and National Sports Council in the city.

Detective Branch (DB) Senior Assistant Commissioner Sanwar Hossain, also a bomb expert, said they were not sure whether those were bombs.

Deputy Commissioner of Motijheel division Anwar Hossain said, on information, police on duty in the area recovered the objects around 6:00pm.

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26. Eleven Grenades Found In Bandarban

Monday, 30 January 2012

<http://www.thedailystar.net/newDesign/news-details.php?nid=220427>

The members of Bangladesh Border guard (BGB) raided different places here and recovered hand grenades and other materials from a place under Naikhyangchhari upazila of the district yesterday.

Naikhyangchhari BGB sources said Captain Kamrul Hassan, leading a 20-member team, raided a terror den under Dishari union of Naikhangchhari in the morning.

They recovered 11 hand grenades, 27 bullets, 50 sharp weapons, over hundred blankets, huge medicines, one television set and huge amount of Zihadi books from the spot.

The BGB members damaged the den, which was allegedly used by Arakan Rohingya Solidarity Organization (ARSO) members.

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27. Landmine Found Near Ramesh Meeting Venue

Tuesday, 31 January 2012

http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2012-01-31/ranchi/31009035_1_landmine-saranda-forest-development-centre

A major mishap was averted by security forces when they detected a landmine under the road from Manoharpur to Digha, the venue of Union rural development minister Jairam Ramesh's visit on Monday.

Since Ramesh was to take aerial route to the venue, there was no threat to him.

The landmine weighing around 15 kg was placed at the centre of the road, around 3.5 km away from the venue in the village where Ramesh laid the foundation stone for one integrated development centre and a couple of rural roads under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna.

The Centre is directly funding and monitoring the Rs 250-crore Saranda Action Plan that has been launched as a pilot project for development of the Maoist-hit areas in the country. Six panchayats in Saranda forest will have a road network of 113 km and all the 6,000 families get a house under the Indira Awas Yojna. All the six panchayats will also have an integrated development centre which will provide round-the-clock healthcare facility.

Confirming the recovery, additional SP Shambhu Prasad said the security forces were on alert since Sunday and had started combing operations. "We were sanitizing the entire area along the road to be used by government officials. First we scanned the forest area - 500 metres on both side of the road - and on Monday morning the road was checked. We found a powerful landmine placed around one foot under the road," said Prasad.

The landmine was placed some time back and was connected with a wire for detonation. "The rebels may have detonated it if the security forces were unable to trace it on time as the road was to be used by government officials," said Prasad adding that the since the Union minister was to use aerial route there was no threat to him.

Ramesh was not much astonished to know about the recovery of the landmine from the road leading to his visit. "Places in western and southern Jharkhand have always been a stronghold of Maoists and the Saranda forest, till recently, was the east zone headquarters of the rebels," said the minister. He, however, expressed hope that the situation would improve with support of local people in the near future.

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28. The Bomb Busters

Monday, 23 January 2012

<http://www.nippon-foundation.or.jp/eng/worldwide/activities/2012/activities001.html>

Laos has the unwanted distinction of being the most heavily bombed nation per capita in the world. This occurred between 1964 and 1973 when the United States flew more than half a million bombing missions over Laos, dropping more than two million tons of various types of bombs.

This was part of a “secret war,” an attempt to block the flow of North Vietnamese arms and troops on the Ho Chi Minh trail through Laotian territory to South Vietnam during the Vietnam War. The ordnance dropped included more than 270 million sub-munitions known as bomblets (called “bombies” in Laos), which are released from larger cluster bombs.

Major land battles, including those in the war for independence during the French colonial era and between the Pathet Lao and the Royal Lao forces, also left vast quantities of unexploded heavy bombs, rockets, grenades, artillery munitions, mortars, anti-personnel landmines, and improvised explosive devices scattered across the country, according to the Laotian government.

Officials estimate that up to 30% of all bombs did not explode. Such unexploded ordnance (UXO) remains in or on the ground, continuing to maim or kill people and hinder the country’s socioeconomic development and its food security.

It is estimated that only 446,711 unexploded sub-munitions were destroyed in Laos from 1996 to May 2010—a mere 0.55% of the total littering the landscape.

Since 2005, the Japan Mine Action Service (JMAS), a Japanese non-profit organization engaged in removing landmines and UXO around the world, has been helping the Democratic People’s Republic of Laos deal with its unexploded ordnance problem. JMAS works closely with its partner the Lao National Unexploded Ordnance Programme (UXO Lao), providing technical advice.

JMAS has received funding from the Japanese government and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) that is then directed toward providing the Laotian government’s UXO clearance projects in Xieng Khuang and Attapue Provinces with financial, technical, administrative assistance and raising community awareness. Contributions from the Nippon Foundation for these projects are channeled through ASEAN.

According to Yue Hamagishi, chief of administration and finance at the JMAS Vientiane office, JMAS is setting up a training facility this year in Attapue Province with Lao UXO to provide technical assistance training to experienced Laotians, who will themselves then train local people on how to clear mines and other ordnance in the province.

The JMAS experts are able to pass on to their Lao UXO counterparts an abundance of technical expertise gained through work on UXO clearance projects in Cambodia, Afghanistan, and Angola. In Japan, too, unexploded ordnance is still found in Okinawa, and recently a WWII bomb had to be defused in Osaka, as Yamagishi points out. “The goal for the JMAS is to train Laotian experts in the latest methods on handling UXO,” she says, “thereby gradually decreasing the need for Japanese assistance.”

Yue Hamagishi, JMAS Chief of Administration and Finance, in Laos

The Laotian government points out that unexploded ordnance is a major problem, contributing to poverty in Laos and impeding its socioeconomic development. It is estimated that 10 of the country's 17 provinces are "severely contaminated" by UXO. A 2002 study conducted by the Japan International Cooperation Agency estimated that 236.8 km² of potential agricultural land was contaminated by UXO.

As a result of UXO contamination, according to the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), "economic opportunities in tourism, hydroelectric power, mining, forestry and many other areas of activity considered the main engines of growth for Laos are restricted, complicated, and made more expensive."

The human cost also continues to be high. More than 50,000 people were killed or injured by UXO in Laos from 1964 to 2010. The victims in villages, almost 50% of whom are children, have lost their lives or limbs because of UXO when farming or simply walking through their fields.

Bombs often explode when villagers clear land for farming or try to collect the metal in a bomb for scrap. The government, with the help of UXO clearance organizations, is trying to reduce the number of victims to less than 300 people a year and to provide better access to medical treatment. Unfortunately, children are often seriously injured or killed when they mistake UXO for toys.

JMAS states that its mission is to help create an environment in which people can attain better living conditions by reducing poverty and increasing physical safety, improving livelihoods and food security, and enhancing environmental sustainability.

The average Laotian still considers such things as unexploded cluster bombs and other UXO a part of everyday life because they are so pervasive throughout the country. That's why people have even given the almost friendly name "bombies" to the individual bomblets from the cluster bombs that appear everywhere.

Although much more expertise in tracking down and destroying the UXO would be useful, the Laotian government has until recently refused American help because the United States was the country that dropped the majority of the bombs in the first place.

JMAS has been responsible for clearing about 60% of the UXO found in Laos since its aid program began in 2005, but this barely even begins to solve the problem. Some experts estimate that it could take hundreds if not a thousand years to dispose of all the UXO in Laos.

Laotians, like these smiling Buddhist monks in Vientiane, get on with their lives despite the challenges of the UXO problem

In the face of this tremendous challenge, JMAS is resolutely training Laotians to search for and eliminate UXO, especially in those areas of the country most heavily contaminated. The trainees include many women because, as the trainers point out, they tend to approach the task in an extremely meticulous and diligent manner.

Whether men or women, though, the trainees will need to acquire as many skills as possible from the JMAS trainers. This is because among the millions of UXO buried somewhere in the picturesque Laotian countryside there is a bewildering array of ordnance types, used by more than half a dozen different

armies. They vary in size, some have unusual fuses, and still others are white phosphorous bombs—not to mention the innumerable “bombies.”

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29. LTTE Bomb Blast Suspect

Monday, 25 January 2012

http://www.colombopage.com/archive_12/Jan25_1327506034CH.php

An LTTE suspect alleged to have been involved in a bomb blast in Wilpattu National Forest has been arrested by the Sri Lanka police.

Police said the suspect has been identified as a resident of Mannar and he was involved in LTTE activities during the war.

The blast, that took place in the Wilpattu Forest Reserve on May 27, 2006 killed seven people including the famous Sri Lankan novelist Nihal de Silva while they were travelling in a double cab vehicle.

Three powerful landmines connected together had triggered the explosion when their vehicle got caught in the pressure mine.

Chandi Aseerwatham, Anula Aseerwatham, Darrel Perera, Nihal de Silva, Nanda Abeysuriya, Henrieta Abeysuriya and Anura Dissanayake (Tracker) were killed in the explosion.

The Central Province Police Anti- terrorist Operations Bureau made the arrest.

The suspect has been handed over to the Kandy police for further investigations.

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30. Man Arrested In Connection To 2008 Bomb Planting

Saturday, 28 January 2012

http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2012-01-28/surat/30673194_1_bomb-ahmedabad-azamgarh

Habib alias Habibfalahi Shaikh (25), an accused in the 2008 Ahmedabad bomb blast and Surat bomb planting cases, was arrested by the city police and brought here on a transfer warrant from Ahmedabad.

He was part of SIMI's sleeper cell and belongs to Azamgarh in Uttar Pradesh. He was associated with Indian Mujahideen and had worked as maulvi in Azamgarh. He undertook training at the IM organized camps in Kerala and Madhya Pradesh. The city police are investigating his role in the planting of bombs in Surat.

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31. Bangalore Blast Suspect Held At Delhi Airport

Thursday, 26 January 2012

http://www.dnaindia.com/bangalore/report_bangalore-blast-suspect-held-at-delhi-airport_1642374

New Delhi airport immigration officials have apprehended a terror suspect linked to the 2008 Bangalore blasts as he was trying to fly out of the country.

The suspect, Sameer, a native of Kannur in Kerala, was arrested on Wednesday with the help of Lookout Circular (LOC) issued against the suspect by the Bangalore police.

A team of city police led by deputy superintendent of police (CID) HM Omkaraiah, who is heading the investigations, visited to New Delhi to secure Sameer's custody.

The team will bring him to Bangalore on Thursday after completing the formalities for further investigations.

A police source said Sameer is the 24th accused in the Bangalore serial blasts that occurred on July 25, 2008. The explosions claimed the life of a woman and many people injured.

Sameer was allegedly involved in a conspiracy and he received funds for the blast from Muscat in Oman.

The money was routed through Muscat by Rashid Abdullah alias Abu Rehan alias Wali alias Abdul Aziz of Gulistan Colony, Faisalabad, in Pakistan. Sameer allegedly financed the terror strikes.

So far, the city police have arrested 24 persons in connection with the 2008 serial blasts, including People's Democratic Party leader Abdul Nasser Madani.

According to a police source, eight more persons, including four Pakistani nationals, are yet to be arrested in this case.

Sameer was a founding member of Jamat-i-yyathul Ansarul Muslimeen (JIAM), which was formed after the police cracked down on Indian Mujahideen.

Sameer, along with his associates, was involved in several blasts in south India and had actively participated in the Bangalore serial blasts.

His arrest happened after Delhi police stepped up security measures for the Republic Day. Sameer was caught by Delhi airport immigration authorities while attempting to fly abroad.

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32. Three Cong Supporters Shot At, Bomb Attacks Continue

Wednesday, 25 January 2012

<http://theshillongtimes.com/2012/01/25/three-cong-supporters-shot-at-bomb-attacks-continue/>

Three supporters of state Congress president Gaikhangam were shot at by suspected Naga militants at Tamenglong district on Tuesday and bomb attacks on Congress candidates and workers continued unabated as Manipur goes to polls on January 28.

Police said some armed persons came to Noney in Tamenglong district where a poll campaign for the Congress president was going on. They started firing in which three persons were injured. All the injured have been rushed to RIMS and are undergoing treatment. They are stated to be out of danger.

Meanwhile, three bombs were found in as many houses of supporters of Ph Parijat, a minister who is contesting as a CPI candidate at Lamlai Assembly constituency. All the bombs were later removed by bomb experts.

Meanwhile a bomb exploded on Monday night at Kakching near the residence of a Congress worker. In another incident a Congress worker was fired at Lamding. However, he managed to escape unhurt. The residence of Andro Congress candidate Th Shyamkumar was also attacked by gunmen. A bomb was found by police on Tuesday at Khuyathong near the residence of a Congress worker.

The Coordinating Committee of seven militant outfits had put a ban on the Congress party and had launched series of attacks on Congress candidates and workers. A man was killed in an attack near the residence of Speaker I Hemochandra on Saturday night.

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33. CRPF Man Killed In Uki Ambush

Friday, 27 January 2012

<http://thesangaiexpress.com/sangai-express-news.php?newsid=12699>

A CRPF personnel has been killed and two injured in an ambush carried out by suspected underground cadres while a person suspected to be a UG cadre was shot dead in a reported encounter with police commandos in a separate incident.

Official source said that some suspected underground cadres attacked a team of 173 CRPF at Kamjong-Konkan diversion area yesterday around 12 noon.

The CRPF team was on their way to Konkan for election duty, added the source.

The attack killed a head constable and injured two personnel in which one Insas Rifle was also taken away by the attackers, it added.

Meanwhile, the proscribed UNLF has claimed responsibility for the attack on the CRPF at Aishi village in Ukhrul district.

A statement issued by senior publicity officer of the group, Ksh Yoheiba informed that the attack was carried out by its armed wing MPA and two CRPF personnel were killed while three others were injured. The cadres confiscated two Insas Rifles from the CRPF team. It is further informed that the MPA cadres have reached their camp safely.

In another incident, a combined team of Imphal East and Imphal West police commando killed a person suspected to be an UG cadre in a reported encounter held at Top Yaralpat yesterday at around 8 pm.

A 9mm pistol along with a hand grenade were recovered from the deceased person whose identity has not been established.

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34. Bomb Explodes In Imphal Crowded Market

Wednesday, 30 November 2012

<http://www.andhra369.com/bomb-explodes-in-imphal-crowded-market-5903>

In news just coming in, a powerful bomb has exploded in a crowded market in Imphal in Manipur. The bomb exploded very close to the city's new convention centre that is meant to be inaugurated by the Prime Minister on Saturday.

The bomb was allegedly rigged to a rickshaw parked near the gate of a local exhibition area. Three people have reportedly been injured in the blast.

The bomb exploded at around 11 AM at the Hapta Kangjeibung ground where the Sangai festival was being celebrated.

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35. Bomb Assault At Andro AC

Friday, 27 January 2012

<http://www.thesangaiexpress.com/sangai-express-news.php?newsid=12691>

A chinese hand-grenade has been exploded at the Yairipok Ningthounai residence of Ahmed Ali, who will be contesting the legislative Assembly election from Andro Assembly Constituency as a Congress candidate, at around 10.25 pm on January 25.

Even though no human casualty is reported, the blast damaged section of a building wall of Advanced English School, which is located inside the residential compound of Ahamed Ali. Soon after receiving information of the blast, a team of Yairipok police station arrived and recovered some bomb parts from the site of the blast.

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36. Roadside Bomb Hits Rangae District Chief

Friday, 27 January 2012

<http://www.nationmultimedia.com/national/Roadside-bomb-hits-Rangae-district-chief-30174598.html>

A roadside bomb exploded as Narathiwat's Rangae district chief Supawarit Phetchkan was driving past yesterday morning. The blast damaged Supawarit's pickup truck and another car nearby, but caused no injuries or fatalities, police said.

The attack took place at 9.45am on the Ban Hulupare Moo 1 Road in Tambon Tanyongmmat. Investigation showed that the doors and windows on the driver's side were riddled with holes caused by shrapnel.

The blast also shattered the rear window of another car that was about 30 metres away, while a 60centimetre deep and about a metre wide hole was found in the opposite lane. Police believe that insurgents had remotely detonated the 5kilogram bomb.

Supawarit said he and four village defence volunteers were on their way to preside over the launch of a grassgrowing project in Ban Chulaporn Pattana when the culprits detonated the bomb.

He said he was obviously a target, because rangers had checked the road earlier and did not find anything suspicious. He added that the assassination attempt did not scare him and that he would continue working to protect the country.

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37. Cargo Of Pentolite Discovered In Ibarra

Thursday, 26 January 2012

http://translate.google.com/translate?sl=es&tl=en&js=n&prev=t&hl=en&ie=UTF-8&layout=2&eotf=1&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.elcomercio.com%2Fseguridad%2Fcargamento-explosivos-encontrado-Ibarra-pentolita_0_634736549.html

APPROXIMATE TRANSLATION

A shipment of 400 blocks and 998 pentolite blasting caps were discovered by the police last night in Imbabura. The explosives were transported by bus from Ibarra, Imbabura, to San Lorenzo, Esmeraldas. However, the vehicle was intercepted by police in the parish of Salinas, northwest of Imbabura. The pentolite was hidden inside various woven reed mats. Agents of the Judicial Police believe that was bound pentolite illegal armed groups in Colombia. During the raid, which took place after a phone call warning of dangerous cargo, was captured Ambrocio V., alleged dangerous cargo. According to Luis Baez, head of the Judicial Police of Imbabura, a single block could have blown the bus, which was full of passengers.

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38. ANFO, Dynamite Discovered Near Tocopilla

Wednesday, 01 February 2012

<http://translate.google.com/translate?sl=es&tl=en&js=n&prev=t&hl=en&ie=UTF-8&layout=2&eotf=1&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.soychile.cl%2FAntofagasta%2FPolicia%2F2012%2F02%2F01%2F69015%2FDescubren-arsenal-de-explosivos-en-pique-minero-ilegal-en-Tocopilla.aspx>

The Police investigations found large amount of explosives hidden in a shaft mine, located 30 kilometers northeast of Tocopilla.

This, after an order from the Home Office, who gave rise to start the investigation.

In instead found 27 sticks of dynamite, 49 starters, 36 cartridges Anfo craft, enhancers of dynamite, 8.76 meters of detonating cord and two bags of ANFO, among others.

It was also established that four subjects in mineral mined under, illegally, in addition to collecting various explosives for the extraction operations.

"The collection of the explosive material, along with the task itself did not have the permissions to both manipulation and security measures for storage," said Oliver Oyanedel Provincial Governor, Chief of the PDI Tocopilla.

The four men were detained by order of the prosecutor and the explosives will periciados by Crime Laboratory personnel of the Police Department, before being sent to the institution linked to the Arms Act.

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39. Alleged Zetas Member Arrested For Threatening To Detonate Bomb

Friday, 27 January 2012

<http://translate.google.com/translate?sl=es&tl=en&js=n&prev=t&hl=en&ie=UTF-8&layout=2&eotf=1&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.elimparcial.com%2FEdicionEnLinea%2FNotas%2FPolicia%2F27012012%2F569297.aspx>

Using a suspected explosive device and a message in which he identified as members of "Los Zetas," a subject during an assault perpetrated yesterday morning at a convenience store and was arrested minutes later by municipal police officers .

This is Hector Favio Gomez Robles, 39, who was arrested in the vicinity of the San Francisco.

According to the report of the Municipal Public Security Bureau (DSPMs) was at 11:50 hours when notified that the store called "Extra" located at the intersection of Boulevard and Calle Gaspar Santa Ines Luken had committed an assault.

When officers arrived, they met with Ivonne Romero Leticia Cuevas, in charge of the store, who said that minutes before had come to trade a subject and an object placed on the counter.

The man handed him a message to the employee as he said that the object was a bomb and that would explode if he gave the money from sales.

The message was secured by the agents who carried out the arrest, which reads: "Miss, do not mean to hurt, we are the group of 'Z', cooperate and nothing will happen.

"Give us all the money you have and pass ticket for bathing or drop to the floor in five minutes does not leave a partner because the is watching and will give you a shot, behave well and God bless."

Fearing that the subject fulfilled the threat, the woman handed him a plastic bag with the logo of the store containing several thousand pesos and 20 pesos bills, several phone cards for mobile and kiosk.

The haul also included several boxes of cigars of different brands and to be in the hands of the subject, he went out on the site career force due to the San Francisco.

The affected described the assailant as a person of dark complexion, tall, thin white cap who wore a gray scarf covering his mouth and wearing plaid shirt and black colored jeans.

The agents went to the colony above to find the assailant and the way they were intercepted by a woman who said that the assailant he is nicknamed "The Favio" who lives at number 24, Calle Santa Barbara.

Arriving at the address mentioned, officers located the subject, who upon seeing the officers took off his cap and neck scarf and threw to the ground was controlled immediately.

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40. Explosive Device Recovered

Tuesday, 31 January 2012

<http://translate.google.com/translate?sl=es&tl=en&js=n&prev=t&hl=en&ie=UTF-8&layout=2&eof=1&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.diariodemexicousa.com%2Farticle%2Fpar%25C3%25B3-las-calles-un-explosivo>

Tremendous sustote of Leon took yesterday morning after locals found a glass bottle with batteries and a clock in front of a cheese factory in the Jardines de Jerez, the manufacturer of the appliance also left a written message, by what authorities suspect may be "eco-anarchists."

The fact of fear occurred around 9 am, when workers alerted neighbors and the security features of a glass container according to the state police and municipal was a bomb.

After the arrival of rescue workers, the area was completely restricted to passersby on the street near The Bugambilias number 405 Paseo de Jerez, outside Creamery and Nevería called 'San Salvador', Colonia Jardines de Jerez. It should be noted that officers calmed the minds of the onlookers, as they reported that they waited for the military to review and withdraw the device in a steel container called a 'pot' and move it in a tank to take a detachment and detonate .

After several minutes of waiting, a military team arrived at the accident site to safeguard the integrity of Guanajuato and take the pipe bomb. According to security forces, the glass vessel containing acid and was tied with adhesive tape to an alarm that had an alkaline battery.

At press time detainees were not reported or the motive for the accident.

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41. Explosives Found In Caqueta Hotel

Tuesday, 31 January 2012

<http://translate.google.com/translate?sl=es&tl=en&js=n&prev=t&hl=en&ie=UTF-8&layout=2&eotf=1&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.ellider.com.co%2F2012%2F01%2F31%2Fen-hotel-las-garzas-desactivan-explosivos%2F>

Anti explosives experts defused Police triggers composed of two charges of pentolite 10 kilos, divided into 12 blocks, which had been installed near the hotel the Herons, they confirmed the Caquetá police commander, Colonel Carlos Alberto Vargas Rodriguez, who added that guerrillas of FARC front third activate sought by an electrical system at the time of the military get to meet the emergency call. The attack would be similar to the pump body, said the official, who explained that the purpose of subversion was to cause panic with a load located in a visible and when police arrived to activate another device that was hiding.

"The incident took place early yesterday morning when authorities received a call warning of the existence of the pump, so that technicians went to the scene and discovered after a careful consideration not only one but two explosive charges, the first apparently intended to appeal to the military sector, and then activate a second load and carry more powerful and serious injuries among the police."

"Fortunately, the men of anti realized both explosive bombs and managed to turn them off in a controlled manner. The incident occurred in the vicinity of the Hotel the Herons, on the road that leads to Huila Florence."

The police commander in Caqueta said that "the technicians found a load visible and the other was a decoy, so when anti explosive technicians arrived to the site were victims of a major explosion. One of the charges was turned off manually and the other, they moved to the river where detonated in a controlled manner."

Finally, do not rule out that the attack could be directed not only against the police, but any retaliation under investigation for extortion against this recreation center on the outskirts of Florence.

Two charges were deactivated composed of 10 kilos of pentolite that guerrillas of FARC front third turn sought in Florence.

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42. Police Recover Pentolite Bomb

Tuesday, 31 January 2012

http://translate.google.com/translate?sl=es&tl=en&js=n&prev=t&hl=en&ie=UTF-8&layout=2&eof=1&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.florecianos.com%2Fweb%2Findex.php%3Foption%3Dcom_k2%26view%3Ditem%26id%3D3413%3Apolicia-desactiva-explosivos-que-serian-usados-como-se%25C3%25B1uelo%26Itemid%3D154

In the last hours of Caquetá Police defused two Pentolite loads located at 5 bars each, and electrical activation system. And that research was a police decoy.

According to the police report was received a warning call about the existence of a bomb there and, according to anti-explosive experts was a decoy to turn to the arrival of the soldiers to the site.

However, anti-explosive experts of the police managed to clear the cargo weighing about 10 kilos and was located in the back of the hotel industry recognized "La Garza" in the Florencia - Neiva.

Colonel Carlos Vargas, Caquetá Police Commander, said that thanks to the good actions of police forces averted a tragedy perpetrated against its staff and that the facts are attributed to the FARC.

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43. Police Disarm VBIED Near Altquer

Wednesday, 01 February 2012

<http://translate.google.com/translate?sl=es&tl=en&js=n&prev=t&hl=en&ie=UTF-8&layout=2&eotf=1&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.rcnradio.com%2Fnoticias%2Feditor%2Fdesactivan-carro-bomba-en-la-carretera-tumaco-134108>

12 hours it took anti-explosive experts of the national police to clear a vehicle loaded with shrapnel pentolite and FARC guerrillas in the area of jurisdiction of the municipality Altquer BBQ.

The gasping caused by guerrillas of the FARC's 29th Front which went through a "truck Bbomba" loaded with explosives, was recorded in the village of Altaquer, municipality of barbecues, where he was also stopped a truck loaded with food.

Hundreds of passengers were traveling to the cities of Pasto and Tumaco, remained for at least 12 hours either side of the road, waiting for the vehicles are retired and can continue their journey to their destinations.

After 23 Brigade troops cordon off the area Army reached explosion-proof members of the National Police, who after several hours managed to deactivate the explosive charge consisting of ANFO and shrapnel.

The authorities said RCN Radio that army troops and police Mobile Squad, Emcar, maintain controlled the area, in order to ensure safety for the community living in the area of the attack to those who must travel for this important road axis of the department of Nariño.

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44. Army Discovers Explosives In Pijao

Thursday, 02 February 2012

<http://translate.google.com/translate?sl=es&tl=en&js=n&prev=t&hl=en&ie=UTF-8&layout=2&eotf=1&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.cronicadelquindio.com%2Fnoticia-completa-titulo-tropas-de-la-octava-brigada-encontraron-explosivos-en-zona-rural-de-pijao-seccion-Judiciales-nota-42084.htm>

The finding was reported by troops of the battalion of mountain number 5 'General Urban Castellanos Castillo' in the village of Las Marias Quindiano municipality. Corresponds to a cache apparently belonging to the front 21 of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, FARC.

At the site were located 130 meters of detonating cord of different numbers, 500 grams of pentolite and 20 meters of safety fuse.

The items were taken from the place with the support of members of the Technical Research, CTI, Prosecutor.

According to initial reports, the rebels were going to use this material to attack members of the security forces and settlers in the area.

This is the second discovery of explosives made by the army so far this year in the mountainous town.

Sources indicated that the military unit will continue searching for these materials in rural areas of the department to ensure the safety of all.

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45. FARC IEDs, Explosives Destroyed In Eastern Antioquia

Wednesday, 01 February 2012

<http://translate.google.com/translate?sl=es&tl=en&js=n&prev=t&hl=en&ie=UTF-8&layout=2&eotf=1&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.ejercito.mil.co%2Findex.php%3Fidcategoria%3D321591>

453 improvised explosive devices, grenade IM26, 50 plastic syringes, five homemade shells of double insurance and assault of two 5-gallon plastic timbos each with about 40 Kilos of explosives, were the dangerous elements of the creek found and destroyed by troops Mechanized Group Juan del Corral. This abundant explosive materials with which it was intended to undermine military and civilian population belonged to the ninth against the FARC narco.

The stash was found in the last hours in rural area of Sonson, in the village Roblalito.

Although international law prohibits the use of improvised explosive devices, illegal armed groups, mainly the FARC and the ELN, continue to use mines indiscriminately, loading explosive devices aimed at rural and urban areas in order to cause harm, destruction and death to the Colombians.

Anti-personnel mines or mines, are elements designed to kill or incapacitate their victims. Besides being used to stop the advance of troops on operations, degrade the morale of the soldiers, causing damage to civilians and destroy villages, are the terror of the communities living mainly in rural areas, since the terrorist installed on the roads, water sources, around schools, crops, and in different places, where most of the time are forced to pass the inhabitants of the region.

These unconventional weapons, which do not distinguish between combatants and civilians, and also can remain active for over 50 years, causing effects such as amputations, muscle injuries and internal organs, burns, leaving irreparable physical and psychological sequelae.

This result that counteracts the action of terrorist structures, is another example of our faith in the cause, because we will achieve victory with the cooperation of citizens, support of civil authorities, the judiciary and the courage of the troops in neutralizing the claims of criminals.

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46. Colombia Develops New Mine Detection System

Friday, 27 January 2012

<http://translate.google.com/translate?hl=en&sl=es&tl=en&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.dialogo-americas.com%2Fes%2Farticles%2Fmisa%2Ffeatures%2Ftechnology%2F2012%2F01%2F27%2Ffeature-ex-2839>

The new mine detector, Colombian technology, can detect both metallic and explosive IEDs. (Photo: Infodefensa.com)

Military Industry of Colombia (INDUMIL) and the University of the Andes developed the first dual mine detector technology that will allow Colombian Armed Forces locate mines made of metal and improvised explosive devices planted by terrorist groups.

According to a statement from the Ministry of Defense of Colombia, since 2009 an interdisciplinary group of professors, researchers and graduate students and Ph.D. from the University of the Andes, INDUMIL hand, have been developing the project, which integrates in a single team a ground-penetrating radar and metal detector.

Traditionally used in locating mines, metal detectors are based on the detection of metallic content of an object, whereas at present is common to find improvised explosive devices that do not use metal components. Hence the importance of integrating other technology that allows subsurface imaging.

With the implementation of this project, the Colombian military industry will continue to meet the strategic imperatives of expanding the product portfolio and develop national capacities by supporting the training of doctoral and master students. The country also takes an important step in technological development aimed at preserving life.

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47. Army Disarms IEDs In Boyaca And Casanare

Tuesday, 31 January 2012

<http://translate.google.com/translate?sl=es&tl=en&js=n&prev=t&hl=en&ie=UTF-8&layout=2&eotf=1&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.prensalibrecasanare.com%2Fjudicial%2F2361-ejercitu-hallu-material-de-guerra-y-neutralizu-explosivos-en-la-frontera-de-boyacb-y-casanare.html>

The Sixteenth Brigade, Eighth Division's organic, placed a stash with war material and managed to neutralize improvised explosive devices.

The first action took place in the village "Suacia" Labranzagrande municipality of Boyaca, by troops from Infantry Battalion 44 "Ramon Perez Unborn" who through intelligence and supply of information by citizens, managed to locate 01 AK-47 rifle, 01 rifles and supplier for 30 rounds for it, belonging to the front 38 of the FARC.

In a second operation conducted by troops of this battalion in the village "Peña Alta" of the municipality of Pajarito Boyacá, are able to locate and destroy a controlled a grenade that was tricked to be activated by motion system, was uncovered 03 improvised explosive devices were found next to an electrical tower intercom to be activated by the pressure system.

According to information obtained, these devices were planted indiscriminately by the gang Jose David Suarez Sepulveda ELN to attack the electrical infrastructure and personnel constantly servicing this network. The explosive material was destroyed by a controlled group of the Tactical Unit EXDE.

Of note is the support of citizens, which has been reporting through the toll-free 146, the Donor Network of the Sixteenth Brigade, which is essential to preserving the security and tranquility in this region.

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48. HME Lab Discovered In Catatumbo

Monday, 30 January 2012

<http://translate.google.com/translate?sl=es&tl=en&js=n&prev=t&hl=en&ie=UTF-8&layout=2&eotf=1&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.asiescucuta.com%2Fportada%2F2012-01-30%2Facciones-militares-durante-el-fin-de-semana-en-el-catatumbo.html>

Seven captured, destroyed a laboratory, the discovery of improvised explosive devices, vehicle removal and neutralization of an alleged member of the ELN in the time with firearms attacked the units that provided security, are the results of the operations carried jurisdiction by the Army in Task Force Vulcano in Norte de Santander.

In a first action, troops Group Mechanized Cavalry Group No. 5 "General Hermogenes Maza" subsequently located and destroyed a cocaine complex composed of four makeshift structures where 33 FARC front base processed coca paste.

On the site were captured six subjects, seized two firearms, ammunition, 15 kilos of coca paste and 100 of solid inputs, 110 gallons of precursor chemicals, seven meters for electrical installations and six storage tanks. During the operation recorded in the village of Las Mercedes Sardinata municipality, was also immobilized a vehicle with about 200 gallons of diesel fuel.

Also, the Military made available to judicial authorities in the municipality of Tibu to a subject illegally carrying a firearm with their respective ammunition.

Meanwhile, troops of the Special Energy and Roadway Battalion No. 10 "Colonel Jose Maria Concha" found in the village of San Carlos, municipality of El Tarra, a creek into which were loaded with 10-cylinder R-1 explosive, shrapnel, 10 detonators and 100 meters of duplex cable.

Cylinders belonging to "Ruiz Bari" of the FARC, were destroyed in a controlled manner by trained personnel of the Military.

In a similar move troops from the Battle of Cucuta in coordination with the National Police in a controlled manner destroyed two improvised explosive devices in the urban area of the municipality of El Tarra.

The deadly traps were composed of 2 kg of indugel, 2 kilograms of ANFO and shrapnel.

Continuing operations, a vehicle that had been abandoned by guerrillas "Ruiz Bari" was removed from the road that the town of Ocana leads to Convention.

During registration in advance by members of the "Special Energy and Roadway Battalion No 10 Colonel Jose Maria Concha" could be located, a hundred meters from the car, an explosive device would be activated at the very moment when the troops arrived to the site. The vehicle had no explosive material inside.

Finally, a gun plan carried out by two members of the "Front Hector" ELN is on a motorcycle, was neutralized by Battalion Battle of Cucuta, in the municipality of El Tarra.

During the reaction of the soldiers, one of the terrorists died, while the other fled.

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49. Army Discovers IEDs, Explosives In Arauca

Sunday, 29 January 2012

<http://translate.google.com/translate?sl=es&tl=en&js=n&prev=t&hl=en&ie=UTF-8&layout=2&eotf=1&u=http%3A%2F%2Fflavozdelcinaruco.com%2F%3Fid%3D6446>

After intensive military operations carried out in the department of Arauca troops of the Eighth Division reported the neutralization of five explosive devices installed by FARC guerrillas

In a first action, units belonging to the Task Force Chiron found and neutralized 5 IEDs tatuco type wrapped in detonating cord, which would be activated remotely by guerrillas of the FARC Front Tenth to the passage of the troops who patrol the sector in the district of Panama, municipality of Arauquita, says the press release from the Army.

The attack foiled by the quick action of the military, prevented the occurrence of the explosion that would have affected the civilian population living in the area. The artifacts were neutralized by staff EXDE group prepared in defusing explosives.

Likewise, in the village of La Florida municipality of Tame, was dismantled a clandestine camp of the FARC, which were found artifacts tatuco type, consisting of 10 kilos of explosives and a cylinder with 40 kilos. The material remained hidden by the guerrillas who wanted to use in action against the troops.

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50. Bomb Recovered In A Coruna

Thursday, 02 February 2012

<http://translate.google.com/translate?sl=es&tl=en&js=n&prev=t&hl=en&ie=UTF-8&layout=2&eotf=1&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.google.com.ni%2Fimgres%3Fq%3Dartefacto%2Bexplosivo%26um%3D1%26hl%3Des%26safe%3Doff%26biw%3D1600%26bih%3D733%26tbs%3Dqdr%3Aw%26tbm%3Disch%26tbnid%3DlyEJE5Hb693INM%3A%26imgrefurl%3Dhttp%3A%2F%2Fwww.lavozdeg Galicia.es%2Fnoticia%2Fcoruna%2F2012%2F02%2F02%2Fdesactivan-coruna-artefacto-explosivo-delante-oficina-empleo%2F00031328173047545245371.htm%26docid%3DFDLWyfyv76TQ8M%26imgurl%3Dhttp%3A%2F%2Fmedia.lavozdeg Galicia.es%2Fscale.php%25253Fi%25253D%2Fdefault%2F2012%2F02%2F02%2F00121328174360971821353%2FFoto%2F.jpg%252526w%25253D465px%26w%3D465%26h%3D262%26ei%3DE7sqT6vgL6SvsQKR3MjADg%26zoom%3D1>

In Madrid a bomb in front of the Zalaeta employment office, located on Calle Maria Victoria Fernandez Spain. Members of garbage collection service found the bomb that appeared with a lit fuse on a morning. Consisted of four camping gas cylinders and various fireworks shells together with duct tape. Initially she was placed in the middle of the street and told the 092 and 091. Minutes after the TEDAX effective deactivated the device. The place also attended by members of the Scientific Police.

The National Police has opened an investigation, but according to early indications could be an anarchist group attack.

The government delegate in Galicia, Samuel Johnson, explained that "a small fire but provocou non chegou to estourar and non houbo damage."

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51. Norway Court Convicts Two In Bomb Plot

Monday, 30 January 2012

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/01/30/us-norway-plot-idUSTRE80T0R220120130>

A Norwegian of Chinese Muslim origin with alleged links to al Qaeda was convicted Monday of plotting to blow up a Danish newspaper that had printed cartoons of Islam's Prophet Mohammad, and was sentenced to seven years in prison.

Mikael Davud, who was accused of leading a bomb plot, had admitted he intended some day to attack Chinese interests like the Chinese embassy in Oslo but he was charged only with plotting to bomb the Danish newspaper.

Prosecutors had earlier recommended an 11-year prison sentence for Davud.

A co-defendant, Iraqi-Kurd Shawan Sadek Saeed Bujak, was also convicted and sentenced to three and a half years in prison while a third defendant, David Jakobsen, an Uzbek with Norwegian residency, was convicted on a lesser charge and sentenced to 4 months, which he has already served.

It was Norway's first terrorism case with alleged international links. Under Norwegian law a charge of planning to commit a terrorist attack requires proof of a conspiracy between two or more people.

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52. Four UK Men Admit To London Stock Exchange Bomb Plot

Thursday, 01 February 2012

<http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/uk-men-admit-london-stock-exchange-bomb-plot-15486386>

Four British men fueled by the words of a U.S.-born Muslim cleric pleaded guilty Wednesday to involvement in an al-Qaida inspired plot to spread terror and cause economic damage by bombing the London Stock Exchange at Christmastime.

Five other defendants pleaded guilty to lesser terrorism charges.

The nine men, from several parts of the country, were brought together through radical Islamist groups and nurtured plans to attack the stock exchange and other high-profile targets. Unbeknownst to them, British authorities learned of the plot and put them under surveillance.

They were arrested in raids in December 2010 and all initially denied the charges against them.

But on Wednesday, as their trial was due to start, four of the defendants pleaded guilty at Woolwich Crown Court to involvement in the Stock Exchange plan, and the five others to preparing or assisting planned terror attacks.

Mohammed Chowdhury, 21; Shah Rahman, 28; Gurukanth Desai, 30; and Abdul Miah, 25, all admitted preparing for acts of terrorism by planning to plant an improvised explosive device in the toilets of the London Stock Exchange.

Prosecution lawyer Andrew Edis accepted that the men had not planned to kill anyone.

"Their intention was to cause terror and economic harm and disruption," he said. "But their chosen method meant there was a risk people would be maimed or killed."

Chowdhury, from London, was described by prosecutors as the "lynchpin" of the plot. His lawyer, Christopher Blaxland, said Chowdhury admitted planning to plant the bomb, "with the obvious attendant risk but without any intention to cause death or even injury but with the intention to terrorize, damage property and to cause economic damage."

The other five defendants admitted attending planning meetings, fundraising for terrorism or possessing copies of the al-Qaida magazine, Inspire, which contained a feature headlined "Make A Bomb In The Kitchen Of Your Mom."

Prosecutors said they had not made any bombs or set dates for the attacks.

They said the men were not members of al-Qaida but had been inspired by the terror network and the sermons of its Yemen-based, American-born cleric Anwar al-Awlaki, who was killed last year in a U.S. drone strike.

Edis said the nine defendants "were implementing the published strategy of AQAP" — al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula.

UNCLASSIFIED

The suspects, then aged between 20 and 30, were arrested in London, Cardiff and Stoke-on-Trent in central England, in what police called the biggest anti-terror raid for two years.

Prosecutors said they plotted to send mail bombs to various targets in the run-up to Christmas 2010 and had discussed launching a "Mumbai-style" atrocity — referring to the bomb blasts that killed 166 people in India's financial center in 2008.

The nine defendants were accused of agreeing on targets, discussing materials and methods, and researching files "containing practical instruction for a terrorist attack."

The men held planning meetings, researched bomb-making and scouted out locations including Parliament, Westminster Abbey and the London Eye Ferris wheel — not knowing that they were under police surveillance and their homes and cars had been bugged.

A handwritten target list found at one of the defendant's homes listed the names and addresses of London Mayor Boris Johnson, two rabbis, the American Embassy and the Stock Exchange.

The men, who had Bangladeshi and Pakistani backgrounds, also were overheard discussing how to make a pipe bomb, and talked about traveling abroad for terror training.

The four suspects from Stoke-on-Trent discussed leaving homemade bombs in the toilets of their city's pubs — but noted that as Muslims they would not be able to go into the pubs to plant them.

The defendants will be sentenced next week, but the judge has already told Chowdhury he will receive 13 1/2 years and Rahman 12 years. Each will also receive five years on probation. They are likely to serve half that time before being eligible for parole.

When police swooped on the suspects in three cities in the early morning of Dec. 20, 2010, they said it was the most significant anti-terror raid for two years.

London has been targeted several times by violent Islamists affiliated with or inspired by al-Qaida.

In July 2005, four suicide bombers killed 52 commuters on three London subway trains and a bus. A year later, U.S. and British intelligence officials thwarted one of the largest plots yet — a plan to explode bombs on nearly a dozen trans-Atlantic airliners.

Al-Awlaki, who was killed in September, is thought to have orchestrated an unsuccessful October 2010 plot to send mail bombs on planes from Yemen to the U.S. hidden in the toner cartridges of computer printers.

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53. Nationalist Arrested For Planning Election Day Bombing In Penza

Tuesday, 31 January 2012

http://translate.google.com/translate?sl=ru&tl=en&js=n&prev=t&hl=en&ie=UTF-8&layout=2&eotf=1&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.infox.ru%2Faccident%2Fcrime%2F2012%2F01%2F31%2FZadyerzhan_tyerroris.phtml

The siloviki have detained a resident of the Samara region, which is suspected that he laid the improvised explosive device in Penza police around the building the day of elections to the Duma on December 4.

"As explained by the detainee, he arrived in Penza December 3, 2011, and later that day carried a bookmark IED on nationalistic motives" - told RIA Novosti representative of the regional FSB Oksana Starshinova. Transaction date is not specified.

Old resident of Samara region is also suspected of involvement in the explosion on June 14 last year in the clothing market in Samara. Then minor injuries received minor Kirghiz.

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54. Nationalist Bomb Plot Foiled In Vladivostok

Monday, 30 January 2012

http://translate.google.com/translate?sl=ru&tl=en&js=n&prev=t&hl=en&ie=UTF-8&layout=2&eotf=1&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.novostimira.com.ua%2Fnews_14808.html

Press Service of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation in Primorsky Krai today announced that its staff was averted a major terrorist attack.

It was learned that five residents of the province organized extremist community, and carried out several attacks motivated by ethnic hatred. The victims have always been a person of non-Slavic appearance. Gang was operating in the territory of Ussuriysk in May last year.

Then, members of the criminal community decided to spend a larger share, and organize the explosion. It was planned that the bomb should be built in Vladivostok near the administration building of the Federal Migration Service at the time there is congestion of the people.

The Nationalists have purchased explosives and detonators, which were found in the apartment the suspects. All the suspects were detained, under investigation. Against them prosecuted on several counts, depending on the role of each attacker. The names of the suspects are still unknown.

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55. IED Prematurely Detonates At Volga Hostel

Tuesday, 31 January 2012

<http://translate.google.com/translate?sl=ru&tl=en&js=n&prev=t&hl=en&ie=UTF-8&layout=2&eotf=1&u=http%3A%2F%2Fshturmnovosti.com%2Fview.php%3Fid%3D33195>

In the Volgograd region arrested two young men who tried to make an improvised explosive device.

The bomb exploded about 14:00 on Monday, January 30th at one of the dormitories of the Volga River city of Volgograd region. By sheer luck no one was hurt.

According to Interfax, the cause of the explosion was an attempt by two young people making a homemade bomb. To create an IED, they used potassium permanganate and aluminum powder.

Both the shooter, police arrested a loser.

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56. Explosion On Makhachkala Injures Two Children

Sunday, 29 January 2012

<http://translate.google.com/translate?sl=ru&tl=en&js=n&prev=t&hl=en&ie=UTF-8&layout=2&eotf=1&u=http%3A%2F%2Fm.faom.faom.faom.m.faom.nnk.am%2Fincidents%2F30671-moschnyy-vzryv-v-mahachkale-terroristy-promahnulis-postradali-dvoe-detey.html>

In Makhachkala, two children were injured in the explosion of an improvised explosive device high power - up to 9 kg of TNT. The attack was directed against law enforcement officers.

As reported by ITAR-TASS news agency in the Interior Ministry of Dagestan, the night before one of the houses on the avenue of Shamil, an unknown cast, presumably, the F-1 grenade. As a result, the building was damaged.

A few minutes later, when at the scene, police officers arrived, the unknown has led to an explosive device of unknown sample, presumably, the remote control packed with striking elements in the form of sliced pieces of rebar and dowels. Its capacity was about 7-9 kg of TNT. IEDs were laid in an urn. On-site emergency crater.

The explosion caused shrapnel injured two children, were hospitalized in the Republican Clinical Hospital.

According to the Department, "disappeared from the scene of car VAZ-2112". "Put the plan" Caught. "After a while the car was found, the driver brought to the police department", - told the Interior Ministry.

A criminal case under articles of the Criminal Code - "Hooliganism", "illegal acquisition, transfer, sale, possession of firearms, ammunition, explosives and explosive devices" and "illegal manufacture of arms." An investigation is underway.

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57. Cherry Point Detonates Civil War Ordnance

Friday, 27 January 2012

<http://www.wcti12.com/news/30315925/detail.html>

A civil war era explosive device forced a neighborhood evacuation Thursday. On Friday, it was blown up.

Two friends found it in the water in Oriental, but weren't sure what they had at first.

"I didn't have a clue. I hit it twice with my hammer, then I picked it up because it didn't break," tells Anthony DeCamp who found the device.

The men took it with them to DeCamp's home in New Bern. Once there, they decided to have it checked out by the police.

Officers realized it could be an explosive and evacuated nearby homes and blocked off Elmwood Street. They also called in the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team at Cherry Point.

"The military came in and looked at it, put it in their truck and carried it back to Cherry Point," tells DeCamp.

Officials at Cherry Point say it appears to be a Civil War era ordinance. So NewsChannel 12 took the picture to a local Civil War expert to get his opinion.

"If we use the premise that it was piece of artillery from the Civil War it would probably be a Confederate mullane shell, but it could also be a Union rifle shell," says Will Gorges with Battleground Antiques, Inc. in James City.

Gorges says if it is a shell, it could still be dangerous. DeCamp had hoped he would get it back and be able to put it on display.

"I think it would be better off in an actual Civil War museum where the public can come and see it more easily," tells DeCamp.

That will not be the case though, officials at Cherry Point say the ordnance was in poor condition and had to be destroyed.

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58. RCMP Bomb Squad Detonates "Homemade Firework" In Saanich
Saturday, 28 January 2012

<http://www.theprovince.com/news/Suspicious+device+closes+Glasgow+Avenue+Saanich/6067452/story.html>

An RCMP bomb squad from Vancouver used a water cannon to detonate what they said was a homemade firework found near a Saanich apartment complex Saturday.

An officer dressed in full protective gear shot the water cannon at a sandbag placed over the firework, which caused a loud bang around 2 p.m.

The device — the size of a roll of toilet paper and wrapped in red duct tape with a green fuse sticking out of it — had been found at 7:20 a.m. in the parking lot of an apartment building at 3277 Glasgow Ave.

The 3200 block was blocked off by police tape as police investigated. The area was reopened around 2:15 p.m.

Cpl. Brent Elwood, of the RCMP explosives disposal unit, said the device consisted of a fuse, a metal and cardboard canister and fireworks powder, which would have burned off if someone lit the fuse.

"You got kids walking around on the street and they don't know what it is and they decide to light it. It's certainly not a smart move. Dumb to make it, even dumber to leave it lying around," said Elwood.

The bomb squad was called after a resident of the apartment building found the item in front of his pickup truck, said Sgt. Paul Lamoureux.

Police initially feared that the device was a bomb and called the specialized team from Vancouver to err on the side of caution, Lamoureux said.

The firework amounted to "a really expensive prank," he said.

Five officers from Saanich, two Mounties from the bomb squad and one Victoria member spent more than six hours dealing with the call.

CFB Esquimalt has an explosives ordinance disposal unit, but it is only called if the explosive is a military device.

Police are investigating who made the device and are looking for fingerprints on the duct tape.

Lamoureux said it is unclear as to whether the person who left the device could face mischief charges.

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59. Military Engineering Units Dismantle 18 Explosives In Idleb
Monday, 27 January 2012
<http://www.sana.sy/print.html?sid=396716&newlang=eng>

Military Engineering units today dismantled 18 explosive devices planted by armed terrorist groups on the roads leading to Idleb governorate.

An official source told SANA that the units defused 10 explosives of 20-30 KG on Idleb-Ariha highway, 8 others of 30-40 KG on Iblen-Bilion road in Jabal al-Zawyea.

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60. Child Martyred In Explosive Blast In Damascus
Monday, 27 January 2012
<http://sana.sy/eng/337/2012/01/27/396915.htm>

10-year old Ibrahim al-Mabrouk was martyred and a number of citizens and law enforcement members were injured on Friday as a result of an explosive device blast and shooting by an armed terrorist groups in al-Qa'eh neighborhood in al-Midan in Damascus.

An official source told SANA correspondent that the armed terrorist group remotely detonated the explosive device and opened fire randomly, killing the child Ibrahim and injuring 11 civilians and law enforcement members.

Ibrahim's father said that his son was out to buy bread when he was killed.

Imam of Hasan Bin Malek Mosque, sheikh Ahmad Sadek, said "this crime is what Yousef al-Qaradawi and his ilk are calling for along with those who sit abroad and provide support to those who murder our innocent people and children."

Abdel Mune'm Kweis, one of the locals, said that the hooded terrorists opened fire on citizens and law-enforcement personnel in all directions after detonating the explosive devices, then fled the scene.

In the presence of a delegation from the Arab League observer mission, one of the injured law-enforcement personnel said that the hooded terrorists detonated the explosive device while crying out for freedom, wondering what freedom are they demanding when they're murdering their countrymen.

In turn, one of the injured locals said that he had left Abdel Rahman Mosque after Friday prayers and the explosion when the explosion happened, injuring him, and that other locals rushed him to the hospital.

Meanwhile in Qatana city in Damascus Countryside, a number of civilians and members of law enforcement forces were wounded two explosive devices, planted by terrorist groups, exploded in one of the city's streets.

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61. Authorities Dismantle Explosives

Monday, 27 January 2012

<http://www.sana.sy/eng/337/2012/01/27/396970.htm>

The authorities in Hama on Friday raided dens of armed terrorist groups in al-Faraya and al-Hamidiye neighborhoods, confiscating firearms, ammunition and communication devices.

The confiscated weapons include RPG launchers, a PKC machinegun, a machinegun of Yugoslavian manufacture, a silencer-equipped sniper rifle, eight AK-47 rifles, three handguns, handmade grenades and explosives, and a large amount of ammo and magazines.

The authorities also confiscated three advanced wireless communication devices and a communications station used by terrorists, in addition to 11 Senao wireless phones and a number of desktop and laptop PCs.

In Bab Kebli neighborhood in Hama, the authorities dismantled stone roadblocks set up by terrorists in the streets and raided two dens containing explosives.

The authorities also dismantled two explosive devices in a house in al-Hamidiye neighborhood and recovered a military uniform and two hand grenades.

In al-Qadam Assali area in Damascus, the authorities dismantled an explosive device planted by terrorists on the side of the road in Arnaout street near a field. The device was rigged with a remote detonator and contained explosives equal to three kilograms of TNT.

Another explosive device with a remote detonator was dismantled by the authorities, this one planted by terrorists at the Mesraba crossroads in Douma near a law-enforcement forces barricade.

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62. Authorities Seize Explosive Devices

Tuesday, 31 January 2012

<http://www.sana.sy/eng/337/2012/01/31/397544.htm>

The Interior Ministry said that the competent authorities killed big numbers of terrorists and caught many others in Douma, Harasta, Saqba, Hammourieh and Kfar Batna in Damascus countryside over the past three days.

The Ministry said in a statement on Monday that the competent authorities discovered a number of hideouts that the terrorist groups used for manufacturing explosives and incarcerating kidnapped citizens, in addition to huge amounts of weapons and explosives.

The authorities are chasing the terrorists who remain at large.

The Ministry said that this operation comes to fulfill the state's duty in enforcing law and ending the state of chaos that the terrorist groups sought to foment, indicating that it came in response to appeals by citizens and workers in the Eastern suburbs of al-Ghoutta in Damascus countryside calling upon law-enforcement forces to interfere to restore safety and stability.

The armed groups have repeatedly brushed aside the Syrian government's warnings that tampering with security and stability won't be tolerated.

Armed terrorist groups in Damascus countryside, equipped with up-to-date weapons including US and Israeli-made ones, committed killings and kidnappings against civilians, blew up explosive devices and vandalized private and public properties.

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63. Terrorists Caught, Explosive Devices Seized In Hama
Thursday, 26 January 2012
<http://www.sana.sy/eng/337/2012/01/26/396577.htm>

The competent authorities caught big numbers of terrorists after raiding their hideouts in Bab Qibli and al-Jarajmeh neighborhoods in Hama on Wednesday.

SANA correspondent said that quantities of weapons were also seized, including a BKC machinegun, 2 RPG launchers, 15 RPGs, 15 firearms, grenades, explosive devices, oxygen cylinders and ammunition.

The concerned authorities also seized a number of stolen state and private cars in al-Jarajmeh, Bab Qibli and Nazlet al-Jizdan neighborhoods that that the armed terrorist groups used in their terrorist attacks, in addition to heavy machinery that the terrorist groups used in setting up earthen ramparts to block entryways to neighborhoods.

The authorities also dismantled a number of explosive devices varying in size from 10-50 kg.

A number of explosive devices planted by the armed groups in some neighborhoods were detonated, and earthen ramparts were removed.

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64. Authorities Raid HME Lab Inside Daraa Diaper Factory
Wednesday, 25 January 2012
<http://www.sana.sy/eng/337/2012/01/25/396370.htm>

Two law-enforcement members were martyred on Tuesday by bullets of an armed terrorist group at Khan Sheikhoun in Idleb.

An official source told SANA reporter that the armed group shot fires at a car for the law-enforcement members, killing Corporal Hussein Daabal and private Khaled Hassan.

Meanwhile, two other law-enforcement personnel were injured by an explosive planted by an armed terrorist group in Ariha.

The source said that the explosive went off while a car carrying food for the security forces was crossing in the area. In a relevant context, military Engineering units in Idleb dismantled four explosives, with each weighs between 25-30 kg planted by the armed terrorist groups in Jabal al-Zawya.

An armed terrorist gang assassinated head of the Farmers Union branch in Idleb, Abdullatif Bakkour, firing on him while leaving work.

Another terrorist group targeted dentist Mohammad Zakaraiya al-Youssef in his car, which caused his martyrdom.

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