



Realtime Analysis and Publishing of IED Data

Weekly News Update

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

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1. Terrorist Attack In India Uses Same Explosive Device As In Iran Scientist Assassination
Monday, 13 February 2012

<http://www.algemeiner.com/2012/02/13/terrorist-attack-in-india-and-georgia-uses-same-explosion-device-as-in-iran-scientist-assassination/>

The car bomb which exploded in India on Monday, injuring the wife of an Israeli diplomat, was a magnetic device attached to the car by motorcycle and possibly detonated by remote control device, according to police accounts given to The Times of India.

Quoting New Delhi Police Commissioner B K Gupta on Monday, The Times of India wrote “a magnetic device was stuck on the rear of the car near Aurangzeb Road crossing by a persib riding a motorcycle, following which a minor blast took place after the car moved a few metres and then it caught fire.”

This is similar to accounts given by Iranian news agencies last month, regarding the assassination of Mostafa Ahmadi Roshan, an Iranian nuclear scientist.

“Iranian news accounts said the suspected assassin had attached a magnetized explosive device to the scientist’s car and escaped during the rush hour in northern Tehran,” the New York Times reported on January 11th.

Referring to Mondays attack in India and Georgia, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said “Iran is behind these attacks; it is the largest exporter of terrorism in the world.”

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2. Different Explosives Used In India, Thailand

Thursday, 16 February 2012

<http://ibnlive.in.com/news/different-explosives-used-in-india-thailand/230905-3.html>

Investigations seem to suggest that the nature of explosives used in attacks in Thailand and India, where an Israeli diplomat's wife was targeted, are different. According to Home Ministry sources, while C4, which is a military explosive, was used in Thailand, nitrate and potassium based bomb was used in Delhi.

While there is no headway in the investigations in Georgia, there are few clues in India and Thailand. Delhi Police Commissioner BK Gupta said investigations have gathered pace but were still in the initial stages. Police questioned several people during the raids in the past four days but is yet to get any breakthrough in the incident.

Meanwhile, security agencies, probing Monday's attack on an Israeli diplomat in New Delhi, have received information on similar strikes in Thailand and Georgia in the past few days.

"Government agencies got information from Georgia and Thailand regarding organisations and persons. The forensic experts are working on these leads. Analysis is also on to match things used in the Tbilisi and Bangkok strikes with those found in the Delhi incident," an official source said.

According to officials monitoring the case, forensic experts are trying to ascertain whether there are any similarities in the explosion here with the two blasts.

Police in Georgian capital Tbilisi had thwarted an attack on Monday when they disabled an explosive device found in the car of an Israeli embassy employee.

Three Iranian youths were arrested in Thailand and Malaysia in the past two days after the explosive device went off accidentally in Bangkok.

According to Bangkok police, the three were planning to attack Israeli diplomats.

Israeli diplomat Tal Yehoshua Koren, who is the wife of that country's Defence Attache, was seriously injured when terrorists triggered an explosive device on the vehicle carrying her on Monday.

She is at present admitted to a private hospital here. Bangkok Police said two homemade "sticky" bombs found at the blast site on February 14 matched the devices planted on Israeli diplomatic cars in India and Georgia.

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3. Nitro, One More Chemical In India Bombing

Thursday, 16 February 2012

<http://www.asianage.com/india/nitro-one-more-chemical-bomb-forensic-020>

An initial forensic report submitted to the home ministry revealed that nitro-glycerine and potassium chlorate had been used in the explosive stuck onto the Israeli embassy vehicle on Monday, an incident in which an Israeli diplomat was injured. The forensic examination also revealed that about 250 to 300 gm of explosive had been used.

A thorough scanning of the nearly 30 CCTV cameras around the blast spot at the Aurangzeb Road intersection also has not been of much use. Sources said most of the footage was blurred even as they took help from experts at IIT to clean up the visuals.

A 10-member Mossad team on Wednesday held deliberations with the investigating officials. However, the government has told agencies to take an independent line of probe.

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4. Sticky Bomb A Bigger Threat Than Improvised Explosives: NSG Chief
Wednesday, 15 February 2012

http://www.dnaindia.com/world/report_sticky-bomb-a-bigger-threat-than-improvised-explosives-nsg-chief_1650608

The emerging trend of sticky bombs, as used in an attack on an Israel embassy car, is a bigger threat than improvised explosive devices (IED), the chief of elite National Security Guard (NSG) said Wednesday.

"The latest and bigger threat is the way in which the attack on Israel embassy's SUV was carried out," NSG chief R.K. Medhekar told reporters in Manesar on the sidelines of a seminar on "Emerging trends of Terrorism in India with special emphasis on defeating IED attacks".

He said terrorists have always chosen new and different styles of terror attacks but the use of magnetic bombs was a "serious matter of concern for security forces".

"Detection and defusing of bombs is the main part of the duty of peace keeping forces. To trace sticky bombs timely would be the greater challenge and the elite force had already started working in that direction."

"After the sticky bomb incident (in Delhi), we have issued new directions to our commandos."

NSG's bomb data centre is holding the three-day 12th international seminar at its main training centre in Manesar near here.

Some 23 members from various foreign countries are attending the seminar besides 103 Indian delegates from various security agencies of the country

The sticky or magnetic bomb that was used to target Israel embassy car injuring four people in a high security zone in Delhi Monday, is a small, furtive explosive known by many names at different places.

The easy-to-use device is fast becoming a preferred choice for many insurgent groups.

Only a month back, Iranian nuclear scientist Mostafa Ahmadi Roshan was killed when his car was blown up by a magnetic bomb in Tehran after two men on a motorcycle attached the explosive to his car.

Terror groups have used this type of explosive in Iraq and Afghanistan.

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5. Magnet Bomb Poses New Worry For Security Agencies

Wednesday, 15 February 2012

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Magnet-bomb-spells-fresh-worry-for-security-agencies/articleshow/11891713.cms>

The magnet bomb attack on a senior Israeli diplomat's wife in the Capital on Monday marks a new challenge for the security establishment already struggling to cope with the formidable task of countering terrorism.

This was the first instance where a magnet bomb, called limpet bombs because of the way they can be stuck to the vehicles of unsuspecting targets, was used in the country, and spells a new worry. The attack on Tal Yehoshua Korene, wife of Israel's defence attache, diverges from the pattern of terror India has suffered so far as it targeted an individual. Terror groups arrayed against India have lately been focused on attacks aimed at maximizing casualties, with bombs set off in crowded places.

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6. Bangkok Bombing: No Link With Delhi, Tbilisi Attacks
Wednesday, 15 February 2012
<http://www.mysinchew.com/node/70198>

There is no link between yesterday's bombing incidents in Bangkok and the bomb attacks in New Delhi and Tbilisi on the same day, according to initial investigations by the Thai authorities.

Despite this, Thai National Security Council Secretary-General Wichien Potposri said the authorities must further investigate the matter as Bangkok could not escape from the impact of the current international tension (between Israel and Iran).

"Our investigations have also found that the two suspects carrying Iranian passports were not on any terrorist blacklist," he told a press conference after an urgent National Security Council meeting here today.

Three bombs rocked Bangkok yesterday, including an incident where a man carrying Iranian passport lost his legs when a bomb he hurled at a police patrol car, ricocheted and struck him at Sukhumvit 71 Road here.

Four Thais were also injured in yesterday's incident.

The first bomb blast occurred at the suspect's rented house near the Sukhumvit 71 Road when he threw a bomb at a taxi for refusing to take him near the road while he hurled the third bomb when a police patrol car intercepted him at the road.

The police later found a few homemade bombs at the suspect's rented house. Another suspect carrying Iranian passport was apprehended at the Suvarnabhumi International Airport here, as he was about to take the 6pm flight out of this country.

In New Delhi, a bomb blast badly wounded an Israeli woman diplomat yesterday after a motorcyclist planted a magnetic bomb on her car.

In Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia, an Israeli embassy employee found a bomb on his car and police later managed to defuse the device.

Tel Aviv blames the three capital attacks on Iranian terrorists but Tehran has denied responsibility.

Wichien said initial investigations also indicated the bombs were meant to be targeted against individuals and not crowded or big areas.

"At the moment, we have no confirmation from the suspects on their intended target and location," he said.

He also said yesterday's Bangkok incident was not linked to the suspected Lebanese terrorist who carried Swedish passport and was arrested in this capital last month.

A 48-year-old terrorist suspect was detained in this city on Jan 12, and more than four tonnes of explosive materials were discovered later.

On Jan 13, the United States Embassy here warned that foreign terrorists might conduct attacks against tourist areas in this capital in the near future.

About 20 countries also issued travel warning for their nationals but most lifted them eventually.

With the latest development in this capital, the United States and United Kingdom yesterday re-issued their travel alerts.

Meanwhile, National Deputy Police Chief Pol Gen Pansiri Praphawat said the third suspect, an Iranian male who was also the tenant of the rented house, had left Thailand.

"We will issue a warrant of arrest against him soon," he said, adding that the police were checking on an Iranian woman who rented the house.

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7. LeT Method Used In Israeli Embassy Car Blast?

Monday, 13 February 2012

<http://ibnlive.in.com/news/let-method-used-in-israeli-embassy-car-blast/229921-3.html>

Was the modus operandi of Lashker-e-Taiba (LeT) terrorist Abdul Karim Tunda put to use by terrorists who carried out an explosion in an Israeli Embassy car in New Delhi on Monday?

According to preliminary investigation into Monday's incident, terrorists had used low-grade explosive material, including sulphur and potassium chlorate with sulphuric acid, to detonate the blast, official sources said.

This modus operandi was used by Tunda in late 1990s and early 2000s to set off explosions in various parts of the country, especially in Uttar Pradesh.

Similar modus operandi was used by LeT terrorist Abdul Karim Tunda in late 1990s and early 2000s to set off explosions.

LeT method used in Israeli embassy car blast?

This technology is a crude way of assembling explosive material where an acid is used as a triggering mechanism to detonate a blast.

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8. Israel Says Iran Is Behind Bombs

Monday, 13 February 2012

<http://www.nytimes.com/2012/02/14/world/middleeast/israeli-embassy-officials-attacked-in-india-and-georgia.html>

Tensions between Israel and Iran rose sharply on Monday when bombers struck at Israeli Embassy personnel in the capitals of India and Georgia. Israel accused the Tehran government of being behind the attacks, which Iran denied.

Related

The wife of an Israeli defense envoy to New Delhi was hurt along with several other people when her car was destroyed by an explosive device placed on it by a motorcyclist at a red light. In Tbilisi, the Georgian capital, a similar device was discovered on the car of a local staff member of the Israeli Embassy, but was defused by the police.

Both resembled attacks that have killed five of Iran's nuclear scientists in recent years, most recently last month. Iran has attributed the assassinations to Israeli agents and has vowed to take revenge. The scientists' assassinations — along with sabotage of Iran's nuclear program through cyberwarfare and faulty parts — are aimed at delaying what the West believes is Iran's drive to build a nuclear weapon.

If actually carried out by Iran, the attacks would be another indication that the leadership in Tehran was willing to reach beyond its borders against its enemies and expand its attacks to civilians. The United States has charged that Iran was behind a plot to assassinate a Saudi ambassador on American soil, and Israel has said that Iran has planned to attack its citizens in various countries, but that those plots were stopped.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu contended that Monday's attacks fit that pattern.

“In recent months, we have witnessed several attempts to attack Israeli citizens and Jews in several countries, including Azerbaijan, Thailand and others,” he said. “In each instance, we succeeded in foiling the attacks in cooperation with local authorities. Iran and its proxy, Hezbollah, were behind all of these attempted attacks.”

Iran's Foreign Ministry rejected Israel's accusations on Monday. A spokesman, Ramin Mehmanparast, said, “Israel has bombed its embassies in New Delhi and Tbilisi to tarnish Iran's friendly ties with the host countries,” adding, “Israel perpetrated the terrorist actions to launch psychological warfare against Iran.”

Iran has defended its nuclear program as peaceful and has defiantly pursued uranium enrichment through years of international pressure and sanctions. Israel's increasingly urgent warnings on the need to halt Iran's nuclear progress, before it gets much closer to being able to build a bomb, have prompted concerns that Israel might unilaterally mount a military strike — and have added to the implacable enmity between the two.

Iran's oil and banking industries are suffering from sanctions implemented by the United States and Europe to pressure the country to back off its nuclear program. Iranian leaders have vowed to

fight back through shutting the vital Strait of Hormuz and through military strikes on countries that are used as launching pads for attacks on it.

Gen. Masoud Jazayeri, a spokesman for Iran's Joint Armed Forces Staff, said recently that "the enemies of the Iranian nation, especially the United States, Britain and the Zionist regime, have to be held responsible for their activities."

Iranian leaders have called Israel a tumor that must be removed, and Iran arms and finances Hezbollah and Hamas, which are founded on the principle that Israel has no right to exist.

On Monday, Israeli officials said there was enough evidence from the scenes in Georgia and India to say that the bombs were the work of Iranian agents.

"Iran's fingerprints are all over this," one official said after emerging from high-level meetings in Jerusalem, speaking on the condition of anonymity.

Some American Jewish leaders have expressed concern that synagogues and American Jewish centers could be targets in the increased tensions. In 1994, a Jewish community center in Buenos Aires was bombed, killing 85 people. The authorities there have accused Iranian diplomats of being behind that attack.

Hezbollah, the Lebanese Islamist group with close ties to Iran, has promised to take revenge for the killing of its top commander, Imad Mugniyah, four years ago this week. Mr. Mugniyah had been sought by the United States in terrorist attacks that killed hundreds of Americans in the 1980s.

Israel held him responsible for Hezbollah military operations in southern Lebanon from the mid-1990s. Israel is widely thought to have killed him with a powerful bomb in Damascus, the Syrian capital.

Israeli analysts said the attacks on Monday were insignificant enough that the Israeli government would not feel driven to counterattack.

"Clearly Israel is not going to attack Iran over this," Yoram Schweitzer, director of a terrorism project at the Institute for National Security Studies at Tel Aviv University, said by telephone. "The effect of this specific attack does not necessitate a harsh Israeli response other than condemnation."

Michael Herzog, a retired brigadier general who is an international fellow in Israel with the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, agreed. "There is no need to respond," he said in a telephone interview. "What is at stake in Israel's calculations about Iran is much bigger than this."

The attack in New Delhi took place less than a mile from the residence of the Indian prime minister, Manmohan Singh.

In a news conference Monday night, Delhi's police commissioner, B. K. Gupta, said a witness "saw a person on a motorcycle sticking some kind of device on the back of the car." As the motorcycle moved away, "a mild blast took place in the back of the car," he said.

The injured woman was Tal Yehoshua Koren, who is married to an Israeli defense official at the embassy and also works there. She was on her way to pick up her children at the American Embassy school. The car's driver, Manoj Sharma, was also wounded. Two occupants of a nearby car were also hurt.

Ms. Yehoshua Koren underwent spinal surgery, according to Dr. Deep Makkar of Primus Super Specialty Hospital, in New Delhi's diplomatic enclave.

Shrapnel "penetrated her spine and her liver," Dr. Makkar said, adding that she could face neurological injuries. The other three victims were admitted to a nearby hospital with minor injuries.

"India very strongly condemns such an unfortunate incident," said S. M. Krishna, India's minister of external affairs, who also called Avigdor Lieberman, the Israeli foreign minister. "It will be fully investigated and the culprit will be brought to justice."

India has resisted American and European pressure to curtail trade with Iran because it relies heavily on Iranian oil.

Israeli diplomats have been on high alert since Pakistan-based militants attacked in the city of Mumbai in 2008, killing more than 160 people, including 6 people in a Chabad Jewish community center.

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9. Iran Behind Thailand Blasts, Claims Ehud Barak

Tuesday, 14 February 2012

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2012/feb/14/iran-behind-thailand-bombings-barak-claims>

Israel has accused Iran of being behind three blasts in Bangkok that injured five people and blew off the legs of the alleged bomber – an Iranian national who was fleeing police when the grenade slipped through his hands and detonated next to him.

The blasts came just a day after bombs targeted Israeli diplomats in India and Georgia, and has again escalated tensions between the two countries.

Thai police have not yet divulged motives for the blasts, but the Israeli defence minister, Ehud Barak, directly accused Iran of exporting terror around the world. "The attempted terror attack in Thailand proves once again that Iran and its proxies continue to operate in the ways of terror and the latest attacks are an example of that," said Barak.

He said Iran and its Lebanese ally Hezbollah were "unrelenting terror elements endangering the stability of the region and endangering the stability of the world".

A second suspect was arrested at Bangkok's Suvarnabhumi international airport after authorities found explosive materials in a house apparently rented by the bomber and two others. A third suspect is still at large, according to Thai police.

Thailand's national police chief, General Prewpan Damapong, said the bombs were "magnetic" and could be stuck on vehicles. They appeared to be intended for targeting individuals rather than buildings or large crowds.

When asked whether the explosives used in India and Thailand were the same, Thai National Security Council secretary Wichian Podphosri Wichian said: "They both have the same magnetic sheets attached to the bombs.

"The individual was in possession of the same magnets and we are currently examining the source of the magnet."

Israel's ambassador to Thailand said they were similar to the Georgia and India bombs.

The two men in custody are likely to be closely interrogated by Thai police about their intended target and who they were working for. Israeli officials said they expected the Thai authorities would share information obtained in the course of their investigation, but declined to say whether Israel would seek an active role in the interrogation of the men.

Saeid Moradi, who was seriously injured in the blast, is an Iranian national who is thought to have entered Thailand from South Korea on 8 February at the southern resort town of Phuket. The second suspect has been named as the Iranian national Mohammed Hazaei, 42, who was detained after trying to board a flight to Malaysia, according to local media.

The first blast was at about 2pm local time on Tuesday, when a bomb accidentally detonated inside the assailant's house in Ekkamai, a bustling residential district in east Bangkok. The blast

blew off part of the roof, causing two occupants to flee, police said, followed by a wounded and bloodied Moradi.

"He tried to wave down a taxi, but he was covered in blood, and the driver refused to take him," police general Pansiri Prapawat told Associated Press.

Moradi then threw a grenade at the taxi, injuring the driver and four others.

When police tried to stop the man, he threw another grenade at them, which local media reported as bouncing off a tree and detonating in front of him. One of his legs was blown off and landed in the playground of a nearby school.

Doctors at Chulalongkorn hospital, where the bomber is being treated, said the second leg had to be amputated above the knee.

A satchel found near the blast contained Iranian currency, US dollars and Thai bahts, and was inspected by a bomb disposal unit.

The Bangkok Post released a photo of the assailant after the blast, his face lacerated and bloodied from the attack. Another photo posted on Twitter just after the explosion showed a man, allegedly Moradi, lying in front of a school amid shards of glass, his body slumped on the pavement. No children were injured in the incident.

A police raid on the assailant's house found a cache of C4 explosives and remote-control detonators. These are now being investigated, the government spokeswoman Thitima Chaisaeng told the Bangkok Post.

Thai authorities said they were already alert to a potential bomb attack. "There was some warning of a possible attack and police were monitoring, but we did not know where it would happen," the Thai national police chief Phrewphan Damapong told AFP.

The city has been on edge since Thai police charged a Lebanese man suspected of planning an attack in Bangkok following a US warning of a threat of a terrorist strike on tourist areas last month, although Thai police said they had found no direct link.

Observers fear the bomb attacks in Thailand, India and Georgia are the latest acts in a covert war between Israel and Iran over the Islamic republic's nuclear ambitions. Iran has accused Israel of assassinating several of its nuclear scientists in magnet bomb attacks – the same weapon that was used to target an Israeli diplomat in Delhi on Monday, injuring four people.

In Jerusalem, the Israeli foreign ministry spokesman, Yigal Palmor, said there was not yet any sign that the targets in Bangkok were Israeli or Jewish. "Security co-operation [between Israel and Thailand] is very tight," he said.

Israel has raised the state of alert within the country, with the emphasis on public places, foreign embassies and offices, as well as Ben-Gurion international airport.

The US embassy in Bangkok released an emergency message to all US citizens in the capital, stressing the need for "heightened awareness" of any suspicious behaviour, while the Thai prime minister, Yingluck Shinawatra, urged the public not to panic, saying it was still too early to assume terrorists were responsible for the blast.

The explosions come just a month after the US embassy warned that "foreign terrorists" were poised to attack Bangkok and a Lebanese-Swedish man with alleged links to pro-Iranian Hezbollah was detained by police at Bangkok's Suvarnabhumi airport. Authorities later discovered a warehouse filled with nearly four tonnes of urea fertiliser and several gallons of liquid ammonium nitrate.

Thai authorities said then that Thailand appeared to be a staging ground but not the target of an attack.

The police general Pansiri said that so far, there were no links between last month's case and Tuesday's blasts.

Will Hartley, editor of IHS Jane's Terrorism & Insurgency Centre, said: "While Israel's claims that Iran and Hezbollah are behind the attacks in India and Georgia cannot be discounted, at this stage it's impossible to substantiate such allegations, and it is unclear why Iran would risk an attack on Israeli interests in India, when India has been broadly supportive of Iran during the recent nuclear sanctions debate, and is one of Iran's most important trade partners.

"The alleged perpetrator of today's attempted attack in Thailand reportedly possessed an Iranian passport, possibly lending credence to Israel's allegation that Iran is waging some kind of international campaign. However, the attacks in India, Georgia and now Thailand have all been highly amateurish, and lack the sophistication that would normally be expected from an operation executed by either Hezbollah or Iran's own external operations wing, the Quds Force."

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10. A Possible Concerted Effort To Kill Israeli Diplomats

Tuesday, 14 February 2012

<http://www.stratfor.com/analysis/concerted-effort-kill-israeli-diplomats>

Summary

Investigators at a blast scene near the Israeli Embassy in New Delhi on Feb. 13

On the afternoon of Feb. 13, Georgian police defused an explosive device that had been placed under an Israeli Embassy vehicle in Tbilisi. Nearly simultaneously, a "sticky bomb" attached to a vehicle carrying an employee of the Israeli Embassy in New Delhi exploded. While the incidents did not claim any lives, they follow several alleged Iranian plots targeting Israeli diplomats and citizens.

Analysis

At approximately 1:50 p.m. local time Feb. 13 in Tbilisi, Georgia, a Georgian driver for the Israeli Embassy there notified police about a plastic bag attached to the undercarriage of his vehicle. Explosive ordnance disposal experts found that the bag contained a grenade, which they defused. Nearly simultaneously, at 3:20 p.m. local time in New Delhi, a "sticky bomb" exploded on the rear of a vehicle that was transporting an employee of the city's Israeli Embassy. Four people were injured in the blast. Israel accused Iran of being behind the incidents; Tehran denied the allegations.

That the incidents occurred within minutes of one another and both targeted Israeli Embassy employees suggests that they were coordinated. An examination of the specifics of the incidents shows that the perpetrators lacked the training to succeed fully in their plots. However, if attempts to assassinate Israeli diplomats continue, they may eventually succeed.

Tactical Details

In the New Delhi attack, Tal Yeshova, an Israeli Embassy employee and the wife of an Israeli Embassy defense official, appears to have been the target. According to New Delhi Police Commissioner Brajesh Kumar Gupta, Yeshova was en route to pick up her children, who attend the American Embassy School, when a motorcyclist attached a magnetic explosive device to the rear of her Toyota Innova while it was stopped at a traffic light.

The embassy vehicle continued driving a short distance before it stopped in front of a gas station on Aurangzeb Road, approximately 200 meters (650 feet) from the official residence of Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and less than a kilometer from the Israeli Embassy. It was at this time that the explosion occurred starting a fire that soon engulfed the vehicle's interior. Yeshova reportedly suffered serious injuries, while shrapnel caused minor injuries to her driver and two passengers in the vehicle behind the targeted car.

Gupta described the explosion as small; in fact, it did not affect the gas station. It damaged the rear of the car, blowing open the rear hatch, but, based on pictures of the scene, it appears that most of the damage to the vehicle was caused by the ensuing fire. Nitroglycerin was reportedly a component used to make the device.

According to local media, New Delhi police have limited or no surveillance video coverage of the area where the blast occurred, and it appears that no one was able to capture the license plate of the motorcycle used in the attack. However, surveillance cameras on Aurangzeb Road captured a man in a jacket on a motorcycle tailing the embassy car at 3:10 p.m., which means that the vehicle was followed for at least 10 minutes, demonstrating poor operational security on the part of the local driver.

Fewer details are available about the attempted attack in Tbilisi. The driver of the vehicle reportedly noticed a suspicious noise while driving to the Israeli Embassy and pulled over to find a black plastic bag duct-taped to the bottom of the car. Media reports have not disclosed where the vehicle was when the driver noticed the device. After defusing the grenade inside the bag, Georgian authorities took the car into custody for further investigation.

A motorcycle was a logical choice of vehicle for the attack in New Delhi. A city of more than 11.5 million, New Delhi is densely populated, and traffic there is frequently congested. A motorcycle would be able to weave through traffic much easier, allowing it to approach the target vehicle and flee to a safe distance.

In Tbilisi, the perpetrators also demonstrated some skill, since they were able to plant the device underneath the embassy vehicle without being detected. Indeed, the situational awareness of the driver may have been the only thing that prevented that plot from succeeding -- although, had he been fully aware of his surroundings, the driver would have noticed the device before he entered the vehicle.

The placement of the sticky bomb in the New Delhi bombing demonstrated either a lack of training or experience or poor intelligence about the presumed target. The device was placed on the rear of the vehicle, but the Israeli official was sitting in the front passenger seat.

Allegation and Possible Motivations

The attack and attempted attack came the day after the fourth anniversary of the assassination of Hezbollah leader Imad Mughniyeh, which Israeli embassies and consulates had prepared for by raising security Feb. 12. This could explain why the perpetrators chose to attack mobile, softer targets instead of the embassy buildings themselves, though their limited capabilities may also have been a factor. However, the events of Feb. 13 could be a continuation of previous thwarted plots targeting Israelis rather than an effort to mark the anniversary of Mughniyeh's death.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu linked the incidents to recent purported Iranian-supported Hezbollah plots against Israelis (Iran also has denied involvement in these plots). On Jan. 12, Thai authorities arrested Atris Hussein, a Swedish citizen of Lebanese origin, in Bangkok, accusing him of stockpiling at least 4 tons of fertilizer and chemicals, including ammonium nitrate and urea, both of which are used in explosives. It was initially believed that the substances were intended to make explosives for use in attacks against Israeli tourists in Thailand, but police later claimed that Hussein and another unnamed man planned to ship the substances to unspecified locations. A professional exporter who had returned to Lebanon in 2004 and who purportedly had ties to Hezbollah, Hussein denied the charges and claimed that Israeli intelligence had placed the fertilizer at his warehouse.

On Jan. 17, the Azerbaijani government arrested two Azeri nationals, Rasim Aliyev and Ali Huseynov, as well as an Iranian citizen of Azeri descent, Balaqardash Dadashov. The men were accused of plotting the assassination of the Israeli ambassador to Baku along with a teacher and rabbi at Baku Chabad Jewish school. According to the charges, Iranian intelligence had offered the men 100,000 euros (\$130,000) for the completion of the operation.

In response to the Jan. 17 arrests, the Iranian Foreign Ministry on Feb. 13 summoned the Azeri ambassador to Tehran to protest Baku's purported sheltering of Israeli-trained terrorists who Iran said had assassinated Iranian scientists. Iran has long held that Israel and the United States are responsible for the attacks that have killed four Iranian nuclear scientists and wounded another since January 2010.

While Iran has categorically denied Israel's claims, Tehran has been implicated in several previous attacks and plots on foreign soil in addition to the plots in Thailand and Azerbaijan. In July 1980, an American convert to Islam and Iranian Embassy security guard in Washington shot and killed Iranian dissident Ali Akbar Tabatabaei at his front door. Iran also was behind the assassinations of Abdul Rahman Ghassemlou in Vienna in 1989, Shaptour Bakhtiar in Paris in 1991, and three Iranian-Kurdish opposition leaders in Berlin in 1992.

The Iranian government has also been tied to failed plots. For example, Mohammad Reza Sadeghnia, who admitted to being an Iranian agent, was arrested in July 2009 in Los Angeles for trying to hire a hit man to kill a Los Angeles-based Iranian opposition leader. In October 2011, Mansour Arbabsiar, an Iranian-American used car salesman, was arrested after allegedly attempting to hire who he thought was a member of the Los Zetas Mexican drug cartel -- the man was actually a U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration informant -- on behalf of an Iranian Quds Force operative to assassinate the Saudi ambassador to Washington.

Israel has not yet substantiated its claims that Iran was behind the Feb. 13 incidents. However, Iran has been implicated in previous terrorist attacks and plots. Additionally, due to its belief that Israel is behind the assassinations of its nuclear scientists, Tehran has reason to target Israeli diplomats.

In response to the events of Feb. 13, Israel placed all of its embassies and consulates worldwide on high alert, and the Indian government urged foreign consulates and embassies in the country to be on heightened alert as well. While this is a logical response, it at least partially fulfills the objectives of the attackers -- to sow terror and force an official reaction. These latest incidents will likely justify further security measures by Israel and a continuation of the sort of heightened vigilance that helped to disrupt the Azerbaijan and Thailand plots in the planning phase. Regardless, if this apparently concerted targeting of Israeli diplomats continues, they may eventually succeed.

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11. Police Record Statement Of Israeli Diplomat

Friday, 17 February 2012

http://news24online.com/Police-record-statement-of-Israeli-diplomat_News24_40251.aspx

Delhi Police today recorded the statement of the Israeli diplomat who was injured in the car attack while Israeli officials reconstructed Monday's incident for clues. Investigators remained in the dark about the perpetrators of the attack on the embassy car near the Prime Minister's residence.

India has so far refrained from pointing fingers at Iran, whom Israel is accusing of carrying out attacks in Delhi, Thailand and Georgia. As Tal Yehoshua-Koren was discharged from hospital, Delhi Police's Special Cell recorded her statement. Senior police officials, however, refused to divulge the details.

Earlier in her preliminary statement, sources said, the diplomat had said she had not seen the motorcycle-borne attacker, who stuck the bomb on her vehicle at Aurangzeb Road and sped away. Meanwhile, Israeli officials reconstructed the event with the help of Delhi Police personnel at the site to understand how the attack was carried out.

The incident was reconstructed by Delhi Police's Special Cell a day after the incident. Sources yesterday said while C-4 explosive material was used in the failed Bangkok plan, there was so far no trace of such explosive having been used in February 13 case. The sources said Malaysian and Thai authorities had been approached through diplomatic channels and Interpol to provide the interrogation reports of the arrested accused.

According to the sources, none of the three Iranians arrested in Bangkok and Kaula Lumpur had ever visited India as immigration records showed no entry of their passports, as provided by the two authorities.

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12. Counter-IED Radars Ordered

Friday, 10 February 2012

<http://latinbusinesstoday.com/2012/02/counter-ied-radars-ordered/>

The U.S. subsidiary of Britain's Chemring Group PLC is supplying the Italian army with ground-penetrating radar to counter improvised explosive devices.

The radar systems, as well as integration and training services, are being provided to Italy under a collaborative agreement with MBDA Italia.

"We are delighted that MBDA has chosen NIITEK's battle proven GPR to produce a multifaceted detection capability for the Italian Ministry of Defense," said Juan Navarro, president of NIITEK. "This integration will provide an enhanced suite of sensors to soldiers in support of the route clearance mission.

"We look forward to contributing our GPR fielding expertise in support of MBDA's success in this endeavor."

The ground-penetrating radar will be integrated onto MBDA's Vehicle Pushed Detection Trailers.

The monetary value of the radars wasn't disclosed but NIITEK said delivery of the units would take place over a one-year period.

MBDA is owned by BAE Systems, EADS and Finmeccanica.

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13. Two Boys Arrested For Suicide Plot

Monday, 13 February 2012

<http://translate.google.com/translate?sl=auto&tl=en&js=n&prev=t&hl=en&ie=UTF-8&layout=2&eof=1&u=http%3A%2F%2Fberita.plasa.msn.com%2Finternasional%2Fokezone%2Farticle.aspx%3Fcp-documentid%3D5875809>

APPROXIMATE TRANSLATION

Afghan police arrested two 10-year-old boy who was about to do a suicide bombing in the country. Apparently the two boys had also previously been arrested for plotting a similar attack.

"Two boys are going to do the bombing, was arrested along with three militants last week. They want to plan a bomb attack in Kandahar by Afghan forces target international and coalition forces," said a spokesman for Kandahar province Zalmay Ayubi told AFP on Monday (13 / 2/2012).

Police said when the boys were captured using a vest filled with explosives. They previously had been charged with the same. But the release last August, after a pardon from President Hamid Karzai.

The second boy was known to go to Pakistan at the time they were released. But in the end they returned to Afghanistan after a suicide bomb training.

One boy admitted he was persuaded to carry out a suicide attack on a training camp set up by the militants. "They (militants) said it would be safer for me after the suicide attacks," said the boy has been arrested.

While the other a boy named Nasibullah, admitted he was forced to perform this attack. "The Taliban forced me to shoot using the (rifle) Kalashnikov. They also teach the subject to set off bombs in the vest," said the boy bomber named Azizullah.

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14. Afghan & NATO Troops Seize Explosives Laden Vehicle

Wednesday, 15 February 2012

<http://www.khaama.com/afghan-and-nato-troops-seize-explosives-laden-vehicle-646>

International Security Assistance Force officials on Wednesday announced, Afghan and coalition security force discovered a vehicle containing improvised explosive device components and weapons in southern Afghanistan.

According to a press release issued by ISAF, the vehicle was discovered during a joint military operation by Afghan and coalition security forces at Zherai district of southern Kandahar province.

The source further added, during the operation, the security force stopped a suspicious vehicle. Before it could be searched, three insurgents exited the vehicle and displayed hostile intent.

The security force engaged the immediate threat, killing the three insurgents, ISAF said.

ISAF also added, a subsequent search found multiple IEDs and IED-making components.

The vehicle also contained multiple firearms, six rocket-propelled grenades, ammunition, and numerous radio transmitters and receivers.

The weapons cache was confiscated and will be destroyed at a later date.

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15. IED Blast Kills Five Cops

Sunday, 12 February 2012

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/TodaysPrintDetail.aspx?ID=92309&Cat=7>

A roadside bomb hit a police vehicle on patrol in southern Afghanistan, leaving five policemen dead and one wounded, a senior police official said Saturday.

The bomb hit the pickup truck in Trin Kot, the capital of Uruzgan province, late on Friday, senior provincial police officer Gulab Khan told AFP.

“Five policemen were killed and one wounded,” he said.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the attack, but roadside bombs are frequently planted by Taliban insurgents fighting a decade-long war against Nato-led foreign troops and Afghan government forces.

Afghan police are particular targets for the insurgents, as the country prepares to take over full responsibility for security from some 130,000 foreign troops by 2014.

On Friday afternoon, a car was also hit by a roadside bomb in the Khinjak area of the provincial capital of Uruzgan province, killing one person and wounding two others, according to police spokesman Farid Ail.

Southern Afghanistan remains a key battleground between the insurgents and foreign forces despite a surge of US troops in 2010 and 2011.

Around 80 percent of the 3,000 Afghan civilians killed in 2011 were victims of attacks by the Taliban, who were toppled in late 2001 by a US-led invasion, according to a UN report released last week.

The Taliban announced last month that they planned to set up a political office in Qatar, widely seen as a move towards peace negotiations with Washington and its Western allies.

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16. ISAF Targets UMU Suicide Attack Leader In Takhar

Thursday, 16 February 2012

<http://www.longwarjournal.org/threat-matrix/archives/2012/02/isaf-targets-umu-suicide-attack-leader-in-takhar>

ISAF and Afghan forces continue to target the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan network in the northern Afghan province of Takhar that assassinated a member of parliament in a suicide attack last Christmas. From ISAF's press release:

An Afghan and coalition security force conducted a search for an Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan leader in Dasht-e Qal'ah district, Takhar province, today. The leader was responsible for the Dec. 25, 2011 suicide attack that killed an Afghan government official in Takhar, as well as the movement of weapons, explosives and suicide bombers throughout the area. During the operation the combined force discovered a cache of bomb-making materials which were safely destroyed on site. The security force also detained multiple suspected insurgents during the operation.

One week ago, Afghan's National Directorate of Security (NDS) captured three Taliban fighters who worked for a Peshawar-based commander known as Qari Abdul Rahim, who was involved in the Christmas day attack and other assassinations in the north [see LWJ report, Afghan intelligence captures 3 members of northern assassination cell]. And on Jan. 30, ISAF and Afghan forces killed Ilhom, an Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan commander who was involved in the same attack and who "facilitated the training of suicide bombers for attacks throughout the area."

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17. Car Bomb Defused, Major Terror Bid Foiled In Quetta

Thursday, 16 February 2012

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/article-35588-Car-bomb-defused,-big-terror-bid-foiled>

Foiling a major terror bid Sariab police defused a powerful explosive device emplaced in an alto car here at the Sariad Road Thursday evening.

Sariab police official Akhtar told APP that the local police received information about a suspicious car which had been parked in front of the Excise and Taxation office at the Sariab road.

The police bomb disposal squad was called in which discovered a powerful explosive device weighing upto ten kilograms, emplaced in the car. Luckily the device had failed to detonate due to fuse failure.

No group has claimed responsibility for act.

Local police is investigating the matter.

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18. Seven Killed In Frontier Region Explosion

Monday, 13 February 2012

<http://www.brecorder.com/general-news/single/599/172/1153163/>

Seven persons were killed and three other injured in explosion in a house in Frontier Region (FR) Peshawar during the wee hours of Sunday.

The explosive material was stated to be planted in a television set.

According to sources, some unknown people sent a television set to the house of one identified as Bilal and later exploded it with a remote control resulting in the killing of seven persons on the spot while three other injured.

The two victims have been identified as Said Rasool and Said Wazir while the names of five other as well as injured could not be ascertained.

However, no woman or child of the family was injured or killed in the incident.

Sources are attributing the incident to old enmity as one group sent a television set as gift to the victim family and later exploded it through a remote control.

Meanwhile, some unknown militants exploded a motorcycle parked near a police check post in Hayatabad Township.

No casualty was reported in the incident.

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19. Suicide Bomber Kills 26 In NW Pakistan, Ignites Protest

Friday, 17 February 2012

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/02/17/us-pakistan-bombing-idUSTRE81G0NY20120217>

A suicide bomber detonated his explosive vest outside a mosque in a Shi'ite neighborhood Friday in Pakistan's northwestern Kurram tribal region, killing at least 26 people, government officials said.

Three more people were killed when police shot at protesters from the Shi'ite community after the bombing in Parachinar, the main town in Kurram, an official said. A curfew was imposed in the town.

The bomber struck outside the mosque in a busy market after Friday prayers, in the latest attack by Sunni militants against minority Shi'ites.

Kurram, the only part of Pakistan's border region that has a significant Shi'ite population, has been racked by sectarian violence between Sunni and Shi'ite tribes. The Taliban and al Qaeda's virulent anti-Shi'ite ideology has meant years of bloody fighting.

Fazal Saeed, leader of a breakaway faction of the Pakistani Taliban, claimed responsibility for the latest attack in Kurram, near the Afghan border.

"We have targeted the Shi'ite community of Parachinar because they were involved in activities against us," he told Reuters by telephone from an undisclosed location.

"We also warn the political administration of Parachinar to stop siding with the Shi'ite community in all our disputes."

Shi'ite Muslims are a minority sect of Islam, arising from a dispute over the successor to the Prophet Mohammad 1,400 years ago. Many extreme Sunni Muslims consider them apostates.

Saeed was part of the Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) but broke away last year after disputes with the umbrella militant group's leadership.

He is said to have close ties with the Haqqani militant group, one of the most feared factions of the Afghan Taliban.

The TTP, al Qaeda, and the Afghan Taliban movement fighting Western forces in Afghanistan are entrenched in Pakistan's northwestern tribal areas. All have been involved in anti-Shi'ite activities for years.

They continue to have strongholds in the region despite a series of military operations in the last few years.

UNCLASSIFIED

Pakistan's army and air force have been conducting operations against militant groups in Kurram since the beginning of the year. Dozens have been killed in fierce fighting this month.

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20. IED Explodes In Mosul

Wednesday, 15 February 2012

http://alliraqnews.com/en/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=4272:ied-explodes-in-mosul&catid=36:security&Itemid=37

A civilian was killed while two others were wounded including a policeman when an Improvised Explosive Device exploded targeting a Federal Police patrol in southern Mosul on Wednesday.

The source stated to AIN "The police cordoned off the explosion scene."

"The police transported the dead body to the morgue and the wounded people were transported to the hospital for treatment, "The source concluded.

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21. Three Dead, Two Wounded In Explosions

Tuesday, 14 February 2012

http://www.cnn.com/2012/02/14/world/meast/iraq-violence/index.html?eref=rss_world&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+rss%2Fcnn_world+%28RSS%3A+World%29

Gunmen assassinated an Iraqi army general on Tuesday in one of several incidents that left at least four people dead and 28 wounded, according to government officials.

Gen. Aziz Hamzah died after being attacked while driving in western Baghdad, Iraqi police said.

In the other incidents, two roadside bombs exploded in Baghdad on Tuesday, one in the al-Mashtal neighborhood of southeastern Baghdad and the other in the al-Bayaa neighborhood in the southwestern part of the city.

Six people were injured in the al-Mashtal explosion, police said. Two suffered injuries in the al-Bayaa bombing

In addition, gunmen fired on a Health Ministry official in the al-Dora district of southern Baghdad, police said. The official was wounded, police said.

In Mosul, about 220 miles (350 kilometers) north of Baghdad, a car bomb exploded Tuesday outside a popular restaurant in the eastern part of the city, killing three people and wounding 19, a health official said.

Most of the dead and wounded were civilians, Salaheddin Thanoon, the head of the health directorate, told CNN. Three Iraqi soldiers were among the wounded, Thanoon said.

The incident happened about 12:30 p.m. on a busy commercial street near the University of Mosul.

The violence comes a day after gunmen killed Saad Abass, the head of an anti-al Qaeda Awakening Council, and his nephew as they drove in Falluja, health and police officials there said.

Saad Abass was the head of the Awakening Council in Al-Karma.

Such councils, also known as the Sons of Iraq, mainly consist of Sunni Arab fighters who turned against al Qaeda in late 2006. The U.S.-backed movement is credited as one of the main factors that contributed to a drop in violence.

Despite such attacks, officials say overall violence in Iraq has dropped dramatically since the peak of the sectarian conflict between 2005 and 2007.

22. US Navy Claims Iran Preparing “Suicide Boats” In Case Of Conflict

Monday, 13 February 2012

<http://www.alarabiya.net/articles/2012/02/13/194263.html>

Iran has built up its naval forces in the Gulf and prepared boats that could be used in suicide attacks, but the U.S. navy can prevent it from blocking the Strait of Hormuz, the commander of U.S. naval forces in the region said on Sunday.

Iran has made a series of threats in recent weeks to disrupt shipping in the Gulf or strike U.S. forces in retaliation if its oil trade is shut down by sanctions, or if its disputed nuclear program comes under attack.

“They have increased the number of submarines ... they increased the number of fast attack craft,” Vice Admiral Mark Fox told reporters. “Some of the small boats have been outfitted with a large warhead that could be used as a suicide explosive device. The Iranians have a large mine inventory.”

“We have watched with interest their development of long range rockets and short, medium and long range ballistic missiles and of course ... the development of their nuclear program,” Fox, who heads the U.S. Fifth Fleet, said at a briefing on the fleet’s base in the Gulf state of Bahrain.

Iran now has 10 small submarines, he said.

Military experts say the U.S. Navy’s Fifth Fleet patrolling the Gulf - which always has at least one giant supercarrier accompanied by scores of jets and a fleet of frigates and destroyers - is overwhelmingly more powerful than Iran’s navy.

But ever since al-Qaeda suicide bombers in a small boat killed 17 sailors on board the destroyer U.S.S. Cole in a port in Yemen in 1996, Washington has been wary of the vulnerability of its huge battleships to bomb attacks by small enemy craft.

Asked whether the U.S. Navy was prepared for an attack or other trouble in the Gulf, Fox said: “We are very vigilant, we have built a wide range of options to give the president and we are ready... What if it happened tonight? We are ready today.”

Iranian officials have threatened to block the Strait of Hormuz, the outlet to the Gulf through which nearly all of the Middle East’s oil sails.

Asked if he took Iran’s threats seriously, Fox Said: “Could they make like extremely difficult for us? Yes they could. If we did nothing and they were able to operate without being inhibited, yeah they could close it, but I can’t see that we would ever be in that position.”

He added that diplomacy should be given priority in resolving the tension.

“So when you hear discussion about all this overheated rhetoric from Iran we really believe that the best way to handle this is with diplomacy... I am absolutely convinced that is the way to go. It is our job to be prepared. We are vigilant.”

Contacts between the U.S. Navy and Iranian craft in the Gulf region were routine, Fox said, referring to cases where his sailors helped Iranian ships that were in distress or threatened by pirates.

In addition to commanding the Fifth Fleet, Fox is also the commander of a multinational naval task force charged with ensuring Gulf shipping routes stay open. Although most of its firepower is American, the task force also includes other Western countries and the Gulf Arab states.

The European Union slapped an embargo on Iranian oil last month, which is due to kick in completely by July 1. The United States and EU have both imposed new sanctions on Iran's central bank which make it difficult for countries to pay Tehran for oil and for Iran to pay for the goods it imports.

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23. Two Car Bombs Hit Security Facilities In Aleppo, Syria (STRATFOR)

Friday, 10 February 2012

<http://www.stratfor.com/analysis/syria-two-car-bombs-hit-security-facilities-aleppo>

Pro-regime Syrians wave the national flag and portraits of Syrian President Bashar al Assad during a rally.

Two car bombs struck security facilities Feb. 10 in Aleppo, Syria. No one has claimed responsibility for the attack -- the Free Syrian Army has denied involvement -- but the al Assad regime has blamed the incident on terrorists. The first such large-scale attacks in the city, the blasts were potent and displayed a high level of sophistication on the part of the perpetrators.

On Feb. 10, two security facilities in Aleppo, Syria, were struck by car bombs in separate incidents. The Military Security Branch headquarters and al-Orkoub area's law enforcement headquarters were severely damaged by the attacks. In both locations, the blasts shattered windows, destroyed nearby vehicles and warped a cast iron fence on the perimeter of the buildings, leaving concrete blocks and bodies strewn around the area. According to the Syrian Health Ministry, the attacks killed at least 28 individuals, including civilians, and wounded 235 others.

State media have attributed the attack to terrorists, but so far no one has claimed responsibility. In fact, Free Syrian Army (FSA) leader Col. Riad al-Assad has denied his group's involvement in the attack. Responsibility notwithstanding, the tactics used indicate a high degree of sophistication directed at high-value and well-guarded, if symbolic, targets.

Photos from Syrian state media show one building -- it appears to be the Military Security Branch headquarters -- at least partially flattened and another with severe structural damage. These photos also show the probable blast seat, located 30-45 meters (about 100-150 feet) in front of one of the buildings. The leaning beams and bent reinforcement bar from the perimeter wall indicate that the blast seat was outside the wall. The physical security measures, including the perimeter, functioned as designed, but the explosion was large enough to reach the building past the exterior wall. Had the device been closer to the building, it would have caused even more damage.

That the perpetrators were able to place the explosive device so close to the buildings without the device detonating prematurely -- and without being detected -- indicates a degree of operational expertise. In addition, that the device was able to cause such structural damage to the building despite detonating outside the front wall of the compound indicates that the device was quite substantial.

Notably, the attacks mark the first time since the Syria unrest began in February 2011 that such an attack has occurred in Aleppo. Unlike other cities, Aleppo has not seen much violence or anti-regime protesting stemming from the Syrian uprising. As Syria's second-largest city and a financial hub and stronghold of the al Assad regime, Aleppo will be protected by the regime at all costs.

However, such attacks have occurred in Syria. A similar twin bombing took place in Damascus on Dec. 23. That attack targeted two branches of Syria's Office of the Security Directorate and killed 40 people. The government blamed the attack on al Qaeda, but the militant group never claimed responsibility for it. Then in early January, Syrian state media reported that a suicide

bombing occurred at an intersection in the Damascus neighborhood of Midan, killing 26 security forces and civilians.

Though it is possible that each of these bombings was carried out by different groups or individuals, the tactics used in the Dec. 23 attack and the Feb. 10 attack, as well as the target set, are very similar. This suggests that the same group or a related group could have carried out the attacks. If the perpetrators in the recent string of bombings are linked, they are demonstrating that they have the capability to hit the regime in its traditional strongholds. But even if the attacks are not linked, the assailants have demonstrated that the regime is no longer safe from attacks and is vulnerable in traditionally safe cities.

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24. Fifty Children Killed By Landmines, Bombs In Turkey In 2011

Thursday, 16 February 2012

<http://www.panarmenian.net/eng/news/93948/>

Fifty children were killed in Turkey by land mines, bombs and random gunfire in 2011, according to a report titled “Children’s Right to Life” released by Children’s Rights Center and Agenda Child Association.

Emrah Kırımsoy from the association said that 477 children have been killed by land mines, bombs and random gunfire since 1990. In a move to address this issue, a training program on bombs and weapons was launched last week in primary schools in Silvan, Diyarbakır province, where the level of such incidents is higher than in other provinces.

Educators, as part of the program, which aims to raise children’s awareness of explosives, will introduce children to mines, weapons, bombs and other different kinds of explosives and instruct them on what to do should they come across an explosive or weapon.

Over 27,000 students from 125 primary schools in Silvan are receiving the training on the request of the Silvan Gendarmerie Command.

The Silvan National Education Directorate earlier approved an official proposal for raising awareness on bombs and weapons in elementary schools submitted by the Silvan Gendarmerie Command.

Signs warning of land mines have also been put up in halls of many of the schools to draw students’ attention to the issue. The scheme has sparked concern among some people who believe the program may make children more interested in bombs and weapons, while others think the training will be beneficial given the number of children that have been killed by explosives in the region, Today’s Zaman reported.

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25. Multiple Bombs Captured In Mersin

Monday, 13 February 2012

<http://translate.google.com/translate?sl=auto&tl=en&js=n&prev=t&hl=en&ie=UTF-8&layout=2&eof=1&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.livehaber.com%2Fhaber-6066-Mersinde-Cok-Sayida-Bomba-Yakalandi.html>

Ye belong to the PKK from Mersin Thus the fragmentation of 27 hand-made bombs were seized.

Fragmentation of 27 hand-made bombs at home, one shotgun, three ramps, ski mask, and fireworks were seized.

Call home, a large number of nails and ball used to increase the efficacy of the bomb found.

Bomb disposal experts were called to the scene.

Technical team, the Police Department explosives `How to take the investigation into the incident was launched.

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26. Authorities Seize Explosives In Sinai

Saturday, 11 February 2012

<http://outcomemag.com/world/2012/02/11/egypt-seizes-explosives-in-sinai/>

Explosives seized Saturday in the Sinai included anti-aircraft missiles, Egyptian security officials said.

The Palestinian Ma'an News Agency reported sources in the security agency said the weapons were probably bound for Gaza.

The cache included several tons of explosive TNT.

Sappers were at the site to dismantle the missiles and neutralize the TNT.

Security in the Sinai has become more difficult since the ouster of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak last year. Violence has ramped up in recent weeks, including the abduction Thursday by Bedouins of 17 security guards on the border with Israel and the kidnapping Friday of three South Korean tourists and a tour guide.

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27. Army Dismantles Explosive Device In Bab Al-Tabbaneh
Sunday, 12 February 2012

<http://www.nowlebanon.com/NewsArchiveDetails.aspx?ID=363989>

The Lebanese army command announced that an explosive device was found at 12:45 a.m. on Sunday in an abandoned house in Tripoli's Bab al-Tabbaneh, the National News Agency reported.

The device was set to be detonated and had incorporated a quantity of nails.

The security forces immediately isolated the site where the explosive was discovered, dismantled and moved it to a safe place.

Authorities opened an investigation into the issue.

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28. Explosive Device Defused In Bani Jamra

Friday, 17 February 2012

http://srnnews.townhall.com/photos/view/safety_security/1004/a_bahrain_explosives_unit_official_defuses_an_ied_found_during_an_anti-government_protest_in_bani_jamra/a4fb0fec-3f7e-4d56-8890-78b3ff42804a/

A Bahrain Explosives Unit official defuses an improvised explosive device (IED) found during an anti-government protest in the village of Bani Jamra, west of Manama, early February 17, 2012. Bahraini police and anti-government protesters clashed in a number of Shi'ite districts of the Gulf Arab state on Thursday night and the interior ministry said two policemen had been seriously injured in a petrol bomb attack.

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29. IDF Recovers Fake IED Near Gaza Security Fence

Sunday, 12 February 2012

<http://www.idfblog.com/2012/02/12/bombs-border-ieds-gaza-security-fence/>

IDF forces spotted yet another explosive device planted near the Gaza security fence today. This is the latest attempt to harm IDF soldiers patrolling the Israel-Gaza border—not the first this year and following 33 explosive devices planted in 2011.

Fake IED Planted Near Security Fence

The improvised explosive device, or IED, turned out to be fake—an attempt by Gaza-based terrorists to trick IDF soldiers into letting their guard down. The fake IED, like the real one, is extremely easy to make: as the photo implies, it's the size of an empty soda bottle.

Fake IED Planted Near Security Fence

IEDs planted near the fence are a routine occurrence and regularly endanger IDF soldiers patrolling the border. Aside from booby-trapping the security fence, terrorists from Gaza—whether Hamas or other extreme Islamist groups—also fire rockets at Israeli communities in an attempt to harm civilians.

Only two days ago, shortly following Shabbat dinner, a rocket fired from Gaza landed in Hof Ashkelon Regional Council, lightly injuring a woman and damaging two buildings.

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30. MOI Receives Intelligence On Bids To Smuggle In Explosives

Tuesday, 14 February 2012

<http://www.arabtimesonline.com/NewsDetails/tabid/96/smld/414/ArticleID/179646/reftab/36/t/MOI-receives-intelligence-on-bids-to-smuggle-in-explosives/Default.aspx>

Security has been tightened at the Abdali border post after the Ministry of Interior received intelligence about attempts being made to smuggle explosives and elements of destruction into the country to carry out sabotage activities, reports Al-Shahed daily.

Informed sources said the ministry formed a tripartite committee comprising of members from the State Security, the Criminal Evidences Department and Borders Security Department to monitor the movement of people in and out of Abdalli border. According to sources, an Arab country is trying to destabilize the Gulf region, including Kuwait, through sabotage operations.

Furthermore, a bag containing raw materials needed to manufacture a hand grenade was found in the toilet of a well-known restaurant in Al-Shaab public park. Security authorities have intensified investigations and are trying to locate an Asian who allegedly dropped the bag in the toilet.

Securitymen also found a sketch showing all the entrances and exits of the park and the parking lot inside the bag. Personnel from the General Administration of Criminal Evidence have examined the bag's contents which included a gray powder which is suspected to be an explosive substance, as well as a black stopwatch, red tape, a black bag, two rubber belts, and three electric wires.

Security authorities are lifting fingerprints to determine the identity of the involved person. Sources indicated that authorities summoned a witness who saw the Asian taking the bag to the toilet. Security services were able to draw an image of the suspect based on the description provided by the witness and sources say this may help in quickly identifying the suspect.

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31. With Syria's Rebels: A Visit To A Bombmaker's Factory

Wednesday, 15 February 2012

<http://www.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,2106824,00.html?xid=gonewsedit>

They call it the jineyee, Arabic for "genie" — or crazy female. Standing at about 60 cm high, the rust-colored metal tube doesn't look like much. But it's what's inside that counts: 2 kg of yellow granular explosive material, hooked up to a trigger device that is remotely detonated.

The handful of Free Syrian Army members who gather in this safe house on the Turkish-Syrian border hope that the improvised explosive device (IED) will help even out the odds somewhat in what has become a brutal, vastly asymmetrical civil war in Syria. (See photos of a bomb blast in Damascus.)

On this day, eight of the cylinders were being put together in one of the two rooms of the decrepit stone house with no electricity. It's in the middle of nowhere (TIME was asked not to provide further details of its location). The bombmaker, a short, bearded man in civilian clothes and latex gloves who looked to be in his early 40s, puffed on a cigarette as he prepared what he called his "special recipe." He didn't want to give a name, not even a pseudonym. He'd learned his trade in the military, he said, where he was an explosives engineer "another lifetime" ago. He'd since improved his skills "here and there" and had been a civilian "for a long time."

This was the first batch of IEDs this group of Syrian military defectors and their civilian partners said they had put together. "We haven't been doing this for very long," a former officer said as he inspected the devices. "It took a few tries to get it right, the mix of materials. It was trial and error, and looking some things up on the internet." A 200-g device had been tested a day earlier. "It destroyed a tree," the former officer said. "One of these should take out a tank."

The tanks the rebels have in their sights are in the northern Syrian governorate of Idlib, an area that includes the restive towns of Jabal al-Zawiya and Jisr al-Shughour, which the Syrian military has pounded on and off for months. (Watch TIME's video "Why They Protest: Egypt, Libya and Syria.")

The Syrian opposition — both political and military, inside Syria and those in exile — has asked foreign powers and the U.N. to help set up a protected zone. They use different terms — liberated area, humanitarian corridor, no-fly zone, a Syrian Benghazi — but the idea is the same: a patch of territory outside President Bashar Assad's control that can serve as a headquarters for his enemies.

If it is going to happen — and that's a big if given that the international community has shown little appetite to protect and enforce such a zone — it will likely be carved out along the Turkish border. Lebanon's Hizballah-dominated government, after all, is too closely aligned with Syria's. To the east, Iraq's Shi'ite-led power brokers and their Iranian allies are unlikely to tolerate such a zone near them, especially because it will abut restive Kurdish or Sunni areas. Jordan's benevolent police state keeps a tight lid on any form of dissent, and a rebel-held zone next door may destabilize the country, especially as it contends with its own small stirrings of the Arab Spring. Syria's other border is with Israel.

The dozen or so men in the safe house, some wearing parts of their old military uniforms, others in civilian garb, say they're not waiting — or expecting — help from anyone, including from the

commander of the FSA, Colonel Riad al-Asaad, who along with other officers is sequestered in a camp in southern Turkey, under Turkish protection. "We thank him and other officers for their defection," a sergeant says, "but he's my commander," he says pointing to a captain. (See "Syria's Clashing Armies.")

"We are orphans," says another defector, explaining that they haven't received technical expertise from other Arabs or anyone else. "No. God is with us," replies a low-ranking officer. "God is all we need."

The crop of IEDs isn't the first to be aimed against loyalist forces in the area. Back in Antakya, a 21-year-old Sunni conscript who defected a week ago from Jabal al-Zawiya still has shrapnel in his left hand from a car bomb he says was planted by the FSA against his loyalist unit. He doesn't know if it killed anyone. He was quickly taken to Aleppo hospital for treatment. Upon discharge, he defected rather than return to his unit, the Special Forces, 47th Regiment. "The clashes were becoming more intense," he says of encounters between Syria's two mismatched armies. "I was scared of the FSA, but now I am proud to be one of them."

The jineyee hadn't been out of the bottle and used in the field yet, but all of the men were certain that it would take out a tank. Some of them watched as the bombmaker scooped out the explosive material and poured it into a cylinder. Outside the room, several meters of rust-colored tubes lay outside the old stone house, waiting to be prepared. For now though, the bombmaker was concentrating on the eight cylinders in front of him. "Excuse me," he said, ushering the others out of the room. "I've got a lot of work to do."

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32. Terrorists Detonate Explosive Device Under Railway Bridge In Idleb Countryside
Friday, 10 February 2012
http://www.just-international.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=5163:syrian-news-on-10th-feb-2012&catid=45:recent-articles&Itemid=123

Lieutenant Colonel Ammar al-Jurf and Chief Warrant Officer Tarek Suleiman were martyred on Thursday while serving their duty in combating armed groups in al-Qassir town in Homs countryside.

Also two law-enforcement members were martyred while few others injured by the gunfire of armed terrorist groups in al-Qassir.

Armed terrorist groups booby-trapped few buildings, alleys and streets in the city and detonated a number of explosive devices.

Meanwhile, other armed terrorist groups set up barriers on some roads and streets and burned tires while other groups stormed into some shops and houses and stole their contents, in addition to burglarizing few cars.

Authorities Seize Stolen Archeological Pieces, Explosives, Detonators and Medical Equipments in Palmyra

In the same context, Authorities foiled an attempt to steal a car carrier truck in Daraa.

SANA correspondent said that the thieves attacked the car carrier truck near Um al-Mayadeen Bridge with the aim of stealing the cars it carries when the authorities interfered and arrested some of them.

On the other hand, three civilians were injured by explosive device blast near Mahjeh Bridge in Daraa Countryside, no victims were reported.

In Homs countryside, authorities raided some farms to the south of Palmyra City where they found 16 stolen archeological pieces, in addition to seizing things which were stolen from Dedeman Hotel which the groups attacked a few days ago.

SANA correspondent reported that the authorities recovered a number of stolen state and private vehicles and seized explosives detonators and medical equipment.

The authorities discovered trenches which the terrorists used in their attacks against the civilians and law-enforcement forces.

The armed terrorist groups continued its attack on Homs refinery shelling seven mortars since 1:00 am till 6:00 am and no damages were reported.

The competent authorities interfered in al-Qassir, chased and arrested a number of terrorists.

Competent Authorities Raid House of a Terrorist in Daraa, Seize Weapons

The competent authorities raided on Thursday the house of a terrorist in Taseel town in Daraa. SANA correspondent said that 14 boxes of mines, 6 boxes of TNT charges, 2000 meter-detonating fuse, 32 anti-tank mines, 7 boxes of ammunition, two boxes of MD detonators and a box of electrical detonators were seized from the house.

The competent authorities also seized explosive charges and a hand-made rocket, 20 explosive devices, some weighing 50 kg, cylinders primed for explosion, a stolen car and automatic weapons.

Armed Terrorist Group Blows up Explosive Device under Railway Bridge in Idleb Countryside

An armed terrorist group detonated an explosive device under a railway bridge west of Ma'ardes village in Idleb countryside.

SANA correspondent said that the bombing inflicted damage to the bridge, adding that no human losses were reported.

Explosive Device Planted in al-Shifa' Mosque Minaret in Hama Dismantled

Competent authorities in Hama dismantled an explosive device planted by an armed terrorist group in the minaret of al-Shifa' Mosque in al-Hamidiyyeh neighborhood in the city.

The device weighs 15 kg and was primed to be detonated remotely.

The terrorist group planted the device to blow up the minaret and accuse the army and security forces of the incident so as to be exploited by instigative channels, as was the case with Othman Bin Affan Mosque Minaret in Deir Ezzor.

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33. How Bombers Are Chosen, By Boko Haram Suspect

Thursday, 09 February 2012

<http://www.thenationonlineng.net/2011/index.php/news/36248-how-bombers-are-chosen-by-boko-haram-suspect.html>

Detained Boko Haram spokesman Abu Qaqa has told State Security Service (SSS) officials how suicide bombers are chosen among members of the sect.

He also listed those being used for suicide bombing as Chadians, Nigeriens, Camerounians, Hausa, Fulani and others, The Nation learnt yesterday.

According to a source, Qaqa told a team of investigators that once a member is chosen for a suicide mission, he has no option but to carry out the assignment.

The source added that any member who refuses to go on a suicide mission will instead face the death penalty.

The source said: "Based on the revelations of Qaqa, we have been able to invite more people for interaction for more clues.

"Our findings so far are appreciable because the suspect has been cooperative. At the appropriate time, the public will be briefed."

The source quoted Qaqa as saying: "No suicide bomber of the group volunteers. They are usually handpicked. Once you are handpicked, it is death either way; if you refused, you would be killed on the orders of the leadership. So, many prefer the suicide bomb option, far away from their wives and children.

"At a point, some of us thought suicide bombing was 'cowardice', but confronting the leadership with such a position would've come with a price: death.

"What was bad about those handpicked for the suicide mission was that all of them were non-Kanuri. They were always Chadians, Nigeriens, Camerounians, Hausa, Fulani and others.

"No Kanuri. That was why some of us had divided opinion on it."

Security chiefs are expected to meet with National Security Adviser (NSA) Owoye Azazi today to take stock of the fight against Boko Haram and plan how to address the resurgence of the group, which has been condemned by leading lights of Islam.

"One thing is clear, security agencies are on top of the situation," a source said.

Also yesterday, the army launched a probe into how a suicide bomber, in military uniform, beat the heavy security at the two gates leading to its Dalet Barracks 1 Division in Kaduna.

It was also learnt that some soldiers on sentry duty at the two fortified gates have been arrested.

The Army is said to be working on a probable complicity of the sentry guards at the two gates for allegedly not checking the vehicle used by the bomber.

What was not in doubt yesterday was that the suicide bomber wore an army uniform to deceive the guards.

A source, who spoke in confidence, said: “A full-scale internal investigation has started into the aborted suicide bombing at the 1 Mechanised Division. Top officers of the Military Police and other intelligence units were on Tuesday night drafted to Kaduna from Abuja.”

The investigators are said to have started forensic examination and investigation of the other legs of the incident. The core area of investigation is how the suicide bomber passed through the two gates without detection, despite the gadgets installed there.

“The bomber, who was in uniform, was also allowed to pass without due security checks. This was contrary to the laid down guidelines by the Army. Even if you are in uniform, the standing rule is that you must be frisked or screened like anyone else.”

Responding to a question, the source added: “Certainly, those on sentry duties have been arrested for questioning.”

But the probe will not be open, said the source, who added: “This is a purely military probe; it is not something we will throw open. That was why we were secretive in handling the incident on Tuesday.”

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34. Two Explosions Rock Nigeria's Maiduguri

Saturday, 11 February 2012

<http://mg.co.za/article/2012-02-11-two-explosions-rock-nigerias-maiduguri/>

Two explosions went off on Friday outside a customs building in Nigeria's flashpoint city of Maiduguri, the base of Boko Haram Islamists blamed for a series of attacks, residents said.

"I was in a taxi going home when the first bomb exploded... [Within] just two minutes, another one ahead of us went off," said resident Babagana Ari, whose account was supported by other locals in the northeastern city.

The spokesperson for a special military squad established to crack down on Boko Haram in the area confirmed the explosions.

"We have deployed our field men to the scene of the blast, and I will have to wait for the briefing before I can say anything," said Hassan Mohammed, spokesperson for the Joint Task Force in Maiduguri.

The explosions went off near a station where locals board rickshaw taxis, located outside the customs building, witnesses said.

"The first bomb was planted at the foot of the wall of the customs office when commuters were waiting for rickshaws," said Halilu Adam.

"The second one went off some metres away ... The whole area has now been cordoned off by soldiers and it is very difficult to have an idea of casualties."

Violent campaign

Boko Haram has claimed attacks that have killed more than 200 people this year in several parts of Nigeria. The group has largely targeted police and other symbols of authority.

In several recent statements issued to journalists in its stronghold of Maiduguri, the group has vowed to continue its violent campaign if the government does not meet its demands.

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35. Kano Blast Kills Policeman

Tuesday, 14 February 2012

<http://www.modernghana.com/news/377928/1/nigerian-blast-kills-policeman.html>

Two bombs exploded in Nigeria's restive north on Tuesday, killing one policeman in the city of Kaduna, hit hard by a wave of attacks claimed by Boko Haram Islamists, police said.

Two bombs were planted near a military checkpoint outside the main mosque in Kaduna's Unguwar Sarki area, police and residents said.

After the first bomb went off, soldiers at the checkpoint discovered a second explosive device and called the police anti-bomb squad, Kaduna state police spokesman Aminu Lawan told AFP.

"We lost one of our men from the police bomb disposal unit. He died when an explosive device he was trying to defuse exploded, killing him on the spot," Lawan said, adding that no other casualties were reported.

"As if he knew what was going to happen, the policeman ordered everyone to move back and as he leaned to take the bomb out of the bag, it exploded with a bang," resident Abdullahi Isa said, recounting the officer's death.

Boko Haram claimed responsibility for coordinated blasts that rocked Kaduna on February 7.

One of those attacks was carried out by a suicide bomber who tried to drive a car packed with explosives into a military barracks. The military said the bomber was stopped before reaching his target and that he was the only one killed.

In December, a powerful explosion hit Kaduna, killing at least eight people, wounding many others and destroying a number of houses and shops, but the cause has never been clarified.

Boko Haram has claimed a series of both large- and small-scale attacks around Nigeria -- primarily in the north -- that have killed more than 200 people this year.

The group's deadliest attack came on January 20, just north of Kaduna, in Nigeria's second city of Kano, which killed at least 185 people.

Boko Haram has mostly targeted the police and other symbols of authority in Africa's most populous nation and top oil producer.

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36. Suicide Attack And Blasts Rock Nigerian City Of Kaduna

Wednesday, 08 February 2012

<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/world/blast-near-nigerian-military-base/story-e6frf7lf-1226265535417>

Explosions have rocked an army barracks, a bridge and an air base in the northern Nigerian city of Kaduna, in a set of co-ordinated attacks claimed by the Islamist group Boko Haram.

The military said the attack on the barracks was carried out by a suicide bomber wearing an army uniform.

Troops opened fire on him before he was able to reach the compound's buildings.

Boko Haram, which has claimed a series of recent attacks in Africa's most populous nation and top oil producer, said it was responsible for the blasts and that its insurgency would go on.

According to the military, the blast went off after soldiers opened fire on the car as the bomber sought to force his way onto the grounds at the barracks in Kaduna, a major city in Nigeria's mainly Muslim north.

Army spokesman Raphael Isa told journalists the man was "dressed in military uniform (and) driving in a private car" which he tried to crash into headquarters of the 1st Mechanised Division.

Multiple military sources have insisted the driver was the only person killed.

After the blast, the army sealed off the area and blocked rescue workers from accessing the site, preventing them from assessing whether anyone was killed or injured.

"I was standing at the gate for two hours. The military have not been helpful. I pleaded with them to allow us in, but they refused us entry," said Musa Ilallah, an official with the National Emergency Management Agency in Kaduna.

Another bomb also went off outside a nearby air force base, defence spokesman Colonel Mohammed Yerima told AFP.

He described the device as being planted "in a canister" not far from the base, but said it was not clear what caused it to explode.

A third explosion struck near a bridge in Kaduna, damaging a group of commuter buses and wounding passengers, residents and the military said.

Kano-based army spokesman Abubakar Edun told journalists the driver managed to crash through an outer gate but then the soldiers started firing as he approached the building, causing him to lose control of his vehicle and crash into a wall, which set off the explosion.

Speaking to journalists by phone conference in Maiduguri, the northwestern city that is seen as their base, a purported Boko Haram spokesman claimed the attacks.

"We are responsible for the attacks on the army barracks and the air force base in Kaduna today," a man who claimed to be Boko Haram spokesman Abul Qaqa said.

Boko Haram has been blamed for scores of bomb attacks in northern Nigeria, including some in Kaduna.

Kaduna, on Nigeria's dividing line between its largely Christian south and Muslim north, was at the heart of post-election violence in April.

Mobs armed with machetes and poison-tipped arrows took over streets of Kaduna and the state's rural countryside after election officials declared President Goodluck Jonathan the winner.

Followers of his main opponent, former military ruler Muhammadu Buhari, a Muslim, quickly alleged the vote had been rigged, though observers largely declared the vote fair.

Across the nation, at least 800 people died in the April rioting, Human Rights Watch said.

In Kaduna alone, more than 2000 died as the government moved to enact Islamic shariah law in 2000.

In 2002, rioting over a newspaper article suggesting the prophet Muhammad would have married a Miss World pageant contestant killed dozens.

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37. Boko Haram's Funding Traced To UK

Monday, 13 February 2012

<http://tribune.com.ng/index.php/front-page-news/35888-boko-harams-funding-traced-to-uk-sarabia-sect-planned-to-turn-nigeria-into-afghanistan-arrested-kingpin-opens-up>

Investigations into activities of the dreaded militant Islamic sect, Boko Haram have led operatives of the State Security Service (SSS) and its collaborative local and international agencies into the sources of funding of the dreaded sect.

Information at the disposal of Nigerian Tribune indicates that operatives were told that the group had received funds from some Al-Qaeda-linked organisations based in the middle East.

However, the operatives were said to have made a shocking find, which confirmed that the group actually received funding from a United Kingdom-based (UK) organisation.

It was gathered that leaders of the sect already arrested had opened up by giving some strategic information, especially on the funding of the dreaded organisation.

Sources confirmed that while the organisation relied on donations by its members in its earlier days, its links with Al-Qaeda in Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) opened it to fundings from groups in Saudi Arabia and the UK.

According to the sources, different confirmations coming from sources in Boko Haram had indicated clearly that a group known as Al-Muntada Trust Fund, with headquarters in the United Kingdom, had extended some financial assistance to the sect.

Investigations, so far, revealed that the sect received financial assistance from some Islamic organisations.

“The sect was also said to have received funding from Islamic World Society with headquarters in Saudi Arabia,” one source stated.

It was gathered that while initial funds for the sect came from contributions by members, there were also donations from notable Muslims, especially a businessman, who was once said to have donated a bus and some loud speakers to the organisation and the late Baba Fugu, Mohammed Yusuf's in-law, who was said to have donated a farmland at Auno village in Konduga Local Government Area of Borno State.

It was also gathered that security agencies have uncovered another sponsor, whose identity was given as a businessman from Bauchi State. He was said to have developed links with Al-Qaeda in Somalia having received some training from one Abu Umar Al-Wadud, the man who leads Al-Qaeda in Somalia.

The man was said to have escaped from Nigeria in 2009, following the onslaught by security agencies and he is said to be living in Somalia.

Intelligence officers were also said to have been told that the said businessman visited Nigeria in October 2010 and was said to have held meetings in Kano with the leaders of Boko Haram, including Abubakar Shekau, the acclaimed military commander.

It was also gathered that the sect originally planned to replicate Afghanistan situation in Nigeria, as it named its original base in Yobe State as Afghanistan.

Investigators were said to have confirmed that Boko Haram was fashioned after the Taliban movement in Afghanistan and that one of its earliest bases located in Kanama, Yobe State was named Afghanistan.

The base was, however, said to have been demolished in December 2004.

“The group is originally fashioned after the Tali-bans in Afghanistan and it intended to replicate the Afghan situation across Nigeria.

“That is why one of the original bases was named Afghanistan before its demolition in 2004,” a source disclosed.

It was also learnt at the weekend that the State Security Services (SSS) planned to immediately commence the trial of the arrested Boko Haram kingpins as, according to sources, the Director-General of SSS had issued orders indicating that the operatives investigating the suspects must conclude investigations quickly, so as to give way for trial.

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38. Puntland Security Forces Apprehend Shabaab Explosives Expert
Monday, 13 February 2012

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

The Minister of Security Gen. Khalif Isse Mudan held a press conference today in which he announced that Puntland security forces caught a key figure from a terrorist cell linked Al Shabaab operating in Golis Mountains, Radio Garowe reports.

Gen. Mudan said that the Puntland security forces had received a tip that a group of Al Shabaab linked men were meeting in a small town in the Golis Mountains. Gen. Mudan did not specify the date the operation was conducted but said that security forces conducted the operation in the early hours. The operation didn't go as plan, because most of the men who came to the meeting had escaped but a key official was caught, Ahmed Saeed Mohamed.

The suspect is a man alleged to have been the explosive expert in an Al Shabaab linked terrorist cell that operated from the Golis Mountains in northern Puntland that have carried out attacks in Bossaso. Ahmed Saeed Mohamed is the brother of Mohamed Saeed Atom an arms smuggler who allegedly has links to Al Shabaab and is responsible for many attacks on Puntland security forces.

The Minister congratulated the security forces on their successful mission and said that the authorities are still questioning Mr. Ahmed, as his investigation is pending.

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39. Kenya And TFJ Troops Expose IED

Tuesday, 14 February 2012

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201202150060.html>

Kenyan and Transitional Federal Government troops detonated an IED that they uncovered in the district of Balad Hawo that shares a border with Kenya, Radio Garowe reports.

Officials from the TFG said that the troops were carrying out operations in the area and uncovered an IED which was planted near the border between Kenya and Somalia.

According to military officials Al Shabaab regularly plant IEDs in and around that area.

Kenyan military officials said that residents that live near this area should not fear the detonation of IEDs caught by coalition forces, they added that they will continue their fight against Al Shabaab in southern Somalia.

According to an Al Shabaab spokesman last Wednesday Al Shabaab agents planted an IED and ambushed a Kenyan convoy killing 6 in the region of Gedo.

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40. Explosive Device Found In Mirigama

Thursday, 09 February 2012

<http://airforce.lk/news.php?news=1000>

Information received by Kotadeniyawa Police Station, intelligence personnel of Sri Lanka Air Force unit in Mirigama recovered explosives in the general area of Banagalawatta, Paragoda, Divuldeniya on 08 February 2012.

The recoveries which included quantity of 01 IED (Approximately 08Kg), PE3A 250g, Electrical Detonator 01. Explosives were demolished by the qualified EOD personnel and the most possible explosive inside the IED was C-4.

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41. Explosives Found In Davao Village

Monday, 13 February 2012

<http://www.sunstar.com.ph/davao/local-news/2012/02/13/explosives-found-davao-village-205903>

Authorities recovered five boxes containing dynamites and commercial fuse near a subdivision in Barangay Tacunan, Tugbok District in Davao City, Monday morning.

Senior Inspector Antonio C. Villacarlos, chief of the Tugbok police station, said 12-year-old Elton, a student in Mintal, found the 800 dynamite sticks and 1,000 meters of commercial time fuse placed on the roadside.

Have something to report? Tell us in text, photos or videos.

Police investigation showed that the boy found the suspicious boxes while he was gathering his cows at the area around 3 p.m. on Sunday.

Elton said an unidentified man onboard a red motorcycle went to the area several times to check on the boxes.

DAVAO. Senior Police Officer 1 Donny Ombrete of Davao City Police Office's Special Weapons and Tactics inspects the 800 sticks of dynamite found by a 12-year-old boy in Barangay Tacunan, Tugbok District Monday. (King Rodriguez)

After the boy reported this to authorities, one Senior Police Officer 1 Amores detailed at the Community Police Assistance Center (Compac) immediately informed the Tugbok police station.

A team of the Davao City Police Office's Special Weapons and Tactics unit led by Senior Police Officer 1 Consorcio M. Gerones Jr. with bomb-sniffing dogs was dispatched to the area for verification.

It was learned that the four boxes contained dynamites -- each box with 200 sticks, while the other box contained 1,000 meters of red commercial fuse.

Villacarlos said the dynamites and commercial fuse are believed to be used in dynamite fishing and mining.

He added they are still conducting further investigation to track down the owner of the explosives.

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42. Inside The Making Of The Bali Bombs

Saturday, 11 February 2012

<http://english.alarabiya.net/articles/2012/02/11/193958.html>

An Indonesian militant charged in the 2002 Bali terrorist attacks has told interrogators he spent weeks holed up in a rented house, painstakingly building a half-ton bomb using household items including a rice ladle, a grocer's scale and plastic bags.

A transcript of the Umar Patek's interrogation obtained by The Associated Press offers extraordinary detail of the Bali plot just days before Patek — a radical Islamist once Southeast Asia's most-wanted bomb-making suspect — goes on trial in Jakarta for his alleged role in the nightclub attack that killed 202 people.

Patek known as "Demolition Man" for his expertise with explosives, says he and other conspirators stashed the 1,540-pound (700-kilogram) bomb in four filing cabinets, loaded them in a Mitsubishi L300 van along with a TNT vest bomb. The van was detonated outside two nightclubs on Bali's famous Kuta beach on Oct. 12, 2002. Most of those killed were foreign tourists.

The suspect told police that a small explosion occurred when they were loading the bomb in a van, nearly derailing the plot, according to the transcript .

Although homemade bombs are easily assembled by militants all over the world, making such powerful devices as those used in Bali — and using such unsophisticated equipment — would have taken enormous amount of care and expertise.

Patek, 45, goes on trial Monday following a nine-year flight from justice that took him from Indonesia to the Philippines to Pakistan, reportedly in pursuit of more terrorism opportunities.

He was finally caught in January 2011 in the same Pakistani town where U.S. Navy Seals would kill Osama bin Laden just a few months later. Patek was hiding out in a second-floor room of a house in Abbottabad, a \$1 million bounty on his head, when Pakistani security forces, acting on a tip from the CIA, burst in.

After a firefight that left Patek wounded, he was captured and extradited to Indonesia.

His capture was seen as a yardstick of the successes that Asian security forces, with U.S. help, have achieved against Jemaah Islamiyah, the al-Qaeda-linked regional terror group blamed for the Bali bombings and several other attacks in Indonesia. All its other leaders have been executed, killed by security forces, or are on death row.

Patek is charged with premeditated murder, hiding information about terrorism, illegal possession of explosives and conspiracy to commit terrorism, and now faces a possible death sentence as well. The indictment also accuses Patek of providing explosives for a string of Christmas Eve attacks on churches in 2000 that claimed 19 lives.

Interviews with intelligence officials in Indonesia and the Philippines, the interrogation report and other documents obtained by the AP reveal the peripatetic life Patek led after the Bali attacks as

he ranged widely and freely, often without passing through immigration checks, while allegedly passing along his bomb-making skills to other terrorists.

The interviewed officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they are not authorized to discuss intelligence matters with reporters.

Patek, whose real name is Hisyam bin Alizein, is the son of a goat meat trader. He went to computer school and learned English before being recruited into Jemaah Islamiyah by Dulmatin, a fellow militant who was gunned down by Indonesian police in March 2010.

After his arrest, Patek told his interrogators that he learned to make bombs during a 1991-1994 stint at a militant academy in Pakistan's Satta province, and later in Turkhom, Afghanistan, where bomb-making courses ranged "from basic to very difficult."

He said he was living in Solo, Indonesia, when mastermind Imam Samudra approached him to make a bomb in Bali. He agreed and flew to Denpasar, Bali's capital, and was taken to a rented house.

"In one room of the house, I began to mix the explosive ingredients, which were already in the rental house," he said.

"For about three weeks, I made the explosive ingredients into black powder with the assistance of Sawad (a co-conspirator). For tools used in the mixing of the ingredients, I used (a) scale that will usually be used in a food store, rice ladle and plastic bags as containers."

Dulmatin separately worked on the electronic circuits, which were later attached as detonators to the bombs packed into the filing cabinets.

"When we were lifting the filing cabinets into the white L300 van, an explosion occurred which was caused by friction of the filing cabinet with the floor of the room, because the floor still had some leftover black powder on it," he said.

Patek left Bali a few days before the attacks were carried out.

Afterward, officials said, Patek and Dulmatin went to the Philippines and allegedly joined forces with the local extremist group Abu Sayyaf, spending the next several years training militants and plotting attacks, including against U.S. troops in the Philippines.

Meanwhile, Imam Samudra and two other masterminds of the Bali attacks — brothers Amrozi Nurhasyim and Ali Ghufron — were caught, tried and executed.

Patek returned to Indonesia in June 2009, living in various rented houses in Jakarta. He held several meetings with radicals and aspiring militants at home and held assault rifle and bomb-making training sessions at a beach in Banten near Jakarta.

But Patek's heart was set on going to Afghanistan to fight alongside the Taliban or other extremist groups, said Ansyad Mbai, Indonesia's anti-terrorism chief.

He told the AP that Patek intended to continue his fight in a more defined battleground with a larger radical group, and refused Dulmatin's offer to become an instructor in a new militant camp in Indonesia's Aceh province.

"He wanted to fight with a larger extremist group, and Afghanistan was the ideal battleground for him," Mbai said.

But to reach Afghanistan, he would have to go to Pakistan first.

A police investigator said that a 37-year-old Pakistani in Indonesia, Nadeem Akhtar, helped Patek get a Pakistani visa from his embassy in Jakarta.

After Patek arrived in Lahore, a courier with links to al-Qaeda then brought him to Abbottabad, possibly to meet with bin Laden.

Mbai did not rule out the possibility that Patek went to Abbottabad to not only gain a foothold into Afghanistan but also to obtain funds for setting up a militant training camp in Jolo in southern Philippines.

But before he could make much progress or meet bin Laden, he was caught.

Patek's trial not only seeks justice for the Bali bombings, but also is a coup for intelligence officials. He is believed to have valuable information about al-Qaeda and its links with Jemaah Islamiyah, which was founded by Indonesian exiles in Malaysia in the early 1990s.

The Bali bombing remains JI's most spectacular attack. Though there have been several others since, but none as deadly. Analysts credit a crackdown that has netted more than 700 militants since 2000, including the death of several key leaders in police action.

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43. Sixty Kg. Explosives Recovered In Chhattisgarh
Sunday, 12 February 2012
<http://www.bombaynews.net/story/203434255>

The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) has recovered 60 kg of explosives from Rajanandgaon district of Chhattisgarh, an official said here Sunday.

The explosives were found Saturday afternoon when an ITBP patrolling party deployed in the region to counter Maoists noticed a patch of asphalt in the middle of the Kohka-Manpur road varying in colour.

"There were two IEDs (Improvised Explosive Device) hidden three feet below the road -- one weighing 20 kg stacked above another weighing 40 kg," ITBP's public relations officer, Deepak Pandey told IANS.

"As it is a busy road, the explosives were enough to kill several people," he added.

According to Pandey, it is for the first time that explosives have been found in the middle of a busy road and the Maoists may be starting a new dangerous trend.

Meanwhile, the explosives have been handed over to the local police.

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44. Huge Amount Of Explosives Seized, Two Arrested In UP

Saturday, 11 February 2012

<http://ibnlive.in.com/generalnewsfeed/news/huge-amount-of-explosives-seized-two-arrested-in-up/962193.html>

Huge amount of explosives were today seized with the arrest of two persons in Mahoba district, police said here. Virendra Sharma and Ashok Kumar Yadav were arrested with 4.5 quintal ammonium nitrate, 1,000 electronic detonators, 284 cell power, 182 detonators, 52 mts wire unfinished cells in Kotwali area of the district. The arrest and recovery were made after a tip-off that explosive material has been kept at a crusher in Mamna village under Kotwali police station, police said. Owner of the crusher escaped the raid. The duo have claimed that the material was used in breaking stones.

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45. Former RS Worker Planted Bombs On Samjhauta Express

Tuesday, 14 February 2012

http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2012-02-14/india/31058753_1_rss-worker-sandeep-dange-samjhauta-express

Kamal Chauhan, a disgruntled RSS worker arrested by the NIA, had planted bombs on board Samjhauta Express in 2007 after undergoing training in arms and explosives in Haryana and Madhya Pradesh, the agency claimed today.

Chauhan was taken to Panchkula court which today granted NIA his custody till February 24 for questioning him on his alleged role in the blast in the Delhi-Lahore train that left 68 people, mostly Pakistanis, dead.

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46. One Dead, Fifteen Hurt By Bombs In South

Thursday, 09 February 2012

<http://www.bangkokpost.com/news/security/279046/one-dead-15-hurt-in-south-bombs>

A bomb concealed in a parked vehicle exploded and killed one person and wounded 13 others in Pattani, and a roadside bomb injured two soldiers in Narathiwat on Thursday morning.

Police said the explosion in Pattani occurred about 8.07am. The bomb was hidden inside a pick-up truck parked in front of the provincial public health office.

The man who died in the blast was Manit Uma, a retired government official.

Six men, five women and two girls were injured, hit by flying debris. One of them was in a critical condition.

They were rushed to Pattani hospital. Three of them remained in the hospital this evening.

Part of the provincial public health office building and at least 10 cars were damaged in the blast.

Police said the pick-up truck that exploded had a fake licence plate. It belonged to a Pattani resident who was shot and injured by insurgents on Nov 17, 2011. Following the attack, they stole her vehicle.

The pickup had been parked outside the office building for two days, police said.

Later this morning, two soldiers were injured by a roadside bomb in Narathiwat's Bajoh district.

Police said the five-kilogramme bomb was detonated by remote control as six soldiers on motorcycles were returning to their base after providing security for teachers.

The explosion created a 60-centimetre wide, 40-centimetre deep hole in the road.

The two wounded soldiers were rushed to hospital.

Police were investigating.

More than 5,000 people have been killed and over 8,400 hurt in the three southern border provinces and the four districts of Songkhla since the violence erupted afresh in January 2004, according to Deep South Watch - an agency that monitors the conflict in the far South.

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47. Landmine Blast By Maoists Kills Four In Odisha

Saturday, 11 February 2012

<http://www.ndtv.com/article/india/landmine-blast-by-maoists-kills-4-bsf-men-in-odisha-175304>

Four Border Security Force (BSF) officers, including a Commanding Officer, were killed on Friday while two others were injured in an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) blast by suspected Maoists in Malkangiri district of Odisha.

BSF Director General U K Bansal has rushed to the spot, which is next to the Balimela reservoir, infamous for the deadly Naxal ambush in June 2008 when 38 Greyhound commandos of Andhra Pradesh police were killed when they were crossing the water body in a boat.

The BSF squad travelling a jeep was targeted at Balimela culvert at around 1 PM in the Janbai area of the district, under Chitragonda police station, 465 km from Bhubaneswar.

The jungles here are a Naxal hotbed as it touches the borders of two other states - Andhra Pradesh and Chhattisgarh - making it a corridor for Maoists.

According to initial reports, the officers were returning in the vehicle after attending a security meeting with the district administration for forthcoming Panchayat elections in the state.

The victims have been identified as Commandant (107 battalion) J R Khaswan, his Second-in-Command Rajesh Sharan, Inspector Ashok Yadav and Assistant Sub-Inspector and radio operator of the squad Jitendra.

The two other troopers who were injured have been identified as constables Bishnu Panigrahi and S K Kundu.

Kundu was driving the ill-fated BSF vehicle.

A BSF unit is located close to the area where the blast occurred and the team was approaching it.

"A reinforcement contingent of joint security forces has been dispatched for search operations," a senior official said.

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48. Two Bombs Explode In Klongton, Bomber Injured

Tuesday, 14 February 2012

<http://www.nationmultimedia.com/national/Two-bombs-explode-in-Klongton-bomber-injured-30175850.html>

An Ara-blooming man apparently went berserk on Tuesday, separately throwing bombs at a taxi and later at police in Klongton district.

However an explosive fell from his hand and exploded as he was targetting a police officer who approached him and ordered him to stop. The device mutilated the bomber's legs.

Pol Lt Col Witthaya Poonsin, deputy commander of Klong Tan traffic police, said the foreigner, who has yet to be identified, threw the first bomb at a taxi on Soi Pridi Panomyong.

The explosive rolled under the vehicle and exploded, damaging the vehicle. The taxi driver was not injured as he was standing outside the vehicle at the time of the attack.

After the explosion, he ran after the suspect to the main road of Sukhumvit 71.

Witthaya said the man later walked to Sukhumvit 71 Road and when he spotted a police officer, he then tried to grab another bomb from his backpack and apparently tried to throw it at the policeman. The bomb slipped from his hand, fell down to the ground and shattered his legs.

He was rushed to Chulalongkorn Hospital.

Klong Tan police chief Col Sitthiparp Baiprasert said police are checking whether there are still any explosives left.

He added the man was likely an Arab. Initial police enquiries indicated that he was renting a house on Soi Pridi Phanomyong 36. There was also an explosion at the house at 2pm.

He said three foreigners were living at the house but two had fled.

Meanwhile Deputy Bangkok Governor Wallop Suwankhadee said the first explosion was only 500 metres away from Kasem Witthaya School.

Sanchai Boonsoonnern, the driver of the damaged taxi, told the Rawangpai TV programme, that the foreigner suddenly threw a bomb at his vehicle.

The bomb fell on the bonnet of his car and rolled under it before exploding.

The taxi driver was standing outside the vehicle but shouted for help and tried to run after the attacker who ran towards Sukhumvit 71.

Sanchai said the man tried to stop taxis to flee but none picked him up. Sanchai said he saw the man pulled out something from his bag and it fell on the ground and exploded.

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Foreign Ministry Spokesman Thani Thongphakdee said it could not be concluded for the time being that the explosions were acts of terrorism. He added that the explosions might not be related to terrorist warning by foreign embassies, which was lifted 10 days ago.

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49. FARC & ELN Sign Collaboration Pact

Monday, 06 February 2012

<http://colombiareports.com/colombia-news/news/22035-colombias-insurgents-the-farc-and-eln-sing-pact.html>

Colombia's largest guerrilla groups the FARC and the ELN have signed a collaboration pact, agreeing to abide by a ceasefire and protect FARC supreme leader "Timochenko" and common economic interests, reported newspaper El Tiempo Monday.

According to the report, FARC commander "Pastor Alape" and ELN Central Command member "Marcos" met in the northern Colombian municipality of Morales on November 22.

The main objectives were to "sign a ceasefire", agree on commercial interests, and create a pact to protect FARC leader "Timochenko," according to a demobilized guerrilla quoted in the report.

Timochecko is believed to reside on the Venezuelan side of the Colombian-Venezuelan border. ELN agreed to assist in the protection of this border area.

The FARC relinquished control of land between Antioquia and Bolivar department, which was previously controlled by ELN. Violent clashes in the area between 2008 and 2010 left more than 100 guerrillas dead.

The treaty also established boundaries controlling the movement of each guerrilla army and protocol regarding "taxing" illegal mining operations in guerrilla territory.

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50. Rats Being Put To Work In Colombia To Detect Explosives

Monday, 13 February 2012

http://articles.cnn.com/2012-02-13/americas/world_americas_colombia-bomb-detecting-rats_1_rats-explosives-training-session?s=PM:AMERICAS

At a Colombian National Police base in the outskirts of Bogota, the nation's capital, a new recruit is being trained.

This new recruit is unlike any other. It stands on four legs, has white hair all over its body and weighs slightly less than a pound. Its name is *Rattus Norvegicus* -- but it's more commonly known as a lab rat.

During a recent training session, trainers set the white rat on a patch of grass where they had hidden an explosive device underground. It took the rat less than a minute to find it. The rodent was showered with praise. Its trainers also gave it its favorite reward, a treat.

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Though safer than a decade ago, Colombia is a country where landmines and car bombs are still a threat. Earlier this month, six people were killed by a car bomb targeting a police station in the town of Villa Rica in the southern province of El Cauca. The day before the February 2 bombing, nine people were killed and 70 were injured by another explosion in the neighboring province of Narino.

Edgar Ramirez, a second lieutenant with the Colombian National Police, says his country still "faces conflicts such as guerrillas, and criminal and paramilitary groups. There are many disputed territories because of the drug trade or simply to take control, and many groups set up land mines in these territories."

In the past, Colombian police used bomb-sniffing dogs; but the dogs' weight would often trigger the explosives. That's not a problem for lab rats that weigh slightly less than a pound.

And according to the trainers, their sense of smell is just as good as a dog's.

Colombia is not the first country to use rodents in this fashion. Rats have already been put to work in Mozambique to detect landmines.

Ramirez says that the only disadvantage he can think of about using rats is their short life span.

"These animals live only three to four years, which is a relatively short period of time from a human perspective. On the other hand, they're very prolific. They reproduce themselves exponentially in a very short time," Ramirez said.

So far, the rats have been trained to detect seven different kinds of explosives including ammonium nitrate and fuel oil, gunpowder and TNT.

The project is directed by Luisa Fernanda Mendez Pardo, a veterinarian who specializes in canine explosives-detection training. Mendez said that in the last four years her team has produced five generations of between 15 and 18 rodents each.

"As a researcher," Mendez said, "I can tell you that this project has exceeded the expectations we had at the beginning. We have been able to condition the rats to follow simple verbal commands. We have also trained them to not be afraid of their human handlers."

Their trust has also gone beyond humans. The rats even get on with the cat that protects them from other predators at the lab where they're trained.

Mendez also says the rats are much more cost-effective than their canine counterparts. "With the money it takes to feed a dog per day, you can feed seven rats for seven days," Mendez said.

Officials with the Colombian National Police say they expect to take the bomb-sniffing rats into the field in later this year.

"The main goal is to tackle a humanitarian problem in Colombia," says Mendez. "In my career, I have seen many civilians, police officers and soldiers who have been killed or severely injured in mine fields. It has become a personal challenge, and I want to use this project to help my country."

The team has been able to successfully train more than 70 rats in the last four years since the project began. The process has allowed them to acquire important knowledge about how the rodents can help authorities clear fields full of landmines in the Colombian countryside.

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51. Colombia Seizes FARC Explosives Cache
Saturday, 11 February 2012
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-17001335>

The Colombian security forces have seized three tonnes of explosives and arms belonging to the country's biggest left-wing rebel group, the Farc.

Officers found the explosives in an abandoned rebel camp in the jungle in the south of the country.

They said they had been tipped off by rebels who had handed themselves in to the authorities.

The seizure comes 10 days after the Farc set off a bomb outside a police station in Tumaco, killing 11 people.

Security officials said they had seized 3,200 sticks of explosives, as well as landmines and hundreds of grenades.

Col Wilson Diaz said the camp on the shores of the river Yari was large enough to house around 100 rebels.

The colonel said the seizure had been one of the largest in that region for years.

Farc rebels have stepped up their offensive against the security forces since their leader, Alfonso Cano, was killed in a military raid in November.

Earlier on Saturday, three soldiers were killed in a rebel grenade attack in the mountains of Valle del Cauca province.

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52. Police Discover FARC Cache In Neiva

Friday, 10 February 2012

<http://translate.google.com/translate?sl=auto&tl=en&js=n&prev=t&hl=en&ie=UTF-8&layout=2&eof=1&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.rcn.com.co%2Fnoticias%2Feditor%2Fla-policia-descubrio-caleta-de-las-farc-en-ne-136124>

An important war material of the FARC was found in a rural area of Huila capital.

In a stunning operation in Huila police discovered a cache with a major explosive material on the road that leads from the Inspection Caguan the village of La Ulloa jurisdiction of Neiva.

The creek apparently FARC Front 17, was inside, according to Police Commander in Huila, Colonel Juan Francisco Pelaez, 30 fragmentation grenades IM-26, 12 grenades, 40 mm and 60 mm mortar.

The authorities in Huila tightened security in the rural sector of Neiva against possible attacks by guerrilla groups that try to disturb the tranquility of Huila.

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53. Pentolite Bars Seized In Ibague

Saturday, 11 February 2012

<http://translate.google.com/translate?sl=auto&tl=en&js=n&prev=t&hl=en&ie=UTF-8&layout=2&eof=1&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.elnuevodia.com.co%2Fnuevodia%2Factualidad%2Fjudicial%2F132165-inautan-barras-con-pentonita-en-ibague>

A truck was intercepted on Thursday night on the road Alternative Ibague, has alerted the authorities, since the method used to transport explosive devices had been used before.

Mattresses come in four 176 sticks of explosive disguised weighing 480 grams each, which were hidden in a truck that was bound for Bogota.

Also in the Pan American Highway, at the same time, near Ipiales, Nariño, members of the Fiscal Police Customs Polfa, seized 206 blocks pentonita.

The items seized in Nariño, as in the case of Ibague, came hidden in bars and were transported in a truck that was traveling by that route.

Note that in both cases, the trucks carrying the pentonita Transipiales belong to a services company that provides freight transportation.

According to authorities, the seizure of explosives, could be carried out, since the Polfa coordinated research efforts, intelligence and follow-up.

After having complete information on shipments, members of the Polfa report of the Metropolitan Police operational in Ibague, which is responsible for stopping the truck reviewed by the Fiscal Police in Alternative route, then transferred to the command the Metib.

According to a statement issued by the National Police, the items seized, would have the "purpose, as indicated by the same sources and preventive intelligence was that of neuralgic attacks in regions such as Cauca and Nariño department itself."

It also maintains the same statement that "as a result of these findings and the discovery of a new mode, the Command Institutional strengthening of controls available in both borders and in the main corridors of the national road network."

In the operation conducted in Nariño, authorities seized nearly 800 meters of detonating cord, 7.62 caliber machine gun PKT with their respective ammunition.

177 kg is the weight of the pentolite that was found by authorities in 12 mattresses in the operations in the departments of Nariño and Tolima.

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54. FARC IED Recovered In Arauca

Tuesday, 06 February 2012

<http://translate.google.com/translate?sl=auto&tl=en&js=n&prev=t&hl=en&ie=UTF-8&layout=2&eof=1&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.octavadivision.mil.co%2F%3Fidcategoria%3D321809>

As a result of offensive operations and military control of the area by troops of the Eighteenth Brigade, attached to Task Force Chiron in the Eighth Army Division, was able to neutralize terrorist activities against the Araucanian people.

Battalion Special Energy Road No. 1, located a box-type improvised explosive device composed of approximately 40 kilos of explosives, which had been installed by the Company Uriel Londoño the armed group FARC illegal and intended to activate control cable.

The incident occurred in the village of Campo Alegre, a rural area of the municipality of Arauquita, as far as military units arrived thanks to information provided by the network of collaborators.

The device was destroyed by a controlled group of Army explosives expert. This criminal action, the insurgents sought to undermine the security forces and the civilian population living in the sector.

The commander of the Eighteenth Brigade Colonel Oswaldo Morales Cesar Ramirez, thanks to the civilian population by the information provided through secure lines 146 and 147 of the network of collaborators, and encourages them to continue to report all suspected acts have to do with terrorist actions that jeopardize the security and tranquility of the Department.

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55. Explosives Recovered In Miranda

Wednesday, 08 February 2012

http://translate.google.com/translate?sl=auto&tl=en&js=n&prev=t&hl=en&ie=UTF-8&layout=2&eof=1&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.google.com.co%2Fimgres%3Fq%3Dexplosivos%26um%3D1%26hl%3Des%26biw%3D1212%26bih%3D777%26tbs%3Dqdr%3Aw%26tbn%3Disch%26tbnid%3DV_eU0fUgh2-waM%3A%26imgrefurl%3Dhttp%3A%2F%2Fwww.rcn.com.co%2Fnoticias%2Feditor%2Ftras-14-horas-de-labores-ininterrumpidas-expe-135638%26docid%3DbValKmaOSGznnM%26imgurl%3Dhttp%3A%2F%2Frcnradio.s3.amazonaws.com%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2Fimagecache%2F294x223%2Fimagenes%2Fexplosivos_ejercito_1328705260.jpg%26w%3D294%26h%3D223%26ei%3DZIQ5T9LoIITb0QHTiNnZAg%26zoom%3D1%26iact%3Dhc%26vpx%3D936%26vpy%3D190%26dur%3D141%26hovh%3D178%26hovw%3D235%26tx%3D144%26ty%3D121%26sig%3D103596358374179576055%26page%3D1%26tbnh%3D156%26tbnw%3D206%26start%3D0%26ndsp%3D15%26ved%3D1t%3A429%2Cr%3A9%2Cs%3A0

Throughout the night and early morning work is ahead by experts after being located a tricycle with about 65 kilos of explosives, just in front of the police station in the municipality of Miranda and in the center of the town.

Once the alert was issued proceeded to evacuate two blocks around to avoid the involvement of the civilian population. At midnight the experts with the support of the robot moved from Cali and that little is stolen by criminals in the town of Puerto Tejada resumed the preparatory work at four in the morning with success for the military, as revealed by Colonel Police Chief Ricardo Alarcon in Cauca.

The Mayor of the town Walter Zuniga acknowledged the work of the soldiers and called the people to continue to report such incidents.

No one was affected by this situation attributed to the professionalism of the military. It was learned that the charges will be activated in a controlled manner in the rural area of Miranda

Another event that shocked the Cauca, was what happened at the Agricultural Technical Institute where lower Jambaló took a grenade he had found the way to school and after handling along with two companions went off and ended up seriously injured.

Pablo Lasso of the Colombian Campaign against Mines says that in an unprecedented 10 other children have also become victims.

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56. Authorities Seize Over 177 Kg. Explosives In Mattresses

Friday, 10 February 2012

<http://translate.google.com/translate?sl=auto&tl=en&js=n&prev=t&hl=en&ie=UTF-8&layout=2&eof=1&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.radiosantafe.com%2F2012%2F02%2F10%2Fincautaron-mas-de-170-explosivos-escondidos-en-colchones%2F>

The National Police reported seizing a large quantity of explosives, which were transported by road in Nariño and Tolima, and which were encaletados between comfortable mattresses for sale in specialized stores.

According to autoridades in the first case, a member of the company truck Transpiales on the Pan American Highway, six mattresses found hiding pentolite 206 blocks of 450 grams each, nearly 800 meters of detonating cord, a machine gun PKT 7.62 caliber and ammunition for it.

Meanwhile in Cajamarca, near the top of the line, there was the discovery of a new cargo disguised in the same mode, this time corresponding to 176 sticks of explosive with 480 grams each, for a total of 177.2 kilos of pentolite in both cases.

During the raids, police seized the truck drivers who were brought to justice for clarifying the origin and fate of this material, which the authorities apparently belonged to the FARC.

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57. ELN Explosives Seized On Garcia Rovira

Tuesday, 07 February 2012

<http://translate.google.com/translate?hl=en&sl=auto&tl=en&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.segundadivision.mil.co%2F%3Fidcategoria%3D321884>

February 7, 2012

Affected the corridor for the ELN, in Santander

As a result of the ongoing offensive operations carried out by troops of the Second Division, was located a stash with war material and explosives, apparently belonging to the commission "Mario Ramirez Ortiz" ELN narco-terrorist organization that offends in the province of Garcia Rovira. The finding of nine suppliers caliber 5.56 mm, 7.62 mm caliber provider, three shaped charges, two detonators, 80 grams of pentolite and detonating cord, was achieved when the Artillery Battalion No. 5 "Captain Jose Antonio Galan" attached to Fifth Brigade patrolling the "La Loma" the municipality of San Andrés (Santander).

Apparently the material found, members of illegal armed, tried to strengthen their mobility corridors intimidating the population, with the collection of vaccines and activation of explosive devices.

Fifth Brigade soldiers continue military checkpoints in the area, in order to avoid any terrorist actions against civilians and troops, including bombings and kidnappings.

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58. More Than Three Tons Of Explosives Seized In Caqueta

Saturday, 11 February 2012

<http://translate.google.com/translate?hl=en&sl=es&tl=en&u=http%3A%2F%2Fglobovision.com%2Fnews.php%3Fnid%3D218597>

video: <http://www.noticiascaracol.com/nacion/video-257383-hallan-mas-de-tres-toneladas-de-explosivos-de-farc>

video: <http://www.noticiascaracol.com/nacion/video-257420-se-conoce-video-de-gigantesca-caleta-de-farc-caqueta>

The Colombian Army discovered a large arsenal of more than three tons of explosives in a jungle area of the southern department of Caquetá, suspected FARC guerrillas, official sources reported Saturday.

The explosives, weapons and ammunition were found in an abandoned camp by suspected rebels of the "Southern Bloc" of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) in the rural town of Cartagena del Chaira.

A press release Caguan Specific Command said the camp was located on the banks of Yari and had a capacity for at least a hundred rebels.

Specific Command Commander Caguan, Colonel Wilson Diaz, told reporters that the Army came to the armory "by intelligence reports" that provided demobilized FARC.

In the place the troops found explosive bars weighing pentolite over three tons, 24-to-air rockets, 531 grenades and more than 27,000 meters of detonating cord.

In addition, eight AK -47, two rifles Fall, a point 50 caliber machine gun and a Remington shotgun and a Winchester of the same caliber, anti-personnel mines and tens of thousands of bullets.

Colonel Diaz and the Governor of Caquetá, Victor Ramirez, agreed that the cache of explosives and weapons is one of the largest found and seized from the main Colombian guerrillas in recent years in that region.

In the operation were not spared confrontations or arrests were reported.

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59. Northern Ireland Man Accused Of Possessing IED

Monday, 13 February 2012

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2012/feb/13/northern-ireland-man-accused-ied>

An improvised explosive device similar to bombs used against British troops in Iraq and Afghanistan has been linked to a County Tyrone man, a Northern Ireland court heard.

Patrick Carty is accused of possessing an IED with intent to endanger life or cause serious damage to property.

This kind of device had not been seen during the Northern Ireland Troubles, Enniskillen magistrates court was told.

The 32-year-old from Dungannon was arrested in connection with the discovery of the IED in a field at Killybracken Road in Enniskillen last April. Carty was arrested and charged with possessing the weapon in nearby Coalisland last Sunday.

A detective sergeant from the Police Service of Northern Ireland told the court Carty's prints were found on a black plastic liner wrapped round the device.

Bail was opposed and refused on the grounds of risk of interfering with witnesses. Supporters applauded as Carty was led away from the dock.

He will face another court appearance in Dungannon next month.

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60. Army Bomb Squad Deals With Viable IED In Tallaght

Wednesday, 15 December 2012

<http://www.thejournal.ie/army-bomb-squad-deals-with-viable-ied-in-tallaght-356203-Feb2012/>

The Army's Bomb Disposal Team were called to Tallaght overnight to deal with a viable Improvised Explosive Device (IED).

The Defence Forces deployed the Bomb Disposal Team to a community enterprise centre in Oldbawn, Tallaght on foot of a request from the Gardai.

The team found the IED near the premises, and removed it to a secure military location for further forensic and technical examination.

No controlled explosion was carried out, and the scene was declared safe at 12:30am.

The Defence Forces said all items "of an evidential nature" had been handed over to the Gardai.

The callout marked the 28th time the bomb squad has been summoned this year, and the 11th time it has dealt with a viable explosive device.

Local Sinn Féin TD Seán Crowe had yesterday called for extra Garda resources in the area after shots were fired at a car in the Bawnlea estate on Monday night.

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61. Counter-IED Radars Ordered

Friday, 10 February 2012

http://www.upi.com/Business_News/Security-Industry/2012/02/10/Counter-IED-radars-ordered/UPI-13391328897450/

The U.S. subsidiary of Britain's Chemring Group PLC is supplying the Italian army with ground-penetrating radar to counter improvised explosive devices.

The radar systems, as well as integration and training services, are being provided to Italy under a collaborative agreement with MBDA Italia.

"We are delighted that MBDA has chosen NIITEK's battle proven GPR to produce a multifaceted detection capability for the Italian Ministry of Defense," said Juan Navarro, president of NIITEK. "This integration will provide an enhanced suite of sensors to soldiers in support of the route clearance mission.

"We look forward to contributing our GPR fielding expertise in support of MBDA's success in this endeavor."

The ground-penetrating radar will be integrated onto MBDA's Vehicle Pushed Detection Trailers.

The monetary value of the radars wasn't disclosed but NIITEK said delivery of the units would take place over a one-year period.

MBDA is owned by BAE Systems, EADS and Finmeccanica.

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62. Multiple IEDs Found In Vehicle Near State Capital

Wednesday, 15 February 2012

<http://www.examiner.com/city-buzz-in-charlotte/multiple-ied-s-found-vehicle-near-state-capitol-building-topeka-kansas>

IED's found in vehicle near state capitol in what could have been a plot to kill elected officials
TOPEKA, KANSAS - The Topeka Police and Kansas Highway Patrol removed IED's ("Improvised Explosive Devices") from a truck parked near the state capitol building in Topeka, Kansas.

"With the use of their police robot, they were able to remove several improvised explosive devices from the vehicle," said Kansas Capitol Police spokesman Patrick Saleh, in an ABC news report.

Federal officials described the devices as looking like or being composed of large fireworks, possibly M100s. Local police officials describe the explosive devices as "small improvised devices" (SID's). Called "half sticks" M-100 are serious fireworks. In a Youtube video of a m100 placed under a steel trash can shows it blowing up and sending the can flying airborne almost 30 feet. It landed about 15 feet away completely shredded.

"You can cause some serious damage with a couple of M100 strapped together to a can of gasoline", said IED expert in Kansas, who wished to remain anonymous. "To have them in your vehicle near the capitol should be considered a serious indication this guy was up to no good", this person said.

The black truck had Florida "paratrooper license plates", according to KAKE news, indicating the person who owned it may be ex-military, or have ex-military affiliations. Saleh said authorities were interviewing the truck's owner and it was not clear that he would be charged with a crime, which could mean the suspect borrowed or stole the vehicle used in a possible assassination or murder attempt against elected officials.

The person was taken into custody "without resistance" and is currently being interviewed by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms," Saleh said. According to the Washington Post police said they arrested the owner inside an underground tunnel connecting the Capitol to an office building.

"I won't know if we're going to charge him at the state level or they'll charge him at the federal level, or charges will be filed at all," Saleh said. "It all hinges on their interview and what their plans are next, at this point."

Saleh told ABC News there were no apparent ties to foreign terrorism, but refused to speculate if this was domestic terrorism.

Saleh said the incident was not connected to another arrest Wednesday of a man who allegedly phoned in a threat to Gov. Sam Brownback's office from a Topeka motel, which happened on the same day as the incident at the capitol.

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“Cops possibly thwarted an assassination attempt or terrorist attack”, said Killian Moore of Charlotte, an expert in SID’s (“Small Improvised Explosive Devices”).

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63. Scottsdale Police Find IED After Deadly Police Shooting

<http://www.wtsp.com/video/1455334449001/1/Scottsdale-Police-find-IED-in-home-after-deadly-police-shooting>

(Copy/paste link above into your browser to view video.)

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