

# RAPID

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



### *It's A Touchy, Feely Kind Of Robot*

A new robotic arm would give U.S. troops in Afghanistan the ability to feel the improvised explosive devices they are remotely trying to disarm, potentially allowing for greater precision than ever before.

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## AFPAK

### 1. [Attack, Afghanistan] Top U.S. soldier killed by Afghan suicide bomber

8/10/2012

<http://news.yahoo.com/senior-u-soldier-killed-suicide-bomber-afghanistan-121800898--abc-news-topstories.html>

A senior U.S. Army soldier was killed along with a couple of majors by a suicide bomber in Afghanistan, and three special forces soldiers were gunned down by an Afghan commander who had won their trust and invited them to dinner.

The suicide bomber struck Wednesday as a group of U.S. military and civilian officials from the 4th brigade, 4th Infantry Division were in Sarkowi in Kunar Province, which is located in eastern Afghanistan. The suicide attacker detonated an explosive vest near the group.

Killed in the attack were Command Sgt. Maj. Kevin J. Griffin, 45, of Laramie, Wyo., the brigade's senior enlisted soldier. As a command sergeant major, Griffin was one of the brigade's senior leaders and provided leadership and guidance to the 4,000 man brigade.

Also killed in the blast were Army Maj. Thomas E. Kennedy, 35, of West Point, N.Y., and Air Force Major Walter D. Gray, 38, of Conyers, Ga. Gray was an air liaison officer and flight commander attached to the brigade.

The brigade is tasked with providing security in three provinces that border Pakistan. Based in Fort Carson, Colo., the brigade arrived in Afghanistan this past April.

The explosion also killed American USAID Foreign Service Officer Ragaei Abdelfattah. Another American foreign service officer and an Afghan civilian were also injured in the attack.

In a statement released Thursday, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton praised Abdelfattah's work in eastern Afghanistan over the last year as "critical to our efforts to support Afghanistan's political, economic and security transitions and was an example of the highest standards of service." She said he was so committed to his mission that he had volunteered to serve a second year-long tour in Afghanistan.

The second incident was described by Afghan officials as a clear case of infiltration where a Taliban operative joined the Afghan army, climbed its ranks, and earned the trust of his U.S. counterparts – only to kill them when the opportunity arose.

Afghan sources say the three killed service members were U.S. special forces who had been invited to dinner today in a small village of Mosa Qala, in southern Afghanistan.

The troops had been in touch with a local Afghan commander named Asadullah, trusting him enough to accept the invitation. During the dinner, in which Afghan local police were present, Asadullah opened fire, killing three soldiers and injuring one. He then escaped and joined the Taliban, who quickly boasted of the mission's success.

NATO officials did not provide details on today's incident.





## AFPAK

### 2. [Attack, Afghanistan] Suicide bomb blast rocks eastern Kunar province

8/8/2012

<http://www.khaama.com/suicide-bomb-blast-rocks-eastern-kunar-province-083/>

According to local authorities in eastern Kunar province of Afghanistan, a suicide bomber detonated his explosives in central Asadabad city on Wednesday morning.

Provincial security chief spokesman Sher Wali said the incident took place while a number of the NATO troops were crossing the area.

Mr. Sher Wali further added the exact number of casualties as a result of the incident is not known yet.

The explosion took place near the provincial council department in Kunar province.



In the meantime provincial hospital chief Farooq Zahak said at least one person who was killed and three others injured following the explosion were taken to the hospital so far.

No group including the Taliban militants have so far claimed responsibility behind the incident.



## AFPAK

### 3. [Attack, Pakistan] Tribal insurgency: 3 killed in attack on Balochistan Constabulary

8/8/2012

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/419077/tribal-insurgency-3-killed-in-attack-on-balochistan-constabulary/>

QUETTA:

At least three Balochistan Constabulary personnel were killed and 12 others wounded in remote-controlled bomb blast in Saami area of Shapuk, in Kech district on Tuesday.

A Balochistan Constabulary convoy, comprising two trucks, was on its way from Quetta to Turbat when it was targeted with a remote-controlled bomb, Abdul Razzaq Sasoli, the assistant commissioner of Kech, told The Express Tribune.

“At least three personnel were killed on the spot and 12 others were wounded – some of them critically,” Abdul Razzaq said, adding that the bomb planted on a roadside.

A police official, Inham Lal put the number of fatalities at four. “The two trucks were destroyed in the blast,” he told The Express Tribune.

Contingents of police and paramilitary Frontier Corps rushed to the spot soon after the incident and carried out the rescue and relief operation.

They threw a security cordon around the area and police and Levies personnel mounted a massive manhunt for the culprits.

The casualties were driven to the Divisional Headquarters Hospital in Turbat.

No group has claimed responsibility for the attack. However, a myriad of Baloch insurgent groups have been waging a deadly insurgency in the province since 2004.

Interior Minister Rehman Malik recently told lawmakers in the upper house of parliament that the banned insurgent group, Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) has claimed responsibility for most attacks on security forces in the province.

He claimed that some foreign powers were supporting the Baloch insurgents who are also maintaining camps in neighbouring Afghanistan. The Baloch insurgents deny the charge.



## **AFPAK**

### **4. [Attack, Afghanistan] Truck bomb hits gate of Afghanistan NATO base; several Afghans wounded**

8/7/2012

<http://www.windsorstar.com/news/civilians+killed+roadside+bombing+northwest+Afghan+capital/7049981/story.html>

KABUL - A truck bomb rammed into the gate of a NATO base in eastern Afghanistan, wounding several people Tuesday, while a roadside explosion killed nine civilians riding on a bus near the Afghan capital.

The Taliban claimed responsibility for Tuesday's midmorning blast at an international coalition base in Logar province, southeast of Kabul, the capital.

The violence represents the latest militant attacks as international troops work to hand over more security to Afghan soldiers and police in preparation for the withdrawal of most of NATO's military presence in less than 18 months.

A suicide attacker drove the explosives-laden pickup truck into a gate at the NATO base near Logar's capital of Pul-i-Alam, provincial police chief Ghulam Sakhi Roogh Lawanay said.

At least 11 Afghan civilians were wounded, but no deaths were reported in the attack, he said. There was no confirmation of any casualties among international troops, and NATO's press office did not immediately respond to questions.

The truck belonged to a local contractor who was authorized to work on the base, and the explosives were hidden under a load of gravel, Lawanay said. He added that the truck was able to enter an outer gate of the base before the driver slammed the vehicle into a second gate.

Taliban spokesman Zabiullah Mujahid said in a statement that insurgents had launched the assault, which he claimed killed several foreign troops. The casualties could not be verified, and the Taliban often exaggerate the success of their attacks.

Earlier in the morning, a remote-controlled roadside bomb struck a bus just travelling northwest of Kabul, killing at least nine passengers, police said. The militant who set off the device was spotted running away from the scene and was captured by local villagers.

The bomb was placed under a bridge and was detonated when the bus drove over the span, said Mohammad Zahir, the criminal director for Kabul police. Broken glass and abandoned shoes of victims littered the road near the bus, which was flipped onto its side at the site of the explosion in Paghman district of Kabul province.

At least three other people were wounded in the blast, which went off at around 7 a.m. as Afghans were making their way to work.

"The person who pushed the button on the remote-controlled bomb was captured by villagers who saw him running," said Abdul Razaq, an Afghan police official in the Kabul area.





Initial reports said the bus was ferrying government employees to an Afghan ministry, but those reports could not be confirmed. Police speculated that the bomber might have tried to target a bus full of government workers but blew up a civilian bus by mistake.

Paghman district police chief Col. Amrullah said the explosion killed nine people, including two who were rushed to a local hospital but died within hours. He said three others were wounded. No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack, but Amrullah blamed insurgents affiliated with the Taliban.

"It was planted by the enemy of the country," Amrullah, who like many Afghans uses only one name, said of the bomb. He said that police had seized the bomb's remote control from the man who was captured.

Roadside bombs are one of the Taliban insurgency's favourite weapons to target Afghan government forces and foreign troops, and they are a leading killer of ordinary Afghans.

Last year was the deadliest on record for civilians in the 10-year-old Afghan war, with 3,021 killed as insurgents stepped up attacks, according to the United Nations.

Also Tuesday, the NATO-led international military coalition said that one of its service members had died after an insurgent attack in eastern Afghanistan in the early morning. It gave no further details. NATO policy is not to identify the dead until family members have been notified.



## **AFPAK**

### **5. [Attack, Afghanistan] Paghman: Bus bombing kills at least 8 civilians**

8/7/2012

<http://www.globalpost.com/dispatch/news/regions/asia-pacific/afghanistan/120807/kabul-bus-bombing-kills-at-least-8-civilians>

An improvised explosive device (IED) exploded on a roadside in Paghman, Afghanistan, killing at least 8 people in a crowded minibus, according to the New York Times.

Five people were injured and taken to Kabul for medical treatment.

The man allegedly responsible was a suspected insurgent who had been arrested and released by Afghan authorities two years ago.

The New York Times said Afghanistan Colonel Amrullah had identified the suspected bomber as man in his early twenties called Hujratullah.

The Daily Beast reports that moments before the bombing, Hujratullah was conspicuously standing near the bomb site before he remotely triggered the explosion sometime around 5:30 am local time.

Mr. Hujratullah was arrested with a remote control and explosives.

Afghan President Hamid Karzai denounced the bombing, saying terrorists targeting civilians during Ramadan will "achieve nothing but public abhorrence." Voice of America reported nine civilians killed.

The New York Times said that a spokesman for the Taliban, Zabiullah Mujahid, was "still gathering information on the bombing." So far, no organization has claimed responsibility.



## **AFPAK**

### **6. [Attack, Pakistan] Two injured in Bajaur Agency blast**

8/7/2012

<http://www.brecorder.com/top-news/108-pakistan-top-news/72276-two-injured-in-bajaur-agency-blast-.html>

KHAR: Two tribesmen sustained critical wounds when a roadside bomb went off in Tehsil Mamond of Bajaur Agency here on Tuesday.

According to the officials, the bomb was planted on roadside in village Gardi Bagh, which was blasted by miscreants with remote control device, critically injuring two tribesmen and were rushed to hospital.

The bang of explosion was heard in one kilometer radius. The Bajaur Levy rushed to the spot and started investigation. No group has claimed responsibility.





## **AFPAK**

### **7. [Attack, Afghanistan] 2 Suicide Bombers Attack Afghan Council in East**

8/7/2012

<http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/afghan-police-truck-bomb-hits-gate-nato-base-16945130#.UCPCwk1ISLI>

Afghan officials say two suicide bombers have attacked a provincial council as it met in the country's east. Authorities say at least one Afghan civilian was killed and several others wounded.

A spokesman for the Kunar provincial government says the two attackers detonated their explosives outside the provincial council building on Wednesday. Spokesman Wasifullah Wasify says there were casualties but it was unclear how many.

Wasify said the council was meeting inside at the time but could not confirm if any members were hurt.

Kunar's provincial health director, Asadullah Fazeli, says at least one dead body and three wounded victims were taken to local hospitals.

NATO reports an attack on a foot patrol in the same area, but details were unclear. The international military coalition said it was investigating.



## AFPAK

### 8. [Attack, Afghanistan] Truck bomber hits Afghan NATO base

8/7/2012

<http://news.kuwaittimes.net/2012/08/07/truck-bomber-hits-afghan-nato-base/>

PULI ALAM, Afghanistan: A powerful suicide truck bomb exploded at a NATO military base south of the Afghan capital yesterday, wounding three soldiers and at least 17 civilians, Afghan police said. Just hours earlier, a Taliban bomb killed nine people and wounded five when it struck a minibus on the western outskirts of Kabul, amid growing unrest in areas neighbouring the Afghan capital. A spokesman for NATO's International Security Assistance Force confirmed "there has been an explosion outside an ISAF facility in Logar province" and that some troops were wounded. "We have information that ISAF members were wounded but it is our policy not to confirm the number or condition of the injured," he said, adding that the cause of the explosion was under investigation.



Provincial police chief Ghulam Sakhi Rogh Lewanai told AFP: "A truck loaded with explosives detonated at the coalition forces' camp in (the provincial capital) Puli Alam city. "So far we have information that 17 Afghan civilians and three ISAF soldiers have been injured," he said. Most of the civilians worked at the base, he said. ISAF said the explosion was outside the base, near an Afghan bazaar. An AFP reporter at the scene said the area near the base had been cordoned off by NATO forces and helicopters were flying overhead.

Although the first two checkpoints on the approach to the base were visible there was no sign of an explosion, he said, adding that police and residents told him that the blast happened further on towards the base. "I was on my way to school when there was suddenly a huge explosion which knocked me down," said schoolboy Samiullah. "I saw thick smoke and flames rising from the inside of this camp." Provincial spokesman Din Mohammad Darwish said: "The explosives had been hidden inside a truck used for transporting and mixing cement. It happened at the gate of the base."

Taliban insurgents claimed responsibility for the attack, some 70 km south of the capital Kabul. "At around 9:00 am one of our mujahideen (holy warriors) carried out a suicide truck bomb attack on a big US forces' camp resulting in many deaths and injuries," Taliban spokesman Zabiullah Mujahid said in a text message. In an earlier sign of increasing Taliban activity in Logar province, three Afghans who worked for NATO were kidnapped by the Taliban and their bodies dumped in the main bazaar of Charkh district last week, officials said.

In Kabul, President Hamid Karzai condemned the attack on the minibus near the capital, saying nine people had been killed, updating an earlier toll of eight. "Terrorists who plant roadside bombs on public routes during the holy month of Ramadan, targeting and killing innocent Muslim civilians, are definitely neither Muslims nor Afghans," he said. All the dead were men, apparently on their way to work from what had been a relatively peaceful area on the western outskirts of the city. But in the same district in late June, militants armed with guns and rockets attacked a popular lakeside hotel killing at least 18 people.



The man who set off the bomb had been captured with the cooperation of local residents who beat him up, police said, describing him as a member of the hardline Islamist Taleban waging an insurgency against the Afghan government. For the past five years the number of civilians killed in the war has risen steadily, reaching a record 3,021 in 2011, with the vast majority of the deaths blamed on insurgents, according to UN figures.

The latest attacks will add to growing concerns over the country's future once NATO troops withdraw as planned by the end of 2014, handing responsibility for security to Afghan forces. Western politicians keen to get their troops out of an increasingly unpopular war regularly talk up the ability of the Afghan army and police to cope on their own, but there is widespread fear of a multi-factional civil war once they leave. – AFP



## **AFPAK**

### **9. [Attack, Afghanistan] Donkey bomb kills Afghan district police chief**

8/6/2012

[http://zeenews.india.com/news/south-asia/donkey-bomb-kills-afghan-district-police-chief\\_792123.html](http://zeenews.india.com/news/south-asia/donkey-bomb-kills-afghan-district-police-chief_792123.html)

Kabul: The anti- government militants planted mine on the back of a donkey and targeted a district police chief killing him on the spot and injuring three others in Ghor province 360 km west of Afghan capital Kabul on Monday, provincial police chief said.

"The rebels planted mine on a donkey and stopped it near the gate of the district headquarters of Charsada district and when the district police chief arrived at the gate at around 09:00 a.m. local time to go to his office, the rebels exploded it by remote control killing the police chief on the spot," Dilawar Shah Dilawar told Xinhua.

Condemning the incident, Dilawar said that the donkey was also killed in blast, adding the trick exposes Taliban cruelty against both human being and animals.

Three more police were injured in the incident, the provincial police chief added.

Taliban militants fighting the government have yet to comment.



## AFPAK

### 10. [Attack, Pakistan] Five Killed and 11 Injured in Quetta Bomb Blast

8/6/2012

<http://www.salem-news.com/articles/august062012/quetta-blast-pk.php>

The powerful bomb blast on Sunday went off at around 11:50 a.m.

QUETTA: Five people, including two women and two children, were killed and 11 others were injured on Sunday

(FAISALABAD, Pakistan) - Five people, including two women and two children, were killed and 11 others were injured on Sunday after an 80kg explosive being driven around by a suspected militant accidentally went off before he could reach his intended target.



“We have found a severed head, believed to be of a militant who was killed in the blast,” police officer Mukhtar Ahmed told reporters following the incident that ripped apart a house in the Faizabad area of the provincial capital.

“The target was not clear. We have launched an investigation to identify the militant. Police are also interrogating the owner of the house,” he added.

Abdul Razzaq, in-charge of the bomb-disposal squad in Quetta, told reporters that the car was carrying between 80 and 100 kg (180-220 pounds) of explosives. According to police details, the explosion occurred outside the house of Dr Azam Mengal, located on Killi Faizabad, Sariab Road. Following the explosion, flames engulfed and eventually gutted the entire house. Three cars and two other houses in the vicinity were also badly damaged. The 11 victims were shifted to the Civil Hospital and Bolan Medical Complex (BMC) by Edhi ambulances and were identified as Hassan Nasir, Zahid, Bibi Samina, Bibi Abida, Laraiab, Zehra, Nadra, Yasin and Shafiullah. According to hospital sources, their condition is said to be critical.

Following the explosion, police and the FC personnel reached the scene and cordoned off the area. DIG Operations Wazir Khan Nassar told reporters that an 80kg explosive in the car had caused the explosion and massive destruction. He added that Dr Azam Mengal was currently in Dubai, and had rented the house to some people belonging to Noshki.

Upon receiving news of the incident, President Asif Ali Zardari strongly condemned the blast and said that such dastardly acts of terrorism would not deter the people’s determination to root out terrorism from the country. The president expressed sorrow over the loss of lives and directed that the best medical care be provided to the casualties. Information Minister Qamar Zaman Kaira and Minister of State for Information Syed Samsam Bukhari also condemned the Quetta bomb blast.

Muhammad Ejaz Khan adds: The powerful bomb blast, which killed at least five persons, including children, on Sunday went off at around 11:50am. The thud of the explosion was heard several kilometres away in the provincial





capital. Panic gripped the area soon after the blast, and frightened people could be seen running around after the powerful explosion. Confirming the number of deaths, official sources said that five persons were killed in the powerful bomb explosion.

Eyewitnesses told The News that the billowing smoke could be seen following the loud bang of the explosion. Due to the explosion, a portion of the house caved in as well. "I saw nothing but darkness. When I opened my eyes in the hospital, I was being treated," said one of the injured while talking to reporters.

DIG Police Wazir Khan Nasar confirmed that the explosion had taken place inside a vehicle near the house, and added that police had launched an investigation into the incident. The names of the other deceased are yet to be confirmed because the deceased recently shifted to the house, said police officials.



## AFPAK

### 11. [Attack, Afghanistan] Nangarhar mosque bomb injures at least 19 worshippers

8/4/2012

[http://centralasiaonline.com/en\\_GB/articles/caii/newsbriefs/2012/08/04/newsbrief-06](http://centralasiaonline.com/en_GB/articles/caii/newsbriefs/2012/08/04/newsbrief-06)

JALALABAD- A bomb hidden inside a mosque exploded during Friday prayers in eastern Afghanistan August 3, wounding at least 19 worshippers, including the imam, officials said.

The attack in Chaparhar town in Nangarhar province came just days after a provincial judge was killed and four civilians were wounded in a mosque bombing in southern Uruzgan province.

"The bomb went off close to the imam as he was offering the Friday prayer," provincial spokesman Ahmad Zia Abdulzai told AFP.

"Nineteen people have been injured, among them the imam who is in a critical condition," he said, blaming Taliban insurgents for the bombing.

A spokesman for the Taliban denied responsibility for the attack.



## **AFPAK**

### **12. [Attack, Afghanistan] Afghan remote bomb kills three**

8/4/2012

<http://www.breakingnews.ie/world/afghan-remote-bomb-kills-three-561845.html>

Afghan police say a remote-controlled bomb in a busy market has killed two policemen and one civilian in the country's north west. The explosion went off as shoppers were hurrying to buy food to break the day's fast for the Muslim holy month of Ramadan.

Faryab provincial police chief Abdul Khaliq Asye said the explosives were detonated remotely and appeared to target police, who had stopped at the market in Ghormach district about 300 miles north west of Kabul, the capital.

The blast came after 6pm Friday, prime shopping hour for iftar, the meal marking the end of the daily fast.



## **AFPAK**

### **13. [Security, Pakistan] Militant hideout unearthed in Kishtwar**

8/10/2012

<http://www.punjabnewslines.com/content/militant-hideout-unearthed-kishtwar/55567>

JAMMU: Security forces have unearthed a militant hideout in Kishtwar district of Jammu and Kashmir and recovered some arms and ammunition from there, including 3kg of explosives.

On specific inputs, troops of the Rashtriya Rifles and police during a search operation unearthed a hideout in Mughal Maidan area of Kishtwar district yesterday, a defence spokesman said here today.

The recoveries from the hideout included three kg explosive, three detonators, one IED remote, one country-made rifle, three bundles of cable, 10 rounds of 303 ammunition, nine rounds of AK ammunition, one khukri and one bottle of oil, he said.



## **AFPAK**

### **14. [Security, Afghanistan] 5 militants killed by their own planted bomb**

8/7/2012

<http://www.onlinenews.com.pk/details.php?newsid=199174>

KHYBER AGENCY: At least five militants were killed in bomb blast in Tehsil Bara of Khyber Agency, lawless tribal region border with war-torn Afghanistan.

According to security forces, commander of a banned organization Rahim along with four of his accomplices were planting a bomb at the road side in Akakhel area in Tehsil Bara of Khyber Agency which went off, killing all the five militants.

Security officials reached the sight of the blast and started investigation.



## **AFPAK**

### **15. [Security, Afghanistan] 4 Taliban bomb makers detained in S. Afghanistan**

8/7/2012

<http://truthdive.com/2012/08/07/4-Taliban-bomb-makers-detained-in-S-Afghanistan.html>

Kabul, Aug. 7 (Xinhua-ANI): Four Taliban expert bomb makers were detained by the Afghan police in the country's southern province of Helmand, a senior provincial police official said Tuesday.

"Afghan National Police (ANP) during a special operation detained four Taliban bomb makers in Shorshorak area of Nawa district late Monday," police official Colonel Abdul Karim Hamidi told reporters.

"The detained bomb makers constructed roadside bombs or Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) for attacks against Afghan and coalition troops and trained other insurgents in constructing IEDs to target security forces in the province," the police official added.

Three IEDs, a pistol, a handful of explosive materials and two motorcycles were also found in their possession, Hamidi said.

Afghan Taliban has launched massive IED attacks against ISAF and Afghan national security force in recent years. Earlier Tuesday, eight government employees were killed and four others injured when an IED detonated near a bus in Paghman district in western part of capital Kabul.

The Taliban insurgents, who have been waging more than a decade-long insurgency, launched an annual spring offensive starting from May 3 to target Afghan forces as well as U.S. and NATO troops across the country.

The insurgent group has yet to confirm the capture of its four bomb experts.



## **AFPAK**

### **16. [Security, Afghanistan] Nato kill Haqqani militant**

8/6/2012

<http://www.morningstaronline.co.uk/news/content/view/full/122339>

Nato killed a local commander of the Haqqani insurgent group in an airstrike in eastern Afghanistan, a spokesman for the military alliance said today.

Sher Mohammad Hakimi was sitting under a tree in Logar province with some associates when the Nato strike killed him on Sunday. Four others were injured.

Nato claimed that Mr Hakimi was known for organising roadside bomb attacks, transporting weapons and training insurgents. Nato said he also served directly under Haqqani leader Muhammad Agha.

The Pakistan-based Haqqani network is allied with the Taliban and al-Qaida and is believed to be responsible for a host of attacks in Kabul and surrounding provinces.



## AFPAK

### 17. [Security, Afghanistan] Taliban's bomb haul destroyed

8/5/2012

[http://www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/news/campaigns/our\\_boys/4471676/Talibans-bomb-haul-destroyed.html](http://www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/news/campaigns/our_boys/4471676/Talibans-bomb-haul-destroyed.html)

ELITE British troops have found and destroyed a monster cache of Taliban explosives in a life-saving desert triumph.

The quarter-ton haul in Afghanistan would have been enough to blast off “30 pairs of legs”, bomb experts said.

The deadly hoard, along with pressure plates to turn it into lethal booby-trap bombs, was found by troops from A Squadron, The Light Dragoons, Brigade Reconnaissance Force. They chanced on it hidden in a ditch — or wadi — in the Taliban's backyard of Nahr-e Saraj, Helmand.



Squadron Sergeant Major Brian Howard, 37, said: “The bomb disposal guys said we had probably saved 60 limbs, or 30 pairs of legs. Ultimately, we've saved lives.”

He told how they moved in under cover after spotting a blue tarpaulin in the wadi. He said: “I didn't want anyone watching to realise what was going on, so we quickly dropped off six men then moved off in our vehicles to keep the dust screen moving.”

British bomb disposal experts blew the haul sky high — captured in these exclusive photos taken by troops on the ground last week.

Tpr Jamie McCartney, 23, who uncovered the stash, said: “Finding this stuff has had a huge impact on the enemy's ability to strike us and the local people.

“It's a job well done. Each bit we do helps us to get on top.”





## **AFPAK**

### **18. [Security, Pakistan] Mishandled explosives: Man hurt as bomb explodes in pocket**

8/4/2012

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/417433/mishandled-explosives-man-hurt-as-bomb-explodes-in-pocket/>

QUETTA: Two men were injured on Friday night when a homemade bomb in one of their pockets went off just as they were travelling on McChongey Road.

The two men were riding on a motorcycle and one of them was carrying a one-pound explosive device in his trousers pocket which exploded, injuring the two, one of them critically. They were rushed to the Civil Hospital, where they were identified as Shujaat and Qasim. The motorcycle was mangled in the blast, police sources said. A case has been registered and an investigation is under way.

Meanwhile, six people, including two policemen, were injured when unidentified men on a motorbike lobbed a grenade on a CID police vehicle at Seerat Chowk in the industrial town of Hub on Friday night. In another incident, one person was killed and a passer-by wounded in firing in the Mand area of Kech district.



## AFPAK

### 19. [Trend, Afghanistan] The Changing Face of Suicide Bombing

8/9/2012

<http://www.soschildrensvillages.ca/News/News/child-protection-news/child-soldier-news/Pages/Changing-Face-Suicide-Bombing-351.aspx>

One expert predicts we'll see more female and child suicide bombers. Children as young as six years old have been told to carry out suicide attacks in Afghanistan.

In a special to CNN, security expert, Dr. Mia Bloom, warned, "Terrorists do not fit a particular profile. No longer can we expect them to look a certain way, be of a certain age or indeed even that they be men."

Single women, mothers, particularly attractive women, grandmothers, teenage girls and boys, and children have all been targeted to carry out suicide attacks. Many have succeeded in their missions, killing many people and losing their lives in the process.

Dr. Bloom, a McGill, Georgetown and Columbia University alumna, is a fellow at the Pennsylvania State University International Centre for the Study of Terrorism. She is also a professor of International Studies and Women's Studies. In her newest book, *Bombshell: The Many Faces of Women Terrorists*, Dr. Bloom examines why more women than ever are taking active roles in terrorism. She has previously predicted the world will see higher numbers of female and child suicide bombers.

Some women are coerced into joining up, although other are not and are motivated by revenge, family relationships or other factors. In some cases, violence against women motivates women to join terrorist networks. An example Dr. Bloom gave in an interview last year with *Macleans* magazine is in Sri Lanka, where soldiers reportedly raped Tamil women who were then recruited by the Tamil Tigers to conduct suicide bombings as a way of escaping the dishonor with which their families may regard them. Similar tactics have been used in Iraq by insurgents who offer raped women condemned to die a chance to die with purpose.

According to Dr. Bloom, between 2006 and 2008, about a dozen Iraqi women have targeted civilians and American soldiers in "martyrdom operations."

Women and children both may have the element of surprise in suicide bomb attacks, attracting less suspicion and garnering more media attention when the attack is carried out.

Dr. Bloom highlights that Osama bin Laden's last and most-recently released documents state that focus in Afghanistan has turned to "luring" youth. To do so, terrorist networks manufacture "cultures of martyrdom," to target children, she says. This culture is shaped by religious teachings, educational material, media programming geared at youth, community expectations and charismatic individuals. Essentially, the societal norms shift to encourage a new goal: when children grow up—and even before—what they want to be is a martyr.

Suicide bombing in Afghanistan was largely rejected until the early 2000s, when the devastation it wrought in Iraq influenced fighting factions. And, as modern warfare evolves and terrorist networks become increasingly desperate, the tactics with which armed groups exploit children and use child combatants is likewise transforming.

In March, an Australian aid worker—49-year-old David Savage—was injured when a child suicide bomber set off explosives in Afghanistan's Chora district, Oruzgan province.



“The cold tactic of using any human being—especially children—to conduct suicide attacks is utterly despicable, and I denounce these tactics,” said General John R. Allen, commander of international forces in Afghanistan, after the arrests of two child bombers in February.

The month before this statement, an article by the UK’s Telegraph stated that about 100 child suicide bombers were intercepted in Afghanistan the previous year. These child suicide bombers are not so different from the child soldiers from more well-known conflicts in west and central Africa.

“Coercion, drugs and even alcohol are used to manipulate young operatives and stiffen resolve, much like the abuse of child soldiers in Africa,” wrote Dr. Bloom in her CNN special this week.

Along similar lines, the Telegraph’s January story chronicles how terrorists lied to child recruits, brainwashing them into carrying out attacks. In Afghanistan, for instance, young recruits were told that God will save them from the bombs and will accept their parents into Paradise. Children believe the bombs will kill only soldiers and infidels. The boys recruited are often illiterate and stuffed full of anti-Western propaganda until they are ready to attack. Often, boys are recruited from religious schools in Pakistan, where their poverty-stricken parents send them to receive a free education.

So, how do we prevent suicide attacks by the newest recruits to terrorist movements—and how do we care for children exploited by such movements?

Dr. Bloom reveals that most people who leave a terrorist organization do so when their expectations are let down. “Showing them what terrorists actually do (coerce, rape and even drug women and children) helps to create powerful counternarratives,” she writes.

Ensuring the existence of escape routes for women and children is also vital, as bombers who change their minds and refuse to carry out their attacks often get no leniency and treated as though they had attacked.

Just as in the case of more conventional child soldiers, demobilization, rehabilitation and reintegration principles come into play. Human rights groups in the Swat Valley are working to de-radicalize child recruits through a safe environment and education, writes Dr. Bloom with a warning:

“The next generation of terrorists will not grow up to take up arms but will do so while still children.”



## AFPAK

### 20. [Trend, Afghanistan] More than 16,500 IED bomb incidents in 2011, says govt. report

8/7/2012

<http://www.themoralliberal.com/2012/08/07/more-than-16500-ied-bomb-incidents-in-2011-says-govt-report/>

More than 16,500 improvised explosive devices were detonated — or discovered before detonation — against U.S. military personnel deployed in Afghanistan in 2011 proving that the improvised explosive device (IED) is the current terrorists' and insurgents' weapon of choice, according to a government report obtained by the National Association of Chiefs of Police's Explosives and Incendiary Devices Study Group on Monday.

According to officials at the Department of Defense, IEDs will most probably be encountered in present and future conflicts due to being relatively inexpensive to develop while their effectiveness is proven by the number of military deaths and casualties, as well as the destruction of military vehicles and other assets. And that doesn't include those IEDs developed by domestic terrorists on the U.S. mainland that will be encountered by police bomb squads.

A number of DOD divisions, including all of the military branches, have been pursuing counter-IED (C-IED) efforts leading up to June 2005 when DOD established the Joint IED Defeat Task Force, followed in 2006 with the creation of the Joint IED Defeat Organization (JIEDDO) to lead and coordinate all DOD actions to defeat IEDs.

"From fiscal years 2006 through 2011, JIEDDO has received over \$18 billion in funding, however, DOD has funded other C-IED efforts outside of JIEDDO, including \$40 billion for Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles," states the Government Accountability Office report.

GAO analysts reported in February 2012 that DOD does not have full visibility over all of its C-IED efforts. DOD relies on various sources and systems for managing its C-IED efforts, but has not developed a process that provides DOD with a comprehensive listing of its C-IED initiatives and activities.

In response to a GAO recommendation that the Secretary of Defense direct JIEDDO to develop an implementation plan for the establishment of DOD's C-IED database including a detailed timeline with milestones to help achieve this goal, DOD officials said that a revision of DOD's Directive No. 2000.19E will contain a new task requiring combatant commands, the military services, and DOD agencies to report C-IED initiatives to JIEDDO.

GAO analysts stated in their report: "This would include programming and funding pursued by a military service, combatant command, or other DOD component, in addition to activities funded by JIEDDO. In January 2012, DOD estimated it would complete draft revisions to DOD Directive 2000.19E in early 2012, but as of July 2012, Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) officials stated that the revised draft was under review at the OSD level, and therefore, not issued. In addition, according to JIEDDO officials, DOD is conducting an ongoing review of C-IED capabilities across the Department that may affect JIEDDO and the contents of the draft directive."

"Because DOD lacks a comprehensive database of C-IED initiatives, we conducted a department-wide survey to determine the number of different C-IED initiatives and the organizations developing them from fiscal year 2008 through the closing date of our survey, January 6, 2012, and the extent to which DOD is funding these initiatives; and the extent and nature of any overlap that could lead to duplication of C-IED efforts. We briefed committee staff on the results of our survey and analysis," the analysts stated in their report to the House of Representatives.



UNCLASSIFIED

For example, the GAO survey data identified 19 organizations with 107 initiatives being developed to combat cell phone-triggered IEDs. While the concentration of initiatives in itself does not constitute duplication, this concentration taken together with the high number of different DOD organizations that are undertaking these initiatives and JIEDDO's inability to identify and compare C-IED initiatives, demonstrates overlap and the potential for duplication of effort.



## AFRICOM

### 21. [Attack, Somalia] Bomb kills 8 Somali soldiers in Mogadishu

8/9/2012

<http://www.iol.co.za/news/africa/bomb-kills-8-somali-soldiers-in-mogadishu-1.1359603#.UCPC0k1ISLI>

Mogadishu - At least eight Somali government troops were killed when a remote-controlled bomb hit their vehicle in Mogadishu, officials said on Thursday, highlighting lingering security risks less than two weeks before the U.N.-backed government's mandate ends.

Somalia's Islamist al Shabaab group claimed responsibility for the attack on Wednesday evening.

Government troops and African Union peacekeepers say they have tightened security before a presidential election on August 20 when the transitional government will be dissolved.

A combined force including Kenyan, Burundian, Ethiopian and Djiboutian troops is planning an offensive on Kismayu, Somalia's second biggest city and a hub for al Shabaab, before then.

Residents said the military vehicle had been destroyed by a roadside bomb in the Huriwaa district of northern Mogadishu.

"A bomb killed eight soldiers and completely destroyed their pickup. Only two, including the driver, survived with injuries," Mohamed Abdikadir, a senior police officer, told Reuters.

Although Somali troops and peacekeepers of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) drove al Shabaab fighters from most of Mogadishu in August 2011, the latest bombing shows the militants can still stage deadly attacks in the capital.

Al Shabaab has threatened more attacks as Somalia's three top government officials and a dozen other politicians campaign for the presidency. Last week the government foiled two would-be suicide bombers who targeted a conference hall where delegates approved a draft constitution.

"We destroyed the government pickup yesterday," Sheikh Abdiasis Abu Musab, military spokesman for al Shabaab, told Reuters. "AMISOM and government forces will never sleep or relax. More explosions await them."

On Tuesday, Uganda's military, which provides the bulk of peacekeeping force, said it had deployed an air force contingent to reinforce the troops in their fight against al Shabaab. - Reuters



## AFRICOM

### 22. [Attack, Nigeria] Sect claims attacks in northeast Nigeria

8/6/2012

[http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/world/ci\\_21247341/sect-claims-attacks-northeast-nigeria](http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/world/ci_21247341/sect-claims-attacks-northeast-nigeria)

MAIDUGURI, Nigeria—A radical Islamist sect says it is responsible for a car suicide bombing that killed eight people in Nigeria's northeast.

An email statement attributed to a Boko Haram spokesman and obtained by The Associated Press on Monday said "one of (their) fighters" caused an explosion Sunday in the city of Damaturu.

Police say six soldiers and two civilians were killed in Sunday's blast.

The statement also claimed responsibility for two other attacks in two other northeast Nigerian cities. It was not immediately clear which attacks it was referring to.

The statement comes after an Internet video featuring the sect's leader was posted on YouTube Saturday.

Boko Haram is held responsible for more than 660 deaths this year alone according to an AP count.



## AFRICOM

### 23. [Attack, Libya] Libya's Tripoli sees 1st car bomb blast since Gaddafi fall

8/6/2012

<http://muslimvillage.com/2012/08/06/26168/libyas-tripoli-sees-1st-car-bomb-blast-since-gaddafi-fall/>

PanARMENIAN.Net – A car bomb exploded near the offices of the military police in Tripoli early on Saturday, August 4 a senior security source said, the first such attack in the Libyan capital since the start of a revolt that toppled the regime of Muammar Gaddafi last year, according to Reuters.



The source said the blast slightly wounded a Tunisian national, but it could not say who might have been behind it.

A Reuters witness said police had cordoned off the area around the blast's location.

Several violent incidents have rocked Libya in recent days but these have been mostly confined to the eastern city of Benghazi.



Also in Benghazi, seven Iranian relief workers were abducted on Tuesday by an armed group just as they started an official mission as guests of the Libyan Red Crescent Association, which is still seeking to get them released.





## AFRICOM

### 24. [Attack, Nigeria] Emir Escapes Suicide Bomb Attack In Yobe

8/3/2012

<http://thestreetjournal.org/2012/08/emir-escapes-suicide-bomb-attack-in-yobe/>

The Emir of Fika who doubles as the Chairman of the Yobe State Council of Chiefs, Mohammed Abali Ibn Idrissa on Friday escaped a suicide bomb attack. The incident happened just after the Friday prayers at the Potiskum Central mosque located in the Emir's palace.

The suicide bomber was noticed trying to get close to the traditional ruler. A policeman attached to the Emir however barred the bomber. Seeing that he might end up being prevented from achieving his aim, the bomber brought out a gun which had been concealed in his clothes. The bomb on him however exploded before he could open fire.



At least four people were injured by the blast. The Emir's orderly and the suicide bomber also died in the attack.

The Shehu of Borno was the target of a similar attack weeks ago.



## AFRICOM

### 25. [Security, Nigeria] Nigeria: Police Foil Bomb Attack On Sokoto PDP Headquarters

8/9/2012

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201208090192.html>

Sokoto — Two suspected bombers, yesterday, attempted to attack Peoples Democratic Party, PDP, state secretariat on Akilu Road, Sokoto State.

The unidentified assailants, who rode on a motorcycle, tried to hand over a black polythene bag, suspected to contain a bomb, to a police officer who was on duty at the party office, saying Ga kayan Gwari, meaning "Here is a perishable item."

Suspecting that the bag contained explosives, the police officer refused to collect the bag and drew the attention of police anti-bomb squad, which moved in and defused the bomb.

Eyewitnesses said the man dropped the item in front of the PDP secretariat and sped off. Vanguard gathered that when men of the anti-bomb squad arrived, they ordered an evacuation of all persons in the nearby offices and residences.

State Deputy Chairman of PDP, Alhaji Ibrahim Balarabe, told newsmen at the scene that their attention was drawn to the incident.

He said: "Our attention was drawn to the ugly development, but we are grateful to God that it did not explode."

The state Commissioner of Police, Alhaji Musa Aliyu, said the Anti-Bomb Disposal Unit of the Command saved the situation.

He called on members of the public to complement the efforts of the Police by providing information at all times.

"On our part, we will continue to do our best to sustain the peaceful nature the state," he added.



## AFRICOM

### 26. [Security, Nigeria] Bomb Factory Discovered in Nigerian City

8/5/2012

<http://english.cri.cn/6966/2012/08/05/191s715442.htm>

Nigerian troops in central north Kaduna State on Saturday said they raided a bomb factory where it impounded different cans of explosives and bomb-making powder.

Spokesperson for the Nigerian Army in Kaduna Col. Sani Usman said security agents discovered the factory along Abuja Road, Rigasa, Kaduna, on Friday after one of the devices exploded.

"We discovered an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) factory where suspected terrorists were in the process of coupling the IEDs and we detonated some," he told reporters.

According to Usman, the troops recovered IEDs at various stages of development, cans of 33cl, a sack containing 33cl, empty cans and two IEDs packed in fire extinguisher tubes as well as timing devices during cordoned and search.

Usman said the troops arrested one suspect, while others escaped, shot and wounded two residents in the area.

He said the factory had been demolished and advised property owners to be wary of their tenants.



## CENTCOM

### 27. [Attack, Iraq] Suicide bomber hits North Iraq Shi'ite mosque, kills five

8/10/2012

<http://kgmi.com/Suicide-bomber-hits-North-Iraq-Shi-ite-mosque-kill/11461924?newsId=159896>

MOSUL, Iraq (Reuters) - A suicide bomber driving a truck attacked a Shi'ite mosque near the northern Iraqi city of Mosul as Friday prayers ended, killing at least five people and wounding 70, police and health officials said.

The mosque where the bomber detonated his explosives belonged to the Shabak minority in Mosul, 390 km (240 miles) north of Baghdad.

"A suicide car bomber targeted a Shabak mosque in Mwafaqiya village," said Hanin Qaddo, a local Shabak leader. "Part of the mosque building collapsed over the heads of the worshippers as they were leaving."



A wave of attacks on mainly Shi'ite pilgrims and religious sites in recent months has increased worries about sectarian violence as Iraq's Shi'ite, Sunni and Kurdish leaders struggle to end a crisis over their fragile power-sharing agreement.

The site of Friday's blast is near disputed territories at the centre of a feud between Baghdad's Arab-led central government and the autonomous Kurdistan region in the north, which runs its own government and armed forces.

Insurgents have carried out at least one major bombing a month since Americans troops left in December. July was the bloodiest month in two years, including one day of attacks that left more than 100 dead.



## **CENTCOM**

### **28. [Attack, Turkey] Bombs hit bus carrying Turkish troops, 1 killed**

8/9/2012

<http://www.lakewyliepilot.com/2012/08/09/1624002/bomb-hits-bus-carrying-turkish.html>

ANKARA, Turkey --

Two roadside bombs struck a bus carrying Turkish troops to a navy base in the country's west, killing one soldier and wounding 11 people on Thursday, the governor's office said.

The explosions hit the bus near the base on the outskirts of the Aegean resort town of Foca, the governor's office in Izmir said. Gov. Cahit Kirac of Izmir province said one soldier was killed and 11 people were wounded in the attack.

The state-run Anadolu Agency said six soldiers were among the wounded. The rest of the wounded were civilians employed by the military, reports said.

Earlier, Turkey's state-run TRT television, without citing source, said 30 soldiers were wounded in the attack but the governor's office said the report was wrong.

The attack came days after Turkey's interior minister claimed Sunday that Turkish troops have killed as many as 115 suspected Kurdish rebels in a major clash near the southeastern town of Semdinli.

Kurdish rebels are fighting for autonomy in the country's Kurdish-dominated southeast but have also staged attacks elsewhere in the country.



## CENTCOM

### 29. [Attack, Iraq] 11 killed in Iraqi car bomb blast

8/9/2012

[http://www.panarmenian.net/eng/news/118910/11\\_killed\\_in\\_Iraqi\\_car\\_bomb\\_blast](http://www.panarmenian.net/eng/news/118910/11_killed_in_Iraqi_car_bomb_blast)

Eleven people have been killed in a car bomb attack near the central town of Suwayrah, officials say, according to BBC News.

The attack took place close to a group of Shia Muslims who had gathered to break their Ramadan fast. At least 20 others were wounded in the blast.

The explosion also sparked a large fire in a nearby market and damaged adjacent houses, the AFP agency reports.

There has been an increase in sectarian violence across Iraq in recent months amid worsening political tensions.



"Nobody here expected an attack like this. The security measures were light because we thought that our area is safe and free of violence," local resident Khalil Ali told the Associated Press.

Also on Wednesday, gunmen shot dead a lawyer and seven members of his family in their home in the town of Beiji.

Islamist militants have recently issued threats to kill judges and investigators.

Last month more than 240 people were killed in militant attacks.

Sunni insurgents linked to al-Qaeda appear to have been behind most of the recent violence, including a wave of bombings and shootings in Baghdad and towns to the north on 23 July which left at least 107 dead.



## CENTCOM

### 30. [Attack, Iraq] Iraq attacks on Shia and lawyers leave 19 dead

8/9/2012

<http://www.newsonair.com/news.asp?cat=international&id=IN9291>

A car bomb targeting Shiite pilgrims in Iraq and the shooting of a lawyer and his family left 19 people dead last night, after al-Qaeda warned it would target lawyers and retake territory in a new campaign. The attacks were the latest in an apparent spike in unrest since the beginning of the Muslim holy fasting month of Ramadan, bringing to 88 the number of people killed so far this month.

In the deadliest incident, a vehicle packed with explosives ripped through a group of Shiite worshippers during a commemoration ceremony in Al-Tanmiyah village, around 50 kilometres southeast of Baghdad. It also sparked a large fire in a nearby market and damaged adjacent houses. The blast struck just before the iftar meal that breaks the daily fast Muslims engage in during Ramadan.

Earlier yesterday, gunmen shot dead a lawyer, his judicial investigator son and six of their family members in a town north of Baghdad.



## CENTCOM

### 31. [Attack, Syria] Syria TV 'hit by bomb attack' in Damascus

8/7/2012

<http://www.onlinenews.com.pk/details.php?newsid=199155&catname=World>

DAMASCUS: A bomb on Monday exploded on the third floor of the Syrian state TV and radio building in the capital, Damascus, Syrian television reports.

Three people have been wounded, the reports say. State TV continued broadcasting and pro-government TV channel al-Ikhbariya showed pictures of staff looking after an injured colleague.

In June, gunmen attacked the offices of al-Ikhbariya TV, south of Damascus, killing seven people. Rebel forces took over several areas of Damascus in recent weeks, but the army has since regained control of the city.





## CENTCOM

### 32. [Attack, Bahrain] Bahraini policeman wounded in bomb attack

8/7/2012

<http://www.arabianbusiness.com/bahraini-policeman-wounded-in-bomb-attack-468961.html?tab=Article>

A petrol bomb attack on a patrol of Bahraini policemen seriously wounded one officer, the state news agency said on Tuesday, the latest in a series of attacks on police in the Gulf Arab state say they have suffered in recent months.

The policeman was part of a foot patrol in the Bani Jamra district, west of the capital Manama, said the state's BNA news agency. It said he had suffered medium burns all over his body and had been taken to hospital for treatment.

The public prosecutor's office also said this week that 15 people "of all levels of responsibility" - thought to be security officials - would face charges for the mistreatment of medics, an apparent reference to a case in which a group of doctors said they had been tortured during their detention ahead of a military trial last year.

Bahrain has been in turmoil since a pro-democracy uprising erupted in February 2011 after revolts in Egypt and Tunisia. Although the authorities have managed to stop further mass protests convulsing the capital, unrest has continued as majority Shi'ites often clash with police in Shi'ite districts.

Led by the Sunni Al Khalifa family, the government said last week that 700 policemen had been hurt in the violence.

Opposition groups say over 45 people have died due to clashes since a period of martial law ended in June last year, though the government says many of those deaths were not linked to the unrest.

Last week, an international human rights group accused the Bahraini government of indiscriminate use of tear gas against protesters resulting in the maiming, blinding, and killing of civilians. The government dismissed those charges.

Shi'ite doctors became embroiled in the uprising last year, treating thousands of protesters and expressing sympathy with the protest movement in comments to media at the time.

The statement from the prosecutor's office, published in the daily al-Wasat newspaper on Monday, appeared to refer to the case of 20 doctors and nurses from the Salmaniya complex who were last year charged with occupying a hospital, incitement to overthrow the monarchy, and possessing weapons.

Many of the doctors and nurses said they had been tortured during their detention and forced to make confessions for state television that were never aired.

"Fifteen suspects of all levels of responsibility were questioned and charges filed against them, and procedures are underway for final preparation of the case," the statement said.

The medics were released and the case was retried in a civilian court where most of the charges were dropped.

However, in June nine were found guilty of charges including inciting hatred, calling for the overthrow of the



state's rulers, and making statements to media from inside the hospital.

A rights commission led by international legal experts said in November that torture had been used systematically against hundreds of people arrested during the period when martial law was in force.

Last week, during a Congressional hearing on Bahrain, US Assistant Secretary of State Michael Posner expressed disappointment that only nine policemen had been brought to trial so far over claims of abuse during that time.



## CENTCOM

### 33. [Attack, Turkey] Bomb explosion hits Kirkuk-Ceyhan pipeline

8/7/2012

<http://www.menafn.com/menafn/1093544149/Bomb-explosion-hits-KirkukCeyhan-pipeline>

(MENAFN) The Turkish Ministry of Energy stated that a pipeline blast stopped oil flow from Iraq's Kirkuk to Turkey's Ceyhan, reported Kuwait News Agency (KUNA).

The ministry said that the bomb explosion hit the 970-kilometer Kirkuk-Ceyhan Oil Pipeline in Mardin province, south Turkey, near the country's Syrian borders.

The ministry, which added that the explosion is an act of sabotage, accused the fighters of the separatist Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) of carrying out the blast.

In late June, the banned PKK, which has launched a separatist war against the Turkish Republic since 1984, targeted the pipeline.

It is worth mentioning that the technical teams will take at least 10 days to repair the damage from the blast, the second of its kind in less than 20 days and the third within 2 months.



## CENTCOM

### 34. [Attack, Egypt] Thai Pattani Hotel Hit by Car Bomb

8/6/2012

<http://news.carrentals.co.uk/thai-pattani-hotel-hit-by-car-bomb-34259236.html>

On Thursday afternoon, there was an eruption of violence between rioters and police at a hotel in Cairo, resulting in one death. Dozens of people with molotov cocktails set several parked vehicles on fire outside the Fairmont Nile City Towers complex. They also attacked sections of the building.

Orascom Construction Industries, who has an office in the complex, claims that the clash started when a man went into the Fairmont Hotel and began to demand money. An officer confronted him and was then attacked. In return, the officer shot and killed the attacker. Right after this, residents from the shacks behind Nile City arrived in three minibuses and several motorcycles. They attacked the hotel and attempted to burn it down.

Nile City Towers management sealed the complex after the residents started burning cars and motorcycles in the forecourt. The violence was focused at the north tower and the Fairmont Hotel next to it. Emergency and security services reported to the scene, trying to extinguish the blazing situation, and the Nile corniche road had to be shut off from other traffic. By the evening, injury and death tolls hadn't been confirmed, but some have reported one other injury from a gunshot wound.



This isn't the first time that local residents have attacked the towers recently – having done so on June 27. That incident started when the complex's staff allegedly refused to provide water to help extinguish a fire that had taken over one of the residents' wooden shacks. The violence led to a five-year-old boy being killed.

This latest attack on Thursday, however, also wasn't the only violence to hit Egypt among tensions throughout the country. Armed villagers in Bani Suef attacked a camp of police the same day after reports that an officer had harassed a local woman. The gun fire that ensued left one villager dead and five injured. The governor's office was attacked afterward – with police cars being set on fire and windows being shattered.

Also on the same day, the nation's Islamist president, Mohammed Morsi, swore in his first new government. The government is led by a devout Muslim and five members of his Muslim Brotherhood – who have been positioned in ideal ministries and aim to Islamize a country that's mostly Arabic. The administration leaves out the leaders of the uprising that ousted Hosni Mubarak just last year.

Prime Minister Hesham Kandil told a news conference before the swearing-in ceremony that everyone in the Arab Republic of Egypt is an Egyptian. This is a government for the people and doesn't belong to a trend. He paid tribute



to the 18-day uprising last year that ousted Mubarak, saying that the government will work toward realizing “Bread, freedom and social justice”. This was the slogan the uprising used.

Meanwhile, dissident violence struck in the village of Dahshour the day before, with a Muslim mob setting Christian homes and shops on fire. They also damaged the local church. Because of this, many Christian families were forced to flee. The violence started when a personal dispute from the week before intensified and a Muslim man was killed.



## CENTCOM

### 35. [Attack, Yemen] 45 DEAD IN BOMBING, AQAP REBUILDS IN JA'AR

8/5/2012

<http://www.yementimes.com/en/1596/news/1236/45-dead-in-bombing-AQAP-rebuilds-in-Ja%E2%80%99ar.htm>

ABYAN, Aug. 5 – A suicide bombing claimed 45 lives and wounded 40 others Saturday evening during a funeral service held by the head of the Popular Committees, Abdu Al-Teef Al-Sayid, in Al-Mashroa in Ja'ar.

The deputy manager of Aden's security, who requested that his name remain unpublished, said a militant infiltrated the funeral, where mourners gathered to pay tribute after the death of Al-Sayid's nephew. It was during the funeral that the suicide bomb went off, killing and injuring dozens.

The deputy manager said Al-Sayid was affiliated with Al-Qaeda, yet he defected and sided with the army months ago, indicating that Al-Qaeda mainly intended to target Al-Sayid.



Two of Al-Sayid's brothers were killed in the assault. He himself sustained minor injuries and was immediately taken to a hospital in Ja'ar, according to the deputy manager.

Regarding the security situation, he said Al-Qaeda militants have rapidly started building up their activities in Ja'ar, claiming that the army didn't chase Al-Qaeda to break into their strongholds and arrest them; the army expelled them from Abyan and then withdrew.

He said Al-Qaeda militants still hold strong positions and they may reclaim the city anew.

Anwar Mohammed, an eyewitness to the bombing, said the incident was horrifying and intimidating. He said a large number of those dead and injured were transferred to Aden Hospital, and others were hospitalized in Al-Razi Hospital, which was restored last week after a lengthy closure.

Mohammed said there was an absence of security in Ja'ar. He said Central Security Forces, Public Security, and Reinforcement Forces were all unavailable.

“Only the Popular Committees protect and manage the district.”



## CENTCOM

### 36. [Attack, Iraq] Iraq MP survives roadside bomb blast

8/5/2012

<http://www.saudigazette.com.sa/index.cfm?method=home.regcon&contentid=20120805132178>

BAGHDAD – Hamed Al-Mutlak, a Sunni MP and brother to one of Iraq’s deputy prime ministers, said he survived a roadside bomb attack west of Baghdad Saturday that wounded at least one of his guards.

“A roadside bomb exploded on the main road in Abu Ghraib when we passed,” Mutlak, an MP in the secular, Sunni-backed Iraqiya bloc, told AFP, adding that one of his bodyguards was lightly wounded. An interior ministry official confirmed the attack, saying the bomb exploded while Mutlak’s convoy passed Al-Nasr Wa al-Salam village in the Abu Ghraib area, putting the toll at two guards wounded. It was unclear if the attack was aimed at Mutlak personally, or if his convoy was just a target of opportunity for insurgents. Official figures put the number of people killed in attacks in July at 325, the highest monthly death toll since August 2010. While violence has decreased compared to its peak in 2006 and 2007, attacks remain common across Iraq. There were attacks on 27 of the 31 days in July. – AFP



## CENTCOM

### 37. [Attack, Iraq] Baghdad bombs kill 19, police battle suicide attackers

8/4/2012

<http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/Middle-East/2012/Aug-04/183408-baghdad-bombs-kill-19-police-battle-suicide-attackers.ashx#axzz22n9NRHfb>

BAGHDAD, July 31 (Reuters) - Twin car bombs hit central Baghdad on Tuesday, killing at least 19 people, and security forces fought off a separate attack inside a police station by two suicide bombers trying to free Al-Qaeda prisoners.

The major assault underscored the seriousness of Iraq's struggle with insurgents more than seven months after the last U.S. troops left behind a country still grappling with political instability and sectarian tensions.

Clouds of dark smoke rose above the center of the capital where the car bombs exploded minutes apart, leaving the dead and wounded lying in the street or slumped inside a damaged minibus, witnesses and police said.

As security forces began to help the victims, at least two suicide bombers dressed as police officers got into a nearby police station, where Al-Qaeda prisoners were being held, and tried to free them, two security sources said.

It was unclear how many people had been killed or wounded in the assault, but both bombers had been killed, one security official said.

"Their aim was to take hostages in order to release major Al-Qaeda prisoners," one senior security source said. "Most officers went to the floor above them to fight them, which is why they failed."

The attack coincides with a surge in violence in Iraq and comes as bloodshed in neighboring Syria is escalating. Iraqi officials have warned that some Sunni Muslim insurgents are heading to Syria and Al-Qaeda's local Iraqi affiliate has called on its followers to intensify their campaign.

Al-Qaeda's Iraqi wing, Islamic State of Iraq, was badly weakened by the loss of top commanders in the war against U.S. troops, but the insurgents have carried out at least one major assault a month since the U.S. withdrawal in December.

Three young men in blood-stained T-shirts searched for a friend near the wreckage of one of Tuesday's car bomb blasts in Baghdad as women in traditional abaya gowns screamed the name of a missing relative, a Reuters reporter at the scene said.

"We were in a patrol when we heard the first explosion. The second explosion hit another square, and we went to help ... There was a minibus with six dead passengers inside it," said Ahmed Hassan, a police officer.

The explosions followed attacks and bombings in Baghdad and across the country on July 23 that killed more than 100 people in a coordinated surge of violence against mostly Shiite Muslim targets. Islamic State of Iraq claimed responsibility.

Overall levels of violence have eased since sectarian killings reached their height in 2006-2007 when tens of thou-





sands of Sunnis and Shiites were slain.

However, Al-Qaeda still often targets Shiite pilgrims or religious sites in an attempt to stir up sectarian tensions and to show that Iraq's armed forces are unable to protect civilians.

Last month was one of the bloodiest since the U.S. withdrawal, with at least 237 people killed and 603 wounded. Iraq's violence often feeds into political tensions.

Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki, a Shiite, is fending off attempts by Sunni and Kurdish rivals to vote him out of office, threatening to scuttle a fragile power-sharing agreement.



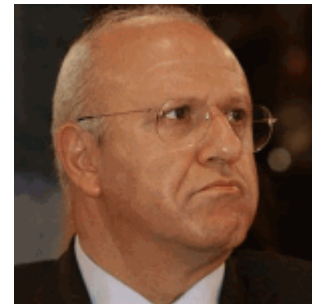
## CENTCOM

### 38. [Security, Lebanon] Former Lebanese Cabinet Member Confesses to Bomb Plot

8/9/2012

<http://www.theaustralianeye.com/current-news/former-lebanese-cabinet-member-confesses-to-bomb-plot-aoi36418.html>

Former Lebanese Information minister Michel Samaha confessed on Thursday to transferring explosives from Syria to Lebanon. Samaha's driver confirmed the former minister's involvement in the plot. Sources say the bomb plot was reportedly an assassination attempt against Akkar MP Khaled Daher. Sources added approximately 20 bombs deployed in various areas of Akkar and were ready to detonate by remote. Samaha was taken from his home in Khanshara at 2am local time and detained. Police confiscated documents, a computer, cellular phones video tapes, plus Samaha's car. Samaha was elected as an MP in 1992 and served as Information Minister in 1992 and 2003.





## CENTCOM

### 39. [Security, Yemen] Qaeda bomb-maker and six Arab operatives killed in Yemen

8/7/2012

<http://www.sabanews.net/en/news277309.htm>

SANA'A, Aug. 07 (Saba) - One of the most dangerous elements of al-Qaeda in Baidha'a province and six others from different Arab nationalities have been killed, the high security committee said Tuesday.

An official source in the committee said that a security operation was carried out in Manaseh area led to kill Abdullah Awadh al-Masri, also known as Abu Osama al-Marebi, who is a bomb-maker.

The operation also resulted in killing six of al-Qaeda operatives, who are Abu Ja'afar al-Iraqi (Bahraini), Abu al-Bara'a al-Sharori (Saudi), Abu Musa'ab al-Nasri (Egyptian), Abu Hafsah al-Mesri (Egyptian), Abu Hafsah al-Tounisi (Tunisian) and Ebrahim al-Sakhi (Yemeni).



Last Saturday, the security authorities killed three terrorists were on a vehicle in al-Qaten district of Hadramout governorate and injured two others.

These operations came under the continuous efforts of the security apparatuses to combat terrorists and encounter al-Qaeda organization, the source said.



## CENTCOM

### 40. [Security, Yemen] Yemen seizes six militants in suicide bomb town

8/6/2012

<http://kgmi.com/Yemen-seizes-six-militants-in-suicide-bomb-town/11461924?newsId=158705>

DUBAI (Reuters) - Yemeni security forces seized six suspected Islamist militants on Monday in a flashpoint town where a suicide bomber killed 45 people last week, a security source said.

The suspected members of the Ansar al-Sharia group, were taken from a building in the southern town of Jaar in possession of explosives and other equipment used for suicide bombs, the source said.

A suicide bomber struck at a wake in Jaar on Saturday night, killing at least 45 people and wounding dozens in an attack that appeared to target the commander of the Popular Committees, a group of tribal fighters that fought alongside the Yemeni army during an offensive against Ansar al-Sharia.

Ansar al-Sharia (Partisans of Islamic Law) seized several towns in the Abyan region, including Jaar, last year, establishing a foothold while then-President Ali Abdullah Saleh was grappling with mass protests that eventually toppled him.

The United States, which sees Yemen as a front line in its war on al Qaeda and its affiliates, supported a military campaign that drove the Islamists from their strongholds in June, but residents and analysts say the militants are simply lying low and waiting for a chance to regroup.

Yemen's Aden refinery resumed production this week after halting operations for nine months because of attacks on the main oil pipeline, a refinery official told Reuters earlier.

The closure of the refinery, which has a capacity of 150,0000 barrels per day, had left Yemen dependent on imports and fuel donations from Saudi Arabia.

Yemen's oil and gas pipelines have been repeatedly attacked by Islamic militants or disgruntled tribesmen since the anti-government protests created a power vacuum in 2011.

(Reporting by Mohamed Mukhashaf; Writing by Andrew Hammond; Editing by Robin Pomeroy)



## **EUCOM**

### **41. [Attack, UK] Policeman burnt by petrol bomb in Birmingham**

8/8/2012

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/policeman-burnt-by-petrol-bomb-in-birmingham-8022375.html>

A police officer was hospitalised today after sustaining burns to his hands in a petrol bomb attack.

West Midlands Police said a 43-year-old man was arrested in connection with the incident, in Handsworth, Birmingham.

The injured officer was part of a police response team dispatched to Onibury Road at around 5.30am after reports that a resident's front door had been damaged by a neighbour.

A force spokesman said: "Only minutes after arriving at the scene officers were forced to take cover as a man emerged from a property and hurled a petrol bomb."

Armed officers were drafted in to support the operation. Police said the officer was not seriously injured but remained in hospital this afternoon.

Chief Inspector Paul Marriott said: "What was initially reported to police as a neighbour dispute quickly escalated. It is understood the suspect drained fuel from a car before using it to create a petrol bomb.

"Thankfully it doesn't appear the officer was seriously hurt and the situation was brought under control very quickly by officers at the scene supported by armed response colleagues.

"However, the situation illustrates the bravery of our officers who attend incidents every day to protect the public without knowing exactly how the situation might pan out."



## EUCOM

### 42. [Attack, Russia] Russia: suspected suicide bomb kills at least four soldiers in Chechnya

8/6/2012

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2012/aug/06/russia-chechnya-bomb-explosion-grozny?newsfeed=true>

A blast ripped through the capital of Russia's Chechnya region on Monday, killing at least four interior ministry soldiers and injuring three people, a local government source said.

The explosion, which Interfax news agency said happened as the soldiers left an armoured vehicle near their garrison quarters, shattered the fragile peace of the broader North Caucasus region, where militants trying to create an Islamist state use violence daily.

A Reuters witness saw the remains of three people in camouflage clothing lying at the roadside after the blast.

Local law enforcement officials said the blast could have been carried out by two suicide bombers. Residents said they heard two explosions, the second of which sent flames and smoke into the air.

"Measures are being taken to determine the identity of the terrorists as well as a search for their possible accomplices and organisers of the explosion," the local interior ministry said in a statement published on the Chechen government website.

Compared with the rest of the North Caucasus, violence has been rare in Chechnya where Kremlin-backed leader Ramzan Kadyrov has used strongarm tactics to clamp down on the insurgency.

Locals and human rights workers say such methods, along with religious strife and corruption, have added fuel to the violence, which is rooted in two wars that Moscow has fought against separatists in Chechnya since 1994.

The focus of the violence has since moved to the neighbouring region of Dagestan.



## EUCOM

### 43. [Security, Israel] Israeli intelligence cracks massive Hezbollah bomb plot

8/8/2012

[http://www.israelhayom.com/site/newsletter\\_article.php?id=5342](http://www.israelhayom.com/site/newsletter_article.php?id=5342)

In "Operation Time Bomb," police and Israel Security Agency arrest 14 Israeli Arab members of terrorist cell that smuggled weapons and explosives from Lebanon into Israel • Security services disrupt plot before bombs get to their handler, foiling plans to carry out huge wave of terrorist attacks against Israeli targets.

Israel has foiled a massive plot to carry out a "mega-attack" or wave of several deadly terrorist attacks against Israeli targets, it was announced on Wednesday. The Israel Police's Northern District's Border Unit and the Israel Security Agency (Shin Bet) scored a significant intelligence success by uncovering an Israeli-Arab cell smuggling weapons and explosives from Lebanon into Israel.

Eleven suspects were indicted Wednesday in a Nazareth court on charges of aiding the enemy in a time of war, meeting with foreign agents, possession of weapons, conspiracy to commit a crime, attempted drug smuggling and attempted drug trafficking.

Following the lifting of a gag order on the case Wednesday, it was revealed that the cell, made up of three distinct groups and comprising 14 individuals smuggled in 24 ready-to-use C4 high-quality bombs with attached timers into the northern border town of Ghajar, which straddles the Israel-Lebanon border. In addition to the explosive devices, the suspected cell members were caught, following an extensive intelligence gathering operation, with an FN MAG general-purpose machine gun and an M16 rifle stolen from the Israel Defense Forces.

Of the 14 suspects, six are from Ghajar (one of the suspects is reportedly just 17 years old and another is related to the village's elder), six are from Nazareth and one from Ramle in the center of the country.

From Ghajar, the explosives were transferred to Kafr Kana and Nazareth. The operation was dubbed "Time Bomb" as the security services were racing against time to make sure the explosives weren't scattered across the country. The cells were operated by the Hezbollah: One cell operated in Lebanon and transferred the explosives to the cell based in Ghajar. The Ghajar cell then worked with the Nazareth-based cell. According to police, some communication between the cells was done through cellphone SIM cards procured in Jordan.





"This is one of the most severe and dangerous security plots we've had here. The intelligence provided by the police's northern border unit was of extremely high quality," a district police officer told Israel Radio on Wednesday.

Police said that Hezbollah used an existing drug smuggling network of Israeli Arabs to bring 24 ready-to-use bombs from Lebanon into Israel. Some of the smugglers were not aware that they were transporting explosives, whilst others did know, police added.

According to the Northern District's Spokesperson's Office, "Over the past year, Hezbollah has been greatly motivated to carry out terrorist attacks against Israelis and Jews. Hezbollah has worked to gather intelligence information to carry out a significant terrorist attack. In order to achieve their set goal of carrying out a high-profile, effective attack inside Israel, Hezbollah smuggled in large bombs, including operating systems and timers."

In a press conference, a Shin Bet official said that the agency decided to swoop in on the cell after the bombs were moved from the northern border town of Ghajar to Nazareth. It remains unclear who the eventual recipients of the explosives are, and there is speculation from security experts that since the bombs did not reach their intended handlers, there is a strong possibility that a Hezbollah sleeper cell is still active in Israel. The Shin Bet told reporters that it decided to act to take 20 kilograms of C4 explosives off the streets. Agency officials said that Hezbollah uses tactics of crime organizations, making use of drug smuggling networks. This is just the tip of the iceberg of Hezbollah terror activity, the official said. Since Hezbollah has been deterred from heating up the Lebanese border with Israel, it is trying to spread terror abroad, such as the July attack against Israeli tourists in Bulgaria, and inside Israel, the official said.

Israel Police's Northern District and Central Investigations Unit received an initial tip-off on the modus operandi of the cell, and then passed on the information to the Shin Bet.

Northern District Police Commander Maj. Gen. Roni Atia said following the arrests: "Uncovering the cell prevented horrible attacks. In these days, in which the complex security situation affects us at home and abroad, the Israeli public has an opportunity to see up close the methodical and collaborative work that is done by all of Israel's security agencies to thwart, prevent and enforce the law against those who wish to harm us both at home and abroad."

Atia said it was not the first time Israeli Arabs from Nazareth have been implicated in terrorism, adding that the village of Ghajar is Israel's weak spot in the north. The majority of Israeli Arabs have absolutely no interest in collaborating with Hezbollah, and the collaborators are a small minority, a Shin Bet official said. The fact that Hezbollah has to make use of drug smuggling networks is a sign of its weakness, the official added.





## EUCOM

### 44. [Security, Spain] Gibraltar Terror Plot Foiled, Reports Say

8/7/2012

<http://www.klfm967.co.uk/news/world-news/736967/gibraltar-terror-plot-foiled-reports-say/>

A plot to bomb Gibraltar's main shopping centre during the Olympics has been foiled, according to reports in the Spanish media.

The plot involved three suspected al Qaeda terrorists, the reports said.

Sky sources say the reports are credible and that British intelligence was involved in monitoring the suspects although that role was described as "minimal".

The target in the British territory was said by El Pais newspaper to be the main shopping centre.

Three suspects are in custody. When police raided the home of one, Cengiz Yalcin, a Turk, near the border with Gibraltar, they found a video which was used in evidence against him.

A "significant" haul of explosives were also found as well as the parts for three paragliding machines.

The video is said to show him piloting a large remote-controlled plane. The aircraft drops two packages from the air to the ground at which point "Yalcin celebrated his achievement", said El Pais.

The suspicion is the plan was to drop explosives on the shopping centre.

The two other suspects are both Chechen. All three men are thought to have connections with al Qaeda.

A judge detained Yalcin for "possession of explosive substances and devices with terrorist aims" and also held the two Chechen men, Mohamed Adamov and Eldar Magomedov, for belonging to a terrorist organisation and possession of bomb-making material.

Magomedov is thought to be a former member of the Russian special forces "Speznatz" unit and an expert in explosives.

His arrest follows co-operation between intelligence agencies in France, the US, the UK and Spain.



## EUCOM

### 45. [Security, UK] 'Viable' pipe bomb found in Steeple

8/7/2012

<http://www.antrimtimes.co.uk/news/local/viable-pipe-bomb-found-in-steeple-1-4134386>

A 'VIABLE' pipebomb has been made safe by the army following a security alert in Antrim.

A number of homes in the Mallusk Gardens area of the Steeple estate were evacuated for a time on Tuesday following the discovery.

Police have said the viable pipe bomb type device has been taken away for further examination.

Local councillors have condemned those responsible.

Alliance Councillor Neil Kelly hit out at the inconvenience caused to residents in the Steeple area.

"I completely condemn those behind this latest security alert. This type of behaviour is totally unacceptable," Cllr. Kelly said.

He added: "The annoyance and inconvenience caused to residents in the area is completely unacceptable and must not be allowed to continue.

"Those behind this despicable act are irresponsible and must be apprehended as soon as possible. I would appeal for anyone with information to come forward and contact the PSNI.

"Thankfully on this occasion no-one has been hurt."

Similar sentiments were shared by the UUP's Drew Ritchie who slammed the disruption caused by the incident.

"Many families had to leave their homes on a wet and cold afternoon and disruption was caused throughout the area," Alderman Ritchie said.

He added: "This continued for a number of hours and caused stress and hardship to all especially elderly, ill and the very young.

"These type of incidents are not part of a normal society and we all must work to help move communities forward. Any information regards the incident should be given to the police."

The DUP's Brian Graham and Trevor Clarke spoke of their disgust at the latest finding of a pipe bomb in Antrim.

"Incidents of this kind need to stop immediately, and it is time people moved on from involvement in this mindless activity," Cllr. Clarke said.

He added: "The police have confirmed that this was a viable pipe bomb type device, which they removed for further examination.



“It is sickening to think of the terrible consequences had this pipe bomb detonated in a populated area.”

Cllr. Clarke also appealed for calm and added: “I would appeal for cool heads at this time, and for anyone who has information about this incident, or other incidents of this nature which have occurred in recent weeks, to contact the police immediately.

“There is no place for this kind of wreckless behaviour in our community, especially when the vast majority of people in South Antrim are committed to peace, and living as law abiding citizens in a democratic society.”

Anyone with any information about this incident is asked to contact CID in Newtownabbey on 0845 600 8000. Or if someone would prefer to provide information without giving their details, they can contact the independent charity Crimestoppers and speak to them anonymously on 0800 555 111.



## EUCOM

### 46. [Trend, Bulgaria] 'Burgas blast planned abroad, bomb assembled locally'

8/4/2012

<http://www.timesofisrael.com/burgas-blast-planned-abroad-bomb-assembled-locally/>

The bomb used in the deadly blast which killed five Israelis in Bulgaria two weeks ago was likely assembled in Bulgaria, AFP reported Saturday, citing a report which appeared in the Bulgarian-language 24 Hours newspaper.

"I can definitely say that the attack was plotted, prepared and implemented by people ... very far away from Bulgaria," the news agency quoted Bulgarian Chief of Staff Kalin Georgiev as saying in an interview. "They come, act, and leave."



Georgiev reportedly stated that the Burgas blast was not a case of "home-grown terrorism" and was not carried out in cooperation with local terrorist cells. The explosive device used in the attack, however, was said to have been assembled on local soil.

"There is nothing specific about its make," Georgiev was quoted as saying. "Our experts estimate that it was assembled somewhere close, as no one would risk carrying an activated improvised explosive device (IED) ... In the method of assembly or the fabrication of the IED, there are no characteristic features typical of any terrorist structure."

It is still unclear if the perpetrator intended to die in the blast. However, Georgiev reportedly stated that "he is not the typical suicide attacker ... There is a high probability that the terrorist fell victim to his own error."

He added that Bulgarian security forces were making every effort to identify the bomber, in collaboration with the authorities in Belgium, Britain, and Finland.



## NORTHCOM

### 47. [Attack, USA] Second Fire In Five Weeks Burns Missouri Mosque

8/6/2012

[http://tpmmuckraker.talkingpointsmemo.com/2012/08/second\\_fire\\_in\\_five\\_weeks\\_burns\\_missouri\\_mosque.php](http://tpmmuckraker.talkingpointsmemo.com/2012/08/second_fire_in_five_weeks_burns_missouri_mosque.php)

A second fire in less than five weeks occurred at a mosque in Joplin, Missouri early Monday morning. The cause of the latest inferno is still unknown, but Monday's flames were much more devastating than those that occurred July 4, in an incident that authorities later determined was an act of arson.



Video shot by local television news station KSNF on Monday captured massive flames engulfing the building.

Firefighters were called to the scene at the Islamic Center of Joplin around 3:30 a.m., according to KSNF.

The Jasper County Sheriff's Office told TPM a news conference has been planned for Monday afternoon, and that ATF and the FBI will be involved in the investigation.

"The building was completely destroyed; along with the security cameras," Jasper County Sheriff's Office spokesperson Sharon Rhine said in an email. "We don't know at this time if it was arson."

The FBI was involved with the investigation of the July fire, which was also set at approximately 3:30 a.m. The fire was contained on the roof, and extinguished by the Jasper County Fire Department. On July 16, the FBI announced that surveillance video showed "an unidentified white male walking up to the building and throwing an ignited object onto the roof." The bureau released a still image of the suspect from the video, and announced that the FBI and ATF were offering a combined reward of \$15,000 for information leading to the arrest and indictment of the person or people responsible.

Update 12:18 p.m.: A FBI spokesperson confirmed to TPM that the bureau is assisting the investigation of the latest fire.

"We're still waiting on a determination on what the cause of the fire was," spokesperson Bridget Patton said.

Patton added that the mosque was vacant at the time of the fire.



## NORTHCOM

### 48. [Security, USA] Jason Abdo, former AWOL soldier, sentenced in Ft. Hood bomb plot

8/10/2012

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nation/nationnow/la-na-nn-ft-hood-bomb-20120810,0,2708863.story>

HOUSTON -- A federal judge in Waco, Texas, sentenced a former soldier to two consecutive life sentences, plus 60 years in prison, on Friday for plotting to bomb and shoot Ft. Hood soldiers last year.

Pfc. Naser Jason Abdo, 22, who represented himself after dismissing his court-appointed lawyers, told U.S. District Judge Walter Smith that he remained committed as a Muslim to pursuing a holy war.

"I have continued to answer the call of jihad and will continue to the day I am called to account for my deeds," he said, according to the Austin American-Statesman.



Abdo appeared defiant throughout the hearing, speaking in Arabic at times and translating for the court, federal prosecutors said. Abdo said he was motivated by what he called crimes committed by the U.S. and its military against Muslims.

He said he had tried to outdo Maj. Nidal Hasan, the Army psychiatrist accused of fatally shooting 13 people at Ft. Hood in 2009.

"He intended to continue to do what he was doing; he was regretful he hadn't succeeded as his brother Nidal had succeeded," said Assistant U.S. Atty. Mark Frazier. "He asked the judge not to show him any mercy because only Allah can show him mercy."

U.S. marshals forced Abdo to wear a black-and-white mesh mask during the hearing after he spit what he thought was HIV-infected blood on agents escorting him, Frazier said. The attack was described as one of several such assaults by Abdo on his guards.

"He continued to try to take the lives of other people in his mind after he was apprehended," Frazier said.

Abdo was arrested July 27, 2011, at a motel outside Ft. Hood after a gun store clerk in nearby Killeen, Texas, called police to alert them that Abdo had been acting suspiciously.

"This case was discovered before any tragedy happened due to the vigilance of citizens," Frazier said.

A search of Abdo's room and backpack revealed bomb-making equipment -- including pressure cookers, clocks and electrical tape -- plus a pistol and a bomb-assembly article from an English-language Al Qaeda magazine.

Abdo, a Dallas-area native, became a Muslim as a teenager, enlisted in the Army in 2009 and applied to become a



conscientious objector later that year while stationed at Ft. Campbell, Ky., Frazier said. His conscientious objector status was put on hold after he was charged with possessing child pornography in May 2011, and he went AWOL a couple of months later, Frazier said.

Abdo told investigators his plot was a response to the U.S. military's mistreatment of fellow Muslims in Iraq and Afghanistan.

He had planned to detonate a homemade bomb inside a Killeen restaurant popular with Ft. Hood soldiers, then shoot any survivors, according to testimony from his three-day trial in May. A jury found him guilty of attempted use of a weapon of mass destruction, attempted murder and four weapons charges.

After the sentencing, U.S. Atty. Robert Pitman compared Abdo's plot to recent mass shootings at a Denver-area movie theater and a Sikh temple in suburban Milwaukee.

"In the wake of the tragic events in Colorado and Wisconsin, this is yet another reminder that there are those among us who would use or plan to use violence to advance their twisted agenda," Pitman said.

Pitman said the case demonstrated two important things. One, "the prevention of tragic events such as Mr. Abdo was planning can be averted by alert citizens who pass along their concerns to law enforcement officials and by law enforcement officers who diligently perform their duties," he said.

And two, "those who use or plan violence to further their twisted agendas will be prosecuted as aggressively as the law allows and will, as in this case, spend the rest of their lives staring at the walls of a prison cell."

Killeen Police Chief Dennis Baldwin said the sentencing "provides a sense of comfort to the Killeen residents, especially those affiliated with the military, that Mr. Abdo will no longer be a threat to our community."

After the sentencing, Abdo was returned to McClennan County Jail in Waco. He was unavailable for comment as he awaited transfer to prison.



## NORTHCOM

### 49. [Security, USA] Suspected bomb material leads to arrest

8/9/2012

<http://www.wivb.com/dpp/news/crime/man-charged-after-police-find-materials>

WILLIAMSVILLE, N.Y. (WIVB) - Duncan Badding was arraigned in Town of Amherst Court Thursday morning, and charged with criminal possession of a weapon, two counts of reckless endangerment and discharging a firearm. In court, it was requested that he go for a mental health evaluation at ECMC.



Police say they discovered suspected homemade explosives at his apartment in the Williamsburg Square apartment complex in Williamsville.

Police responded to a report of shots fired, Wednesday night. At the scene, police arrested Badding for allegedly shooting a .22 caliber rifle out of his back door at bottles.

Inside Badding's apartment, police say they discovered very suspicious materials in the basement, kitchen, and other areas that could be used to make homemade explosives. By Thursday morning, police had removed 50 bags of evidence from the scene.

The Erie County Bomb Squad, Homeland Security, FBI and ATF agents, State Police and Amherst Town Police were on the scene until Thursday morning investigating and searching the scene.

Some of Badding's neighbors tell News 4 they had nicknamed the suspect as the "Unabomber." One neighbor said she believes the suspect has been blowing up bombs at his home since June. She said she can feel it at her home late at night.

Badding is being held at \$250,000 bail or \$500,000 bond.

Badding said he believes what he was doing was harmless, saying, "I was just doing research."





## NORTHCOM

### 50. [Security, USA] Workers find pipe bomb on highway near Belle Fourche

8/8/2012

[http://rapidcityjournal.com/sturgisrallydaily/news/workers-find-pipe-bomb-on-highway-near-belle-fourche/article\\_f000e16c-22f1-5f2d-b9b0-b863aa41e32a.html](http://rapidcityjournal.com/sturgisrallydaily/news/workers-find-pipe-bomb-on-highway-near-belle-fourche/article_f000e16c-22f1-5f2d-b9b0-b863aa41e32a.html)

BELLE FOURCHE | State workers discovered a pipe bomb Monday while looking for debris on S.D. Highway 34 east of Belle Fourche.

The highway between Whitewood and Belle Fourche is a popular route for motorcyclists headed to Wyoming. Hulett and Devils Tower are popular destinations during the Sturgis bike week.

Butte County Sheriff Fred Lamphere said highway workers called him to the scene, near the Butte and Lawrence County line, as soon as they saw a suspicious-looking item on the roadway.

"It sure enough was a homemade deal, a pipe bomb," he said. "It had a fuse on the end of it."

The device was about the size of a large beverage bottle.

Even though it didn't detonate, he said, it posed a road hazard, especially for motorcyclists.

"I feel it was made for effect, either of injuring a number of people or starting a fire," he said Tuesday.

Had it exploded in a crowd of people, the device could have had serious consequences, he said.

Lamphere said state highway department units, two of his office's vehicles and the Belle Fourche Fire Department formed a safety perimeter was around the bomb while the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the state Division of Criminal Investigation were called.

After inspecting the device, he said, it was taken to a safe area, where it was detonated.

"This was beyond a fireworks type" of device, he said, noting that it is illegal to possess an explosive device without the proper licenses.

"These are hard to trace," he said.

"At this point, there is nothing to go on," he said. "There are no indications to law enforcement of a bomb in Butte or Lawrence County. There weren't any threats made to the public."

Anyone with information about the incident is asked to call the Butte County Sheriff's Office at 892-3324.



## **NORTHCOM**

### **51. [Security, Canada] Bomb found on tennis court in St. John's**

8/7/2012

<http://www.sunnewsnetwork.ca/sunnews/canada/archives/2012/08/20120807-094726.html>

The city of St. John's closed its outdoor rec facilities Monday after police discovered a pipe bomb on a tennis court. Cops said they received a report of a "suspicious object" at Wedgewood Park around 10:30 a.m.

Bomb technicians confirmed it was a pipe bomb and used X-ray and a bomb-retrieval robot to remove it. It was examined and destroyed.

City staff discovered the device during their routine safety check of the morning. After police arrived, the city shut down the rec centre and conducted a secondary check of all indoor and outdoor facilities.

The city issued a statement Monday evening saying its staff had "followed all safety protocols" and were assured by police "there was no danger to individuals inside the facility at any time."

Police said no injuries or property damage was reported, and their investigation continues.

The rec centre reopened Tuesday.



## NORTHCOM

### 52. [Security, USA] Somerset man charged with building two bombs

8/7/2012

<http://www.heraldnews.com/newsnow/x1225370052/Somerset-man-charged-with-building-two-bombs?img=1>

SOMERSET —Police said neighbors were evacuated Sunday and a bomb disposal squad removed and dismantled homemade explosive devices found in the bedroom of a local man who told police he was making fireworks.

“It was an extremely dangerous thing to do. He could have killed himself and his family,” said Police Chief Col. Joseph C. Ferreira.

Police discovered the devices after the estranged girlfriend of 21-year-old Brendan Theriault filed a domestic assault complaint at police headquarters and told an officer he made the devices. She described them as “a couple of bombs”, said police Lt. Armand D. Cabral.



Cabral said the woman gave a detailed description of how Theriault fashioned the devices.

Patrol officers Keith Wilkinson and Patrolman Brendan Hague went to Theriault’s home at 250 South St. around 2:15 p.m., where Theriault was reportedly cooperative and led police to where he was keeping the devices.

Theriault allegedly told police he purchased smaller fireworks from Rhode Island, where the sale of firecrackers and other items are sold legally. In order to make larger fireworks, Theriault removed the explosive materials and filled it in glass jars then wrapped them in duct tape, Cabral said.

Police immediately cleared the house and evacuated residents living in the adjacent neighborhood. They asked residents in a two-block radius to stay inside. Cabral said he contacted Somerset Fire Department and the state police bomb squad unit, which arrived at the scene shortly thereafter.

Before the bomb squad removed the glass bottles in protective containers, they ordered a town dump truck filled with sand to the scene. The devices were buried in the sand and the truck driven to a safe location, Cabral said.

A remote device was used to dismantle the fuel-filled bottles and which preserved the evidence, Cabral said. State police is currently examining the devices and will forward the results to Somerset police, he said.

Theriault is facing charges of possessing a bomb or explosive device, possession of an infernal machine and domestic assault and battery. He was arraigned in Fall River District Court on Monday.



## NORTHCOM

### 53. [Security, USA] Bridge bomb plot: Judge denies FBI audio recording in suspect's upcoming trial

8/6/2012

[http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2012/08/bridge\\_bomb\\_plot\\_suspects\\_in\\_c.html](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2012/08/bridge_bomb_plot_suspects_in_c.html)

AKRON, Ohio – A federal judge this morning agreed to keep a partially botched FBI audio recording of the confession of one of men accused of plotting to blow up the Ohio 82 bridge out of the suspect's upcoming trial.

U.S. District Judge David Dowd Jr. granted the motion to bar the use of the audio tape from the trial of Douglas Wright, 26, of Indianapolis, one of the five men accused of the failed April plot.

The five men, described by federal prosecutors as domestic terrorists, are accused of planting what they believed to be actual bombs at the Ohio 82 bridge that spans the national park between Brecksville and Sagamore Hills Township.



FBI agents reported that they foiled the plot with the help of an informant by supplying the men with fake plastic explosives and arresting the five on April 30 as they tried to detonate the explosives with a cellphone.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Tom Getz and Wright's lawyer Anthony Vegh wrangled for several hours this morning over whether a partial recording of a two-hour post-arrest FBI interview with the suspect should be allowed in trial. Due to a technical malfunction, the FBI did not record the entire interview, officials said.

Getz argued that the government should be allowed to use the recording bits and pieces of the interview at trial, while Vegh contended that it would be unfair to use "snippets" of the recording and would put the entire interview out of context.

Dowd agreed with Vegh, but said that the testimony of the FBI agent who conducted the interview, Brian Taylor, would be allowed at trial.

Taylor testified today that Wright had told him in the interview – referred to as both a "confession" and "incriminating interview" by prosecutors and Vegh today -- that the reason they were going to blow up the bridge was to "minimize the impact of the explosion and avoid civilian casualties."

The group had originally planned to do something in downtown Cleveland, but then changed their target to the bridge, he said.

Taylor also said that while the other four defendants have accused Wright of being the ringleader, Wright denied that.



"He said he would never say he was the point person in making decisions or that he was the leader of the group," Taylor said

One of five had pleaded guilty in late July and agreed to cooperate in the prosecution of his four former co-defendants.

Anthony Hayne, 35, of Cleveland, entered the plea at a July 25 hearing in U.S. District Court, where lawyers for the other four suspects indicated they would argue at trial that the foiled bomb plot was a case of entrapment by the FBI and a paid informant.

The remaining suspects are: Brandon Baxter, 20, of Lakewood; Joshua Stafford, 23, of Cleveland and Connor Stevens, 20, of Berea.

Stevens has a suppression hearing later today and the remaining two are in court on Tuesday.

Hayne could face up to 19 years in prison for conspiring to use a weapon of mass destruction, for using bombs in an attempt to destroy a bridge carrying interstate commerce, and for maliciously attempting to destroy a bridge carrying interstate commerce -- even if he cooperates and testifies against the others.

Dowd Jr. continued Hayne's sentencing indefinitely until his cooperation agreement with prosecutors is completed. The trial for the other four is scheduled for Sept. 17.

U.S. Attorney Steven Dettelbach said the five defendants were self-proclaimed anarchists, and members of a splinter group of the Occupy Cleveland movement.

The public was never in danger from the explosive devices, which were controlled by an undercover FBI employee and rendered inoperable, he said.



## NORTHCOM

### 54. [Security, USA] Nun, 82, breaks into US nuclear bomb facility

8/4/2012

<http://www.todayonline.com/World/EDC120804-0000047/Nun,-82,-breaks-into-US-nuclear-bomb-facility>

KNOXVILLE - A United States magistrate judge on Friday ordered the release pending trial of an 82-year-old nun and another anti-nuclear activist charged with breaching security fences at one of the most sensitive U.S. nuclear facilities, in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, where weapons-grade uranium is kept.

The security failure was an embarrassment for the National Nuclear Security Administration, or NNSA, the Energy Department branch that operates US nuclear weapons plants, and for the international security firm G4S, which owns WSI Oak Ridge, the contractor responsible for protecting the facility.

G4S was also at the center of a dispute over security at the London Olympic Games.



Officials said the facility was shut down on Wednesday at least until next week after peace activists Megan Rice, 82, Michael Walli, 63, and Greg Boertje-Obed, 57, cut through perimeter fences to reach the outer wall of a building where highly enriched uranium, a key nuclear bomb component, is stored.

The activists painted slogans and threw what they said was human blood on the wall of the facility, one of numerous buildings in the facility known by the code name Y-12 that it was given during World War Two, officials said.

At a hearing in Knoxville, Tennessee on Friday, assistant U.S. Attorney Melissa Kirby argued that all three should remain in custody. "This is a crime of violence," Kirby said.

But U.S. Magistrate Judge C. Clifford Shirley ruled the threat of violence was low and decided to release Rice, who according to her attorney has a thyroid and heart condition and has not been receiving her medication. The judge also released Walli. Both were given travel and other restrictions, and will stay at a private residence in Knoxville while court proceedings continue, according to defense attorneys.

Boertje-Obed waived his right to a defense attorney and will remain in detention.

All three defendants appeared in grey, striped prison clothes with orange plastic shoes, handcuffs, and leg manacles. Rice appeared frail and was suffering from hypothermia, according to her attorney, Francis Lloyd, Jr., who draped his coat over her. Court was recessed to allow time to find a space heater and a blanket for Rice.

While moving between the perimeter fences, the activists triggered sensors that alerted security personnel. But officials conceded the intruders were still able to reach the building's walls before security personnel got to them.



UNCLASSIFIED

Officials said that the storage building itself, which was built after the Sept. 11, 2001, al Qaeda attacks on New York and Washington, was designed with modern security features and that its contents were not compromised.



## NORTHCOM

### 55. [Technology, USA] It's A Touchy, Feely Kind Of Robot

8/10/2012

<http://security.blogs.cnn.com/2012/08/10/its-a-touchy-feely-kind-of-robot/>

A new robotic arm would give U.S. troops in Afghanistan the ability to feel the improvised explosive devices they are remotely trying to disarm, potentially allowing for greater precision than ever before.

The arm, called the RedHawk, gives its operator the sense of touch by using "haptic technology." The perceptions of force, vibrations, and motion allow the operator to feel like they are touching the object.

"RedHawk's haptic control technology reduces operator workload, preserves forensic evidence, and provides such realistic, intuitive feedback that operators can pick out an individual wire in an IED," said Bill Gattle of Harris Government Communications Systems.

The system's precision will aid the operator in dismantling an IED's triggering mechanism without destroying it, allowing the military to lift fingerprints or other clues to who made the bomb, according to the company.

A total of four sensors are built into the robot's two fingers. If the sensors come in contact with an object like an IED, the sensors communicate that back to a grip like handle that the operator is using. The handle is equipped with motors to replicate the sensations.

"Anytime the robot would contact something you as the operator would feel like you have contacted it," said Paul Bosscher, a scientist at Harris Corporation that worked on the development of the arm. "It will feel like the grip of that handle is an extension of your own hand."

The arm can even be programmed to filter out an operator's shaky hand.

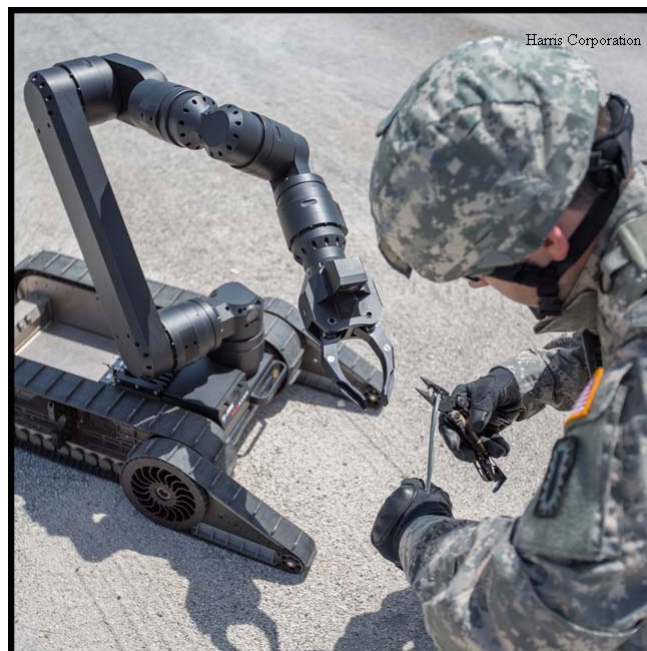
"You can be more precise with the robot than you are with (your) hand because you can adjust how sensitive the robot is," said Bosscher.

Harris Corporation revealed the robot during the Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International's conference in Las Vegas, Nevada this week.

This is the first unit of its kind that will be available to the military, according to Bosscher. The arms are also plug-and-play, meaning they can be attached to the thousands of medium sized ground robots already owned by the military.

Defense Department officials are interested in the technology, which has been in development for three years, said Bosscher.

According to Harris Corporation RedHawk can also be used to disarm chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear weapons as well as aid in first responder search and rescue operations.







## NORTHCOM

### 56. [Technology, District of Columbia] Army's vehicles not tough enough for bombs

8/5/2012

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2012/aug/5/armys-vehicles-not-tough-enough-for-bombs/?page=all#pagebreak>

The July 8 roadside explosion that killed six Army soldiers in Afghanistan has analysts worried that the Taliban are turning to bigger homemade bombs to take down the best armored U.S. vehicles.

What is particularly troubling to the military is that the enemy was able to penetrate the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle, whose V-shaped hull disperses a blast away from the troops inside.

A military source said in an interview that the July 8 bomb likely was a huge fertilizer-based homemade device hidden in a culvert close to where the vehicle passed. An enemy tactic is to place a bomb underneath or alongside a road and detonate it with a remote electronic signal, such as from a cellphone.



The command in Kabul is generally tight-lipped about how the Taliban, al Qaeda and other insurgents use homemade bombs.

"It's hard to discuss our estimates of the size of the IED [improvised explosive device] or other tactics used by the insurgents in public without giving the enemy valuable information, but I can say that our investigation leads us to believe the IED was considerably larger than the average IED used against mounted patrols," said James Graybeal, a command spokesman in Afghanistan.

The Pentagon's top counter-IED official said the enemy is constantly changing its tactics.

"As in any conflict, there is a continual evolution of tactics, and the IED fight is no different," said ArmyLt. Gen. Michael Barbero, who heads the Pentagon's Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization. "We know that hardening vehicles alone is not a solution to the IED threat, and [my group] deploys and continually improves an array of capabilities to defeat attacks on mounted patrols."

Rep. Duncan Hunter, California Republican and member of the House Armed Services Committee, told The Washington Times that the insurgents "are building bigger bombs."

Mr. Hunter has pushed the command in Kabul to focus more on constant surveillance of convoy routes and on killing the Taliban as they attempt to place roadside bombs.

"You can't build a vehicle larger than the explosives they can pack if they have 48 hours or 72 hours or a week to pack explosives on the ground," Mr. Hunter said. "They can blow up anything."



He added: “This is just another example. If you’re not going to catch the bad guys putting these things in, they’re simply going to keep killing Americans. There’s nothing we can build, through all of our power and industrial strength, that can respond to them simply increasing the amount of explosives used. There’s no way to stop this if you don’t catch the guys before this happens.”

One of the main precursors for homemade bombs is the fertilizer ammonium nitrate that is produced in Pakistan and smuggled to the Taliban for making bombs. The U.S. has expressed frustration with Pakistan’s inability to stop the flow of ammonium nitrate into Afghanistan.

Gen. Barbero said his organization is working with other agencies, including the Commerce and Treasury departments, to stop U.S. companies from trading with IED-connected entities and to place sanctions on those involved in the bomb trade.

“Through coordinated efforts and strong partnership across the U.S. government with our international partners, we are going after these nefarious actors and effectively countering the networks that use IEDs,” he said.

The Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization’s latest strategic report states: “Bomb makers will take advantage of available technology and innovate in response to countermeasures — weapons will be more lethal and harder to detect and defeat.”

Former Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates pushed the Army and Marine Corps to put more mine-resistant vehicles into battle at a time when roadside bombs were penetrating the lighter Humvees and killing troops.

By 2011, more than 13,000 of the mine-resistant vehicles had been shipped to Afghanistan, including a smaller all-terrain model better suited to the country’s hilly geography. The Pentagon asserts that an anti-mine vehicle is 10 times safer against IEDs than the armored Humvee it replaced.

The NATO command reported a spike in enemy attacks in June to more than 3,000, the highest since September 2010. The command said the increase stemmed from more Afghan national security forces on the battlefield and from improvements in their ability to chronicle attacks.

Of 209 American deaths in Afghanistan this year, 103 were inflicted by roadside bombs, according to the website ICasualties.org.



## NORTHCOM

### 57. [Trend, USA] Report faults handling of IED at Detroit federal building

8/8/2012

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120808/METRO/208080396/1361/rss41>

Washington— A new report harshly criticizes the handling of an improvised explosive device found outside a federal building in Detroit in 2011 that was brought inside and not detected as an explosive for three weeks.

The Department of Homeland Security's inspector general issued a 37-page report criticizing the handling of the package — which was stored under a desk near a security checkpoint at the Patrick V. McNamara Federal Building in Detroit. The building is home to many federal agencies, including the FBI.

The report also criticized the training, hiring practices and oversight of security guards at the Detroit federal building. It found other breaches of protocol in the handling of the suspicious package.

The report discloses three guards were fired — including the one who brought the bag inside — a fourth resigned before being fired while five other guards served suspensions ranging from one to five days.

On Feb. 26, 2011, a person placed a bag outside the McNamara Federal Building in Detroit. The bag contained a safe with an improvised explosive device, or IED, inside. The bag was left under a desk used to monitor closed-circuit video of the courthouse and elevators. The IED inside the bag was not identified until March 18, 2011.

"Although the IED did not explode, it represented a serious risk to the safety and security of the building," the report found.

The report says many procedures were not followed over the three weeks the package was stored, the guards tried to figure out what was in the safe.

"These attempts included visual inspections of the bag's interior, shaking and moving the metal safe inside the bag that contained the IED, and screening the bag with an x-ray machine.

During these attempts, both guards and supervisors incorrectly identified the bag's contents as a gun safe, a safe, and (in the case of the X-ray screening) (blacked-out portion)."

The Upper Peninsula man charged with leaving the device, Gary Mikulich, remains in custody and has been deemed incompetent to face charges.

The security contractor DECO fired the guard that brought the package in along with a supervisor who X-rayed and incorrectly identified the contents.

The guard who brought the package in should not have been working because the Federal Protective Service had not sought a "suitability investigation for the guard until April 2011" — and the last one had expired in March 2010 approximately a year before he brought the IED into the building.

The Federal Protective Service is soliciting a new contract for guard services in Michigan. Since July 2011, the contract for Michigan guard services has been on three-month installments.



"The breaches were the result of poor judgment by the guard, not systemic problems within DECO. FPS also bears some responsibility," the report found.

The guard who brought the safe into the building was also a sergeant with the Detroit Police Department.

After an outside consultant reviewed the operations, DECO stopped hiring full-time police officers as guards.

Consultants said that while "full-time police officers are well trained, firearms qualified, and have passed a background check" that "police duty requires time off to rejuvenate in an environment that is less stressful and has limited obligations."

Homeland Security Undersecretary Rand Beers said the department and Federal Protective Service "took action to ensure this type of security lapse will not happen again."

Homeland Security has since issued standardized nationwide guidance to all staff on how to deal with unattended suspicious packages, Beers said in written comments released with the report.

Guard services are one of the biggest expenses of the Federal Protective Service that oversees more than 9,000 federal facilities. In 2011, FPS spent \$755.6 million on guard services.

DECO is FPS's fourth largest contractor for guards, with seven contracts worth \$61 million annually.

The Michigan contract awarded in June 2009 for up to five years was valued at \$62.5 million. DECO employs 151 guards and supervisors to provide guard services for 77 GSA-owned or -leased buildings in Michigan.

From The Detroit News: <http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120808/METRO/208080396#ixzz233yAXDjN>



## PACOM

### 58. [Attack, India] Undertrial killed in bomb attack

8/10/2012

<http://www.business-standard.com/generalnews/news/undertrial-killed-in-bomb-attack/42744/>

A 35-year-old undertrial was killed and five police personnel injured when a gang hurled country bombs at a van in which he was being taken to prison.

Jagan, accused in an extortion case, was being taken back to Karaikal sub-jail after being produced in a court here when the unidentified gang members intercepted the police van and hurled country bombs at Nonankuppam village.

Five police personnel, including a sub-inspector and an assistant sub-inspector, were injured in the attack and admitted to a hospital.

Police suspect that gang rivalry was the cause of the attack.



## PACOM

### 59. [Attack, Philippines] Civilian killed in roadside bombing blamed on renegade MILF commander

8/9/2012

<http://newsinfo.inquirer.net/246811/civilian-killed-in-roadside-bombing-blamed-on-renegade-milf-commander>

COTABATO CITY, Philippines—Another civilian was killed while three other persons, including a soldier, were wounded in separate roadside bomb attacks staged by suspected armed followers of Ameril Umra Kato in Maguindanao, the military reported Thursday.

The latest casualty brought to three the number of civilians killed since fighting involving members of the breakaway Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF) and government forces broke out in six Maguindanao municipalities this week.

Lt. Col. Prudencio Asto, spokesperson of the Army's 6th Division, said the latest incident, which occurred between Datu Unsay and Shariff Aguak towns, made the military believe BIFF members were out of their mind.

"The people we are fighting against might not be in their right senses anymore," he said, adding that the perpetrators were not sparing civilians.

He said a civilian vehicle was tailing a convoy of soldiers on the Maguindanao-General Santos Highway between Datu Unsay and Shariff Aguak when the explosion took place around 6 a.m. Wednesday.

He identified the lone fatality only as Abdullah. Two other civilians were wounded in the attack, he said.

A few hours later, suspected BIFF forces detonated another bomb, this time in Datu Hofer town, as a military convoy was passing by.

Asto said a Cpl. Joseph Primavera was wounded in that blast.

In Datu Saudi town, a sniper's bullet struck three meters from the municipal hall, where some 1,000 had people sought refuge from the violence.

The incident took place as municipal officials were distributing relief goods to displaced residents on Wednesday, an Inquirer correspondent on the scene said.

Mujiv Hataman, acting governor of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao has appealed that civilians be spared from harm and that they be allowed safe passage to evacuation centers.

Some 1,700 people were reportedly trapped in the towns of Datu Unsay and Datu Saudi.

Hataman also sought clearance from both the military and the BIFF to deliver relief goods to displaced residents.

Asto said a 15-kilometer stretch of the Maguindanao-General Santos City Highway between Datu Saudi to and Ampatuan town remained closed to traffic Thursday as sporadic fighting was continuing in the area.



## PACOM

### 60. [Attack, Thailand] Motorcycle bomb at Narathiwat Airport injures one soldier

8/9/2012

<http://www.pattayamail.com/news/motorcycle-bomb-at-narathiwat-airport-injures-one-soldier-15445>

NARATHIWAT, Aug 7 – One Thai army soldier was wounded in a bombing targeting a military-operated school bus near the entrance to Narathiwat Airport Tuesday afternoon.



The bombing took place on Narathiwat-Baan Torn Road, less than 50 metres from the gate to Narathiwat Airport.

Weighing about 20 kg, the bomb was put on a motorcycle sidecar. It was detonated when the bus was passing, but there were no students in the bus.

The bomb squad cut the mobile phone signal to deactivate two more bombs in 20 kg gas cylinders, which were believed to target the bomb response team.

Regarding the bombing at the Lee Gardens Plaza Hotel on March 31, the court issued a warrant for another suspect, Jehma Wani, a suspected insurgent leader at the operational level. Two warrants had been earlier issued for the case, but all suspects remain at large.

As violence continues in the three Muslim-dominant southern border provinces, Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra insisted the government's strategy to quell the southern violence is on the right track and there is no plan to impose a curfew.

The premier will chair a security meeting on the southern insurgency tomorrow in an attempt to reduce violence in the region. She said the meeting was intended to improve the authorities' operations and create more unity, she said.

Meanwhile, Deputy Prime Minister Yuthasak Sasiprapa said that the idea to impose a curfew will not be raised at tomorrow's meeting, but intelligence work will be the focus, with assessments to be conducted every month.



## PACOM

### 61. [Attack, Thailand] 9 soldiers wounded in S. Thai bombing

8/7/2012

<http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/725630.shtml>

Nine soldiers were wounded Tuesday in a roadside bomb attack in Thailand's southern province of Pattani, police said.

The unit of soldiers was on a routine patrol to provide security for teachers in Yarang district when a roadside bomb went off, causing their vehicle to turn upside down and veer off the road.

The bomb, built into a fire extinguisher and weighed an estimated 15 kg, was detonated by remote-control, according to a report on the Nation website.

Meanwhile, army rangers acting on a tip seized 80kg of urea fertiliser in a rubber plantation in Betong district, also in Pattani. It was believed that the fertilizers was meant to be used to make explosive device.





## PACOM

### 62. [Attack, Thailand] Six troops slightly injured in motorcycle bombing in Yala

8/6/2012

<http://www.nationmultimedia.com/breakingnews/Six-troops-slightly-injured-in-motorcycle-bombing--30187755.html>

Yala - Insurgents detonated a bomb hidden in a motorcycle to ambush a patrol unit in this southern border province Monday evening, injuring six troops.

The explosion occurred at 4:29 pm when the unit from the Yala Taskforce 12 was arriving in front of the Islamic Bank Raman branch in Raman district's downtown.

The explosion also shattered the glass windows of the bank.



## PACOM

### 63. [Attack, India] Three injured in bomb explosion

8/5/2012

<http://www.asianage.com/india/three-injured-bomb-explosion-128>

Three people were seriously injured when a bomb exploded in Goreshwar area of Baksa district in lower Assam on Sunday afternoon.

The incident took place when the three noticed a packet hung from a tree between Harijori and Bagdoba in the district and one of them brought it down, police said.

Baniram Deka, Deepak Deka and Laganu Kalita suffered serious injuries in the explosion and were shifted to the Guwahati Medical College for treatment.

Police and army personnel have cordoned off the area.

The Assam police had earlier this week sounded a 'red alert' throughout the state in view of the anti-talk ULFA faction's threat to engage in subversive activities in the run-up to the Independence Day celebrations.



## PACOM

### 64. [Security, India] Seven ULFA cadre arrested, powerful improvised explosive devices recovered

8/10/2012

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Seven-ULFA-cadre-arrested-powerful-improvised-explosive-devices-recovered/articleshow/15439605.cms>

TINSUKIA: Seven ULFA operatives were arrested tonight and two powerful improvised explosive devices (IED) recovered following an encounter in Assam's Tinsukia district, the police said.

Acting on a tip-off about the presence of a group of ULFA operatives to carry out subversive activities in the district in the run-up to the Independence Day, the police launched a search operation in Borburi area since this evening and an encounter followed in which two militants were nabbed while another fled away.

Five more ULFA men were arrested following the interrogation of the duo and two powerful IEDs recovered from an abandoned cremation ground, 500 metres from the parade ground where the district administration was due to hold the I-Day parade, source said.

The bombs have been defused and search operations were on to arrest the militants who fled, the police said.



## PACOM

### 65. [Security, India] Four crude bombs found in Lucknow court premises

8/9/2012

[http://twocircles.net/2012aug09/four\\_crude\\_bombs\\_found\\_lucknow\\_court\\_premises.html](http://twocircles.net/2012aug09/four_crude_bombs_found_lucknow_court_premises.html)

Lucknow : Four crude bombs were recovered in the civil court complex here Thursday, police said.

The bombs, called 'sutli bombs', were recovered from a flask that was lying unclaimed at a staircase near the chamber of the district court.

A bomb disposal squad was immediately called.

The bombs were crude in nature. Somebody wanted to play mischief in the court complex and create panic, Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), R.K. Chaturvedi, told IANS.

A case was registered in the Wajirganj Kotwali and probe has been ordered. Police have also tightened security around the district courts and the high court premises.



Lucknow, Varanasi and Faizabad courts in Uttar Pradesh were rocked by six powerful serial blasts Nov 23, 2007, afternoon within a span of 25 minutes.

While the explosion at Lucknow left a few injured, three consecutive blasts claimed 11 lives in Varanasi and left 42 people injured. Two successive blasts which occurred in Faizabad killed four people and maimed 15.



## PACOM

### 66. [Security, India] Powerful bomb recovered in Assam

8/7/2012

<http://www.business-standard.com/generalnews/news/powerful-bomb-recovered-in-assam/41423/>

A powerful bomb hidden in a bag was found near the National Highway 37 in Assam's Goalpara district today, police sources said.

Security personnel found the bomb during patrol at Haldapara adjacent to NH 37 under Goalpara police station close to the area where a bomb exploded on July 31 killing an army man and injuring six others.

According to intelligence reports, a group of seven ULFA militants have entered the district to carry out subversive activities in the run up to the Independence Day, the sources added.



### PACOM

#### 67. [Security, India] Bomb defused

8/6/2012

<http://ibnlive.in.com/generalnewsfeed/news/bomb-defused/1036579.html>

Motihari, Aug 6 (PTI) A country-made bomb was today recovered from an under-construction building in Raxual town in Bihar's East Champaran district. The bomb was recovered from a pipe at the building and was later defused by a bomb disposal squad from Muzaffarpur, Deputy Superintendent of Police Jitendra Pandey said. An investigation was going on in the matter, he said.



## PACOM

### 68. [Security, India] Unassembled bomb seized

8/5/2012

<http://www.deccanchronicle.com/channels/cities/regions/madurai/unassembled-bomb-seized-675>

City police on Saturday seized two parcels containing explosive materials and time devices meant to be dispatched to a former activist of banned Al-Umma terror outfit.

Police said the parcel was hand-delivered by an unidentified youth to a goldsmith at his jewellery manufacturing unit on South Krishnan Koil Street on Friday night asking him to hand it over to his neighbour Umar Farooq who has his real estate office in the same building.

Goldsmith R. Arumugam had asked a 15-year-old boy Guru Balaji who lives in the same building to reach the parcel to Umar.

Keeping the parcel in his house all night, the boy handed it over to Mohammed Ismail, an employee, when he opened the office next morning. Smelling a rat, the goldsmith had informed the police about the suspicious parcel.



A team of policemen including bomb detection and disposal experts rushed to his office and recovered the parcels each containing an electronic time piece, 4 (9 volt) Eveready batteries, one metre-long electric wires, two switches and a coir bundle. One box had 150 gram ammonium powder but the devices were left unassembled.

“When we opened one of the parcels, we found battery cells in a plastic bottle connected with a clock and packed with jute and a material fixed with a fuse. It also contained substance like cracker powder inside the PVC pipe. In another parcel, materials used for making an improvised explosive device were found,” an official release issued by the city police said.

Umar, Guru Balaji and Arumugam were picked up for inquiry. Later in the evening, south gate police, on a complaint by West Madurai village administrative officer Muniyandi registered a case under Section 4 of the Explosive Substance Act against an unnamed youth who is said to have delivered the “dangerous explosives” packed in a parcel.

Police claimed Umar had links with slain Al-Umma extremist Imam Ali and was also facing a murder case that was pending trial.

He was acquitted in a dacoity case at Velayuthampalayam in Karur. Releasing a computer portrait of the suspect, who handed over the parcels to Arumugam, to the media, commissioner Sanjay Mathur has asked the people to tip off the police if they had any information about him.

He has announced a cash reward of `10,000 and assured that the identity of the informers would not be disclosed.

Mock drill at Madurai railway station



A bomb threat to Madurai railway station on Saturday put the railway and city police on tenterhooks but turned out to be a mock drill to gauge the alertness of the railway police.

Official sources said the railway administration ordered an internal mock check following which a threat that a bomb has been planted on the station premises and was likely to explode in a few minutes was issued at 12.45 pm.

Security was put on high alert. The Railway Protection Force (RPF) and Tamil Nadu Railway Police (TRP) conducted a thorough check. Sleuths from the bomb detection and disposal squad also checked the trains.

Sniffer dogs were pressed into service, passengers were frisked and their luggage checked manually and by the newly-installed baggage scanner.

The trains were allowed to run after a thorough search. Soon, the city police teams led by deputy commissioner Tirunavukkarasu and six assistant commissioners joined the search operation unaware that it was a mock check.

Police dogs Kannagi, Karikalan and Nedunchezhiyan were brought to the station.

“Since parcel bombs were seized today, we did not want to take any chance,” a police official said. RPF commandant Balasubramanian said, “It was internal check conducted to know the preparedness of the departments concerned and also instil a sense of confidence in the passengers.” The check was wound up late in the evening.





## PACOM

### 69. [Technology, India] Home ministry wants bar code on detonators to track sale, diversion to left-wing extremists

8/10/2012

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics/nation/home-ministry-wants-bar-code-on-detonators-to-track-sale-diversion-to-left-wing-extremists/articleshow/15427549.cms>

NEW DELHI: The home ministry has sought bar-coding of detonators, manufactured largely by the private sector, to track their sale and possible diversion to Left-wing extremists and terrorists for assembling IEDs and bombs. Bar-coding will help the police and intelligence agencies trace when and from where the detonator used in an IED or bomb was extorted.



India is among the largest producer and biggest exporter of detonators. Detonators are manufactured by private sector units and are widely used by the mining and construction industry, PWD and road contractors. These detonators are often pilfered or extorted by Maoists, insurgents and home-grown terrorists. Most companies, including PSUs, rarely report 'theft' of detonators. Intelligence agencies' suspect they are handed out to insurgents as extortion in kind.

MHA first proposed the bar-coding of detonators six months ago. In a communication to the Department Of Industrial Policy and Promotion, the home ministry pressed for the bar-coding detonators. DIPP, however, is not too enthusiastic about the proposal for the simple reason that bar coding will push up cost of detonator by four times. This will hit exports, thus bringing down forex earnings, it argues.

A final decision on MHA's request is still pending with DIPP, which is weighing the concerns over a sharp cost escalation against the security risks involved in leaving sale of detonators, unregulated. "MHA, of course, feels the escalation in cost is a small price to pay for national security. Though DIPP is somewhat concerned over the loss in foreign exchange, as the high cost of bar-coded detonators may push importers to settle for cheaper versions from China, it has agreed to study all options. "One of these options could be limiting the bar-coding for those sold in India, while foregoing the barcode for detonators meant for export," according to a senior MHA official.

Incidentally, the Centre has been working hard to regulate the sale and storage of ammonium nitrate, an easily-available compound often used as explosives in IEDs and bombs. However, given the wide uses of the salt, including as a common fertilizer, it is nearly impossible to fully curb its unregulated sale. "Obviously, the better option is to barcode detonators, without which no explosive can be assembled. This will track the buyer's details, thus helping the intelligence agencies trace its possible pilferage or diversion to Naxalites and other anti-social elements," said an MHA officer who did not want to be named. Ammonium nitrate, when combined with 7% carbon, including sawdust and fuel oil, becomes a potent explosive.



## SOUTHCOM

### 70. [Attack, Colombia] FARC Rebels Blow Up Section of El Cerrejon Railway in La Guajira

8/8/2012

<http://www.eltiempo.com>

Bogota eltiempo.com reports (8 Aug 12 - 11:59 a.m.) that on Wednesday 8 August 12 at 2:30 am, with some three kg of explosives, presumed guerrillas from the FARC's 19th and 59th "Resistencia Guajira" Fronts blew up some ten meters of railway at the 17-km marker on the road from Albania to Uribia Municipality just a four meters away from the "Jorge Isaacs" Airport from El Cerrejon Multinational Company. This is the third guerrilla attack so far this year. Coal shipments to Puerto Bolivar had to be suspended. On Saturday 4 August 12, FARC subversives intimidated the operators and torched two pieces of coal mining equipment in La Estrella, rural Remedios, Albania Municipality. Some two-km away from this latest attack, FARC guerrillas detonated two explosive devices on electricity pylons 29 and 30. Only the bases of the pylons were damaged. All these FARC attacks seemed to indicate that this terrorist escalade was to coincide with the 7 August 12 national holiday.



## **SOUTHCOM**

### **71. [Attack, Colombia] 2 Soldiers, 3 Civilians Injured in Terrorist Attack by FARC in Antioquia**

8/8/2012

<http://www.caracol.com.co>

Bogota Caracol Radio Online reports on 8 August that three civilians and two soldiers were injured by a bomb attached to a donkey at the rural area in San Andres in northern Antioquia Department. The authorities report the FARC Front 36 were behind the attack.



## **SOUTHCOM**

### **72. [Attack, Colombia] FARC Subversives Activate High-Intensity Explosive Device on Military Patrol in Tame (Arauca)**

8/7/2012

<http://www.eltiempo.com>

Bogota eltiempo.com reports (7 Aug 12 - 10:11 p.m.) that FARC insurgents activated the device on a passing Plan Meteoro Army patrol on the road between Santo Domingo and Betoyes Police Inspection in Tame Municipality. The blast injured a military and left a crater one meter deep and four meters in diameter. The man in uniform was taken to San Antonio Hospital in Tame Municipality.



## SOUTHCOM

### 73. [Attack, Colombia] FARC Blow Up Farm House in San Diego (Cesar)

8/3/2012

<http://www.elheraldo.com.co>

Barranquilla El Heraldo.com.co reports (4 Aug 12) that Friday 3 August 12 at 10:30 am, three guerrillas (two males and a female) from the FARC's 41st "Cacique Upar" Front, armed with AK-47 rifles, used a propane gas cylinder found in the property to blow up the house of El Rosario farm located in rural San Jose, San Diego Municipality.





## **SOUTHCOM**

### **74. [Security, Colombia] Army Destroys FARC Motorcycle-Bomb in Arauquita (Arauca)**

8/5/2012

<http://www.ejercito.mil.co>

Bogota National Army website reports (5 Aug 12) that explosives experts from the Army's 18th Brigade, "Quiron" Task Force, 8th Division, located and safely destroyed a motorcycle-bomb that subversives from the "Uriel Londono" Company, FARC's 10th "Guadalupe Salcedo" Front, had prepared with 15 kg of Pentolite and installed in front of the "Gabriel Garcia Marquez" School in the urban area of Arauquita Municipality.



## SOUTHCOM

### 75. [Security, Colombia] Army Neutralizes ELN Gas-Cylinder Launching Ramps in Boyaca, Arauca

8/5/2012

<http://www.ejercito.mil.co>

Bogota National Army website reports (5 Aug 12) that sappers from the 50th Construction Engineers Battalion, Army's 18th Brigade, "Quiron" Task Force, 8th Division, found and safely destroyed two launching ramps, 100-lbs gas-cylinder bombs and seven four-kg homemade mortar grenades containing acid that rebels from the ELN [Army of National Liberation] "Efrain Pabon Pabon" Front had left of the road to rural Puerto Nuevo, Cubara Municipality (Boyaca). Elsewhere, in the rural sector of Banadias, Fortul Municipality (Arauca), explosives experts from the 18th Energy and Road Special Plan Battalion, Army's 18th Brigade, "Quiron" Task Force, 8th Division, found and safely detonated a 40-lbs gas-cylinder bomb containing a cluster of IEDs that rebels from the ELN's "Ernesto Che Guevara" Commission had installed pointing towards the Banadias Military Base. Finally sappers from the same Battalion detected and safely detonated a soccer-ball bomb that subversives from the "Omaira Montoya" Commission, ELN's "Domingo Lain Saenz" Front had installed in a wooded area of Fortul Municipality (Arauca).