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REPORT CBRNE EVENTS IN THE WORLD

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OSDIFE

Observatory on
Security and CBRNe Defence



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Monitoring CBRNE risks worldwide

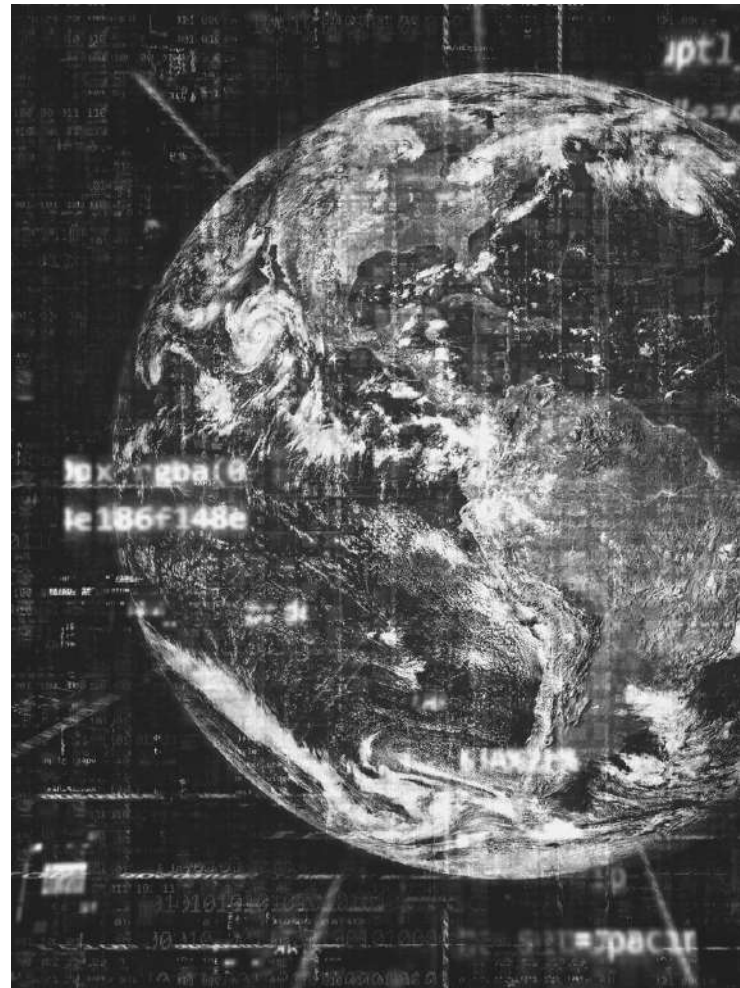
The Observatory on Security and CBRNE Defence - **OSDIFE**, the **University of Rome "Tor Vergata"**, Department of Electronic Engineering - DIE and the State University of Republic of **San Marino, Center for Security Studies** - CUFS are pleased to present the "OSDIFE Report on CBRNe Events in the World".

The Report aims to disseminate information related to a wide range of unconventional events worldwide, selected and systematised by our international editorial team on a weekly basis over the whole month, with relation to Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, North America, Oceania.

The Report covers issues related to **CBRNE threats**, and also has special coverage for **COVID-19 pandemic**, **terrorism and counter-terrorism**, security and defence **technological innovations**.

This Report endeavours to build a **network of mutual information exchange**.

To this aim, **we invite you to contribute** to the Report by sending news, events and initiatives of relevance to CBRNE and WMD, by email to **news.report@osdife.org**



The OSDIFE Staff is thankful for your interest and wishes you a pleasant reading.

PROF. ROBERTO MUGAVERO

Scientific committee coordinator

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Last month news

OVERVIEW OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC

As the most significant international biological threat in the past 100 years, this brief introductory section presents the June milestones of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The analysis is based on the consultation of various reliable international open sources (found and available on the International Maritime Organization – IMO, International Labour Organization – ILO, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization – UNESCO, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund – UNICEF, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime – UNODC, Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS – UNAIDS, and United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights – UNHCHR websites) and the meticulous statistical data processed by the World Health Organization – WHO.

Key international actions and procedures to fight the virus and better deal with the increasing concerns are also presented below.

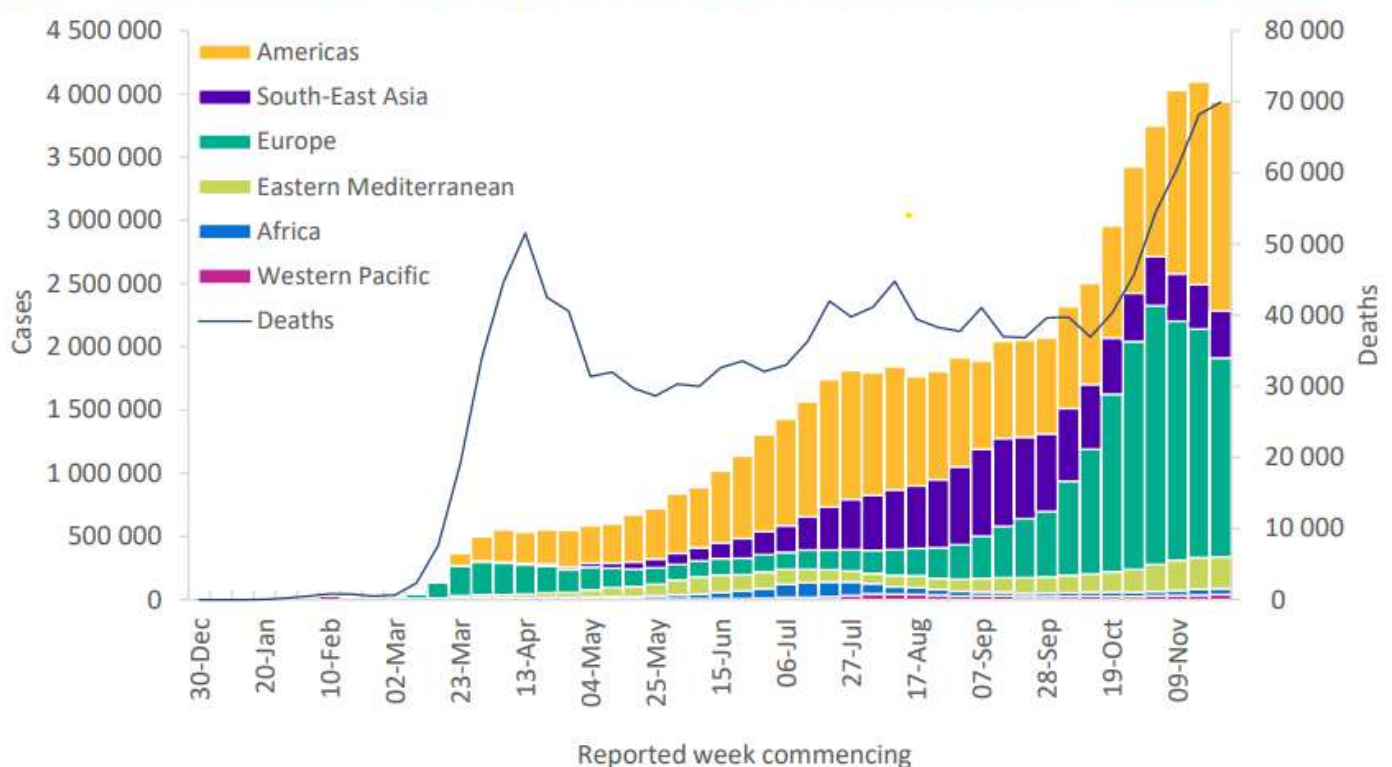
Last month news

OVERVIEW OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC



- Global case incidence remained high at approximately 4 million new cases per week over the last month, although a slight downward trend was observed (Figure below). Weekly deaths, however, continued to rise, with over 69 000 new deaths reported globally over the last week.
- As of 29 November, there have been over **61.8 million cases** and **over 1.4 million deaths** reported globally since the start of the pandemic.
- In the past week, the five countries reporting the highest number of cases were the United States of America (reporting over 1.1 million cases, a 0.3% increase from the previous week), India (over 297 000 cases, a 6% increase), Brazil (over 218 000 new cases, a 4% increase), Italy (over 184 000 new cases, a 22% decrease) and Russian Federation (over 179 000 new cases, a 10% increase).

Figure 1: COVID-19 cases reported weekly by WHO Region, and global deaths, as of 29 November 2020**





Last month news

OVERVIEW OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC



- The **African Region** reported about 48 000 new cases and just under 1000 new deaths last week; a 3% and -10% change from the previous week, respectively. The highest number of new cases and deaths were reported from South Africa (19 730 new cases, 333 new cases per 1 million).
- The **Region of the Americas** reported over 1.6 million new cases and 22 000 new deaths, a small increase of 3% and 2%, respectively. The highest number of new cases and deaths were reported from the United States of America (1.15 million new cases, 3476 new cases per 1 million).
- New cases (248 000) and new deaths (5800) have shown a slight reduction in the **Eastern Mediterranean Region**, of 1% and 8% respectively compared to the previous week. The highest number of new cases were reported from the Islamic Republic of Iran (94 500 new cases, 1125 new cases per 1 million).
- In the **European Region**, the number of new cases has been decreasing for three consecutive weeks, since its peak in the first week of November. In the past week, the number of new cases reported declined by 13% to over 1.5 million. Despite this reduction, the Region still accounts for 40% of new global cases and 50% of new global deaths as almost half of the countries within the region continue to show an increasing trend. The highest number of new cases were reported from Italy (184 000 new cases, 3000 new cases per 1 million).
- In the **South-East Asia Region**, new weekly cases remained at similar levels as the previous four weeks with 371 180 cases reported in the past week. The trend in cases is largely driven by the number of cases in India, which reported 80% of new weekly cases in the Region
- In the past week, the number of new cases reported in the **Western Pacific Region** increased by 12% with 40 550 cases, continuing the increase since the beginning of November (Figure 8). The number of weekly cases is lower than the highest peak observed in the Region in the week commencing 3 August. The number of deaths in the past week remained at similar levels compared to the previous two weeks with 445 deaths reported from eight countries including the Philippines and Japan which together comprised 87% of all deaths. The highest number of new cases were reported from Japan (14 500 new cases, 114 new cases per 1 million)



Last month news

OVERVIEW OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC



Data summary and trends (November variations in cases and deaths)

Table 1. Newly reported and cumulative COVID-19 confirmed cases and deaths, by WHO Region, as of 29 November 2020**

WHO Region	New cases in last 7 days (%)	Change in new cases in last 7 days *	Cumulative cases (%)	New deaths in last 7 days (%)	Change in new deaths in last 7 days*	Cumulative deaths (%)
Americas	1 652 915 (42%)	3%	26 216 515 (42%)	22 488 (32%)	2%	720 228 (50%)
Europe	1 573 354 (40%)	-13%	18 495 511 (30%)	35 321 (51%)	5%	412 362 (28%)
South-East Asia	371 180 (9%)	6%	10 738 733 (17%)	4 888 (7%)	4%	163 454 (11%)
Eastern Mediterranean	248 909 (6%)	-1%	4 045 906 (7%)	5 800 (8%)	-8%	102 160 (7%)
Africa	48 483 (1%)	3%	1 494 524 (2%)	974 (1%)	-10%	33 512 (2%)
Western Pacific	40 489 (1%)	12%	874 705 (1%)	445 (1%)	1%	17 261 (1%)
Global	3 935 330 (100%)	-4%	61 866 635 (100%)	69 916 (100%)	3%	1 448 990 (100%)

*Percent change in the number of newly confirmed cases/deaths in past seven days, compared to seven days prior. Regional percentages rounded to the nearest whole number, global totals may not equal 100%.

Note: data proposed in the tables below are collected through the Epidemic Intelligence from Open Sources (EIOS), that is a collaborative effort across public health organisations worldwide to facilitate the early detection of and response to potential health threats using publicly available information. World Health Organization (WHO) leads the EIOS initiatives since 2017. Additional information about EIOS: <https://www.who.int/eios>



Last month news

OVERVIEW OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC



Worldwide cases compared trends



Worldwide deaths compared trends





AFRICA NEWS ON CBRNE EVENTS

This section gathers news collected from sources related to the African continent, including sub-saharian and southern regions. The section is organized in four areas:

- chemical
- biological
- radiological and nuclear
- explosives

News are proposed in chronological order.





BIOLOGICAL



Africa

Ebola Virus Disease

Event – Spillover of Ebolaviruses into people in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo.

Summary – According to a study led by the University of California, scientists found antibodies to Ebola virus in people up to a year before the 2018 Ebola virus disease outbreak began in the Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The study documents the first detection of antibodies to Bombali ebolavirus in a person, showing that spill over of that virus from bats to humans has likely occurred.

Source: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1186/s42522-020-00028-1>

Reported: 4/11/2020

Congo

Ebola

Event – Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo ends.

Summary – The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention joins the global public health community in marking the end of the Ebola Virus Disease outbreak in Equateur Province. Today marks 42 days, or two incubation periods, since the last survivor tested negative for the virus.

Source: <https://www.hstoday.us/subject-matter-areas/pandemic-biohazard/ebola-outbreak-in-the-democratic-republic-of-the-congo-ends/>

Reported: 19/11/2020



EXPLOSIVES



Nigeria

IED

Event – Troops kill 75 terrorists, lose 3 soldiers in North-East.

Summary – The Acting Director, Defence Media Operations, Brig. Gen. Benard Onyeuko, disclosed this while giving update of the activities of the troops between Sept. 28 and Oct. 31 on Tuesday. Onyeuko said that Operation Fire Ball was a subsidiary operation under Operation Lafiya Dole meant to clear the remnants of the Boko Haram/ISWAP terrorists from their identified enclaves in the North-East. He added large cache of ammunition including 36 hand grenades, 567 rounds of 7.62mm special ammunition, 448 rounds of 12.7mm ammunition, 50 rocket propelled grenade bombs and 17 locally manufactured rounds were recovered. According to him, three shells for making Improvised Explosive Device (IED), one smoke grenade and two belts of PKT rounds as well as assorted non-lethal items were also captured from the criminals.

Source: <https://www.pulse.ng/news/local/troops-kill-75-terrorists-lose-3-soldiers-in-north-east/21c7zxk>

Reported: 03/11/2020

Cameroon

IED

Event – 10 people injured.

Summary – Ten people were injured as a small-scale Improvised Explosive Device targeted a bar in the country's capital Yaoundè.

Source: <https://www.africanews.com/2020/11/02/cameroon-nine-injured-in-artisanal-bomb-blast-in-yaounde/>

Reported: 03/11/2020

Somalia

IED

Event – Senator's bodyguards wounded.

Summary – Somali senator survived an Improvised Explosive Device attack on his vehicle; the blast, happened on Maka Al Mukarama road in Mogadishu, wounded two of his bodyguards.

Source: <https://mareeg.com/somali-senator-survives-bomb-attack-in-mogadishu/>

Reported: 08/11/2020



EXPLOSIVES



Somalia

Roadside IED

Event – 2 soldiers killed and 3 others wounded.

Summary – 2 government soldiers were killed and three others wounded in a roadside Improvised Explosive Device attack on military vehicle near Dhusamareb, town in central Somalia, while traveling through Sinna-Dhaqo area.

Source: <https://mareeg.com/deadly-blast-kills-2-soldiers-in-somalia/>

Reported: 10/11/2020

Somalia

Grenades

Event – 4 people wounded by grenade blast.

Summary – 3 people have been wounded in a grenade explosion in Kismayo; grenade bombs were hurled into a residence of Second Deputy Speaker for Jubaland state parliament.

Source: <https://mareeg.com/grenade-explosion-leaves-3-people-wounded-in-kismayo/>

Reported: 10/11/2020

Somalia

IED

Event – 3 killed but Minister survived.

Summary – Minister of Tourism and environment was unharmed from the blast of an explosive device that targeted his residence in Kismayo: two of his bodyguards and a civilian were killed in the explosion.

Source: <https://mareeg.com/somali-regional-minister-survives-assassination/>

Reported: 12/11/2020

Somalia

PBIED

Event – 6 killed and several wounded.

Summary – Six people were killed and several others injured in a suicide bombing attack that targeted a restaurant near the Police Academy in Mogadishu's Hamr Jajab district.

Source: <http://english.sina.com/world/af/2020-11-17/detail-iiznezxs2368770.shtml>

Reported: 17/11/2020



EXPLOSIVES



Somalia

UXO

Event – 4 civilians injured.

Summary – Convoy of AMISOM troops was targeted by the blast of a landmine near the Turkish Mosque, between Fagah Square and Jamhuuriya neighbourhood in Karaan district of Mogadishu.

Source: <https://www.somalidispach.com/latest-news/explosion-targets-amisom-troops-in-mogadishu/>

Reported: 18/11/2020

Somalia

IED

Event – 2 security agents killed.

Summary – Two security agents were killed due to the blast of an Improvised Explosive Device targeting a military facility in Mogadishu.

Source: <http://mali-web.org/afrique/somalie-deux-morts-dans-une-explosion-a-mogadiscio>

Reported: 18/11/2020

Cameroon

IED

Event – 2 severely injured.

Summary – Improvised explosive device blast seriously injured two civilians in the economic capital of Douala.

Source: https://www.cameroun24.net/actualite-cameroun-Une_bombe_artisanale_explose_a_Douala-1-1-56031.html

Reported: 19/11/2020

Somalia

Roadside IED

Event – Soldier killed and 3 civilians injured.

Summary – Soldier was killed and three civilians were injured when a huge blast targeted government forces in Lafole neighbourhood on the outskirts of Mogadishu.

Source: http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-11/19/c_139528287.htm

Reported: 19/11/2020



EXPLOSIVES



Somalia

Roadside IED

Event – 5 Harmcad Police soldiers killed.

Summary – Specially trained Harmcad Somali Police force was targeted with a roadside IED on the outskirts of Mogadishu; a vehicle carrying the troops was hit in Elasha Biyaha sustaining heavy casualties.

Source: <https://www.somalidispach.com/latest-news/somalia-sfg-troops-killed-in-explosion-outside-mogadishu/>

Reported: 25/11/2020

Chad

IED

Event – 4 soldiers killed and dozens injured.

Summary – Four soldiers in southwest Chad were killed and dozens injured in an explosion on a boat in the Chad lake caused by an improvised explosive device.

Source: <https://in.reuters.com/article/chad-security/suspected-boko-haram-attack-kills-four-chadian-soldiers-idINKBN2852BK?il=0>

Reported: 25/11/2020

Somalia

IED

Event – 7 killed and 12 wounded.

Summary – Improvised Explosive Device blast near a checkpoint of Mogadishu airport, on the day of the visit of the head of the Pentagon, killed seven people and injured several others.

Source: <https://www.vesti.ru/article/2491454>

Reported: 27/11/2020

Nigeria

IED

Event – No injuries on church premises.

Summary – Improvised Explosive Device detonated on the premises of a local church, Governor Wike's father's church, in Port Harcourt: no casualties were recorded.

Source: <https://www.sunnewsonline.com/3-in-police-net-over-saturdays-alleged-explosion-in-port-harcourt/>

Reported: 29/11/2020

ASIA NEWS ON CBRNE EVENTS

This section gathers news collected from sources related to the Asian continent, including the Middle East region, proposed in chronological order. The section is organized in four sections, according to news availability:

- chemical
- biological
- radiological and nuclear
- explosives





CHEMICALS



UAE

CBRN Hub Launched

Event – Launch of the CBRN Hub in the UAE.

Summary – Knowledge Group (KG), the training, development and consulting arm of Abu Dhabi University (ADU), announced the launch of the Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Hub in the United Arab Emirates, in partnership with Orbrix Technical and Occupational Skills Training and in cooperation with the European Union Centers of Excellence for the Gulf Cooperation Council Region. Working in line with national requirements, the Hub will serve a myriad of areas including research, advisory services, training programs, qualifications, conferences, network support research working with the key agencies.

Source: <https://www.knowledgegroup.co/en-us/events/cbrnhub/about-event> ,
<https://www.albawaba.com/business/pr/knowledge-group-launches-cbrn-hub-partnership-key-international-players-1393251>

Reported: 17/11/2020

China

Chemical Regulation

Event – China announces Transition Document for amended new chemical regulation.

Summary – On October 27, 2020, China's Ministry of Ecology and Environment (MEE) published the Announcement on the Transitional Issues of Environmental Management Registration for New Chemical Substances (the Transition Document). It aims to establish a harmonized transition from the current MEP Order 7 to the coming MEE Order 12, which will become effective on January 1, 2021.

Source: <https://www.natlawreview.com/article/china-announces-transition-document-amended-new-chemical-regulation>

Reported: 03/11/2020

China

Chemical Cooperation

Event – Shell to evaluate catalyst recycling unit in China.

Summary – Royal Dutch Shell plc's RDS.A joint venture with specialty metals and minerals producer AMG - Advanced Metallurgical Group N.V. signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Shandong Yulong Petrochemical Co., Ltd. to assess the construction and operational prospective of a leading spent-catalyst recycling facility in Yantai, China.

Source: <https://uk.news.yahoo.com/shell-rds-jv-evaluate-catalyst-155103699.html>

Reported: 06/11/2020



CHEMICALS



Iran

Petrochemical Plant

Event – Indigenized HDS catalysts used for 1st time at Sabalan petrochem plant.

Summary – Sabalan Petrochemical Company in Asalouyeh, southern Bushehr Province, has started using domestically-made Hydrodesulphurization (HDS) catalysts for the first time in the country to support domestic manufactures, the managing director said.

Source: <https://financialtribune.com/articles/energy/105977/indigenized-hds-catalysts-used-for-1st-time-at-sabalan-petrochem-plant>

Reported: 04/11/2020

Syria

Syrian Mission

Event – Permanent Mission at the UN declares that Syria has no longer any chemical weapons.

Summary – The Syrian Arab Republic, represented by Dr. Bashar Ja'afari, reaffirmed that it did not use chemical weapons. In addition he stated that Syria does not have chemical weapons any longer, and that Syria was - and still is - committed to the cooperation with the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons. Last September, the tripartite cooperation agreement between the Syrian government, the United Nations and the OPCW was extended for a period of six months, starting from September 30th, 2020.

Source: https://www.un.int/syria/statements_speeches/al-jaafari-syria-committed-cooperating-opcw-permanently-close-file-and-remove-it

Reported: 05/11/2020

UAE-India

Chemical Project

Event – ADNOC and India's Adani Group put on hold mega chemicals project in Gujarat.

Summary – Energy company ADNOC (Abu Dhabi National Oil Co.) and Borealis, a provider of solutions in the fields of polyolefins, base chemicals and fertilizers, have decided to put on hold an ambitious chemical complex project planned for Mundra in India. The promoters, which also includes Germany's BASF and India's Adani Group, have cited the uncertainty brought on by the pandemic for the decision.

Source: <https://gulfnews.com/business/energy/adnoc-and-indias-adani-group-put-on-hold-mega-chemicals-project-in-gujarat-1.1604566626396>

Reported: 05/11/2020



CHEMICALS



China

Chemical Industry

Event – China flame retardant chemicals industry Report 2017-2030 by Goldstein Market Intelligence.

Summary – According to the Report, major driver in China flame retardant chemicals industry is the trend of using bio-based flame retardant chemicals on the backdrop of rising environmental and health concerns from the use of other chemicals such as brominated flame retardants.

Source: <https://www.pr-inside.com/china-flame-retardant-chemicals-industry-report-2017-2030-by-goldstein-market-intelligence-r4808047.htm>

Reported: 06/11/2020

Syria

Declaration

Event – High Representative for Disarmament Affairs briefed the Security Council on progress made by Syria towards eliminating its chemicals weapons program.

Summary – Due to the identified gaps, inconsistencies and discrepancies that remain unresolved, the OPCW's technical secretariat has assessed that the declaration submitted by Syrian Arab Republic cannot be considered accurate and complete in accordance with the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC). The UN reported that OPCW's Technical Secretariat still plans to conduct two rounds of inspections of the Barzah and Jamrayah facilities of the Syrian Scientific Studies and Research Centre, depending on the course of the pandemic.

Source: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/11/1077002>

Reported: 05/11/2020

Lebanon

Lebanon Blast

Event – Lebanon to demolish blast-hit Beirut port silos over safety concerns.

Summary – Lebanon will demolish grain silos at Beirut port that were severely damaged in an enormous explosion in August because they are at risk of collapse. The gutted silos had a storage capacity of more than 100,000 tonnes. Authorities said that the silos contained 45,000 tonnes of grain before the explosion but experts have determined that remaining quantities are not safe for human or animal consumption.

Source: <https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20201105-lebanon-to-demolish-blast-hit-silos-over-safety-fears>

Reported: 05/11/2020



CHEMICAL

UAE

Petrochemical Plant

Event – AquaChemie breaks ground on \$40m petrochemical terminal at Jebel Ali Port.

Summary – AquaChemie Middle East — a leading chemical sales and services company and part of the UAE-based AquaChemie Group —broke ground on its strategic, world-class petrochemical terminal in DP World's flagship, Jebel Ali Port, Dubai.

Source: <https://menafn.com/1101172116/UAE-AquaChemie-breaks-ground-on-40m-petrochemical-terminal-at-Jebel-Ali-Port>

Reported: 23/11/2020

Syria

Chemical Weapon

Event – German probe says General Maher Assad responsible for chemical attack in Syria's Ghouta.

Summary – Germany's international broadcaster Deutsche Welle and weekly Der Spiegel magazine have received documents prepared by the German war crimes unit proving that Syrian General Maher Assad was responsible for the chemical attack committed in Ghouta on August 21, 2013.

Source: <https://npasyria.com/en/50524/>

Reported: 27/11/2020

China

Chemical Plant Blast

Event – China jails

53 people over huge chemical plant blast that killed 78.

Summary – The blast in Jiangsu province on March 21, 2019, was one of the worst industrial accidents in the country in recent years and led to the closure of the plant.

Source: <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-9002015/China-chemical-explosion-53-people-jailed-massive-factory-blast-killed-78.html>

Reported: 30/11/2020



BIOLOGICAL



Israel

COVID-19 Vaccine

Event – Israel starts human trials on COVID-19 vaccine as schools slowly reopen.

Summary – Israel began human trials on Sunday for its COVID-19 vaccine candidate which, if successful, could be ready for the general public by the end of next summer.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/article/health-coronavirus-israel-int-idUSKBN27H18K>

Reported: 01/11/2020

Iran

COVID-19 Vaccine

Event – Iran to test its Coronavirus vaccine on humans in coming weeks.

Summary – Iran's Minister of Health Saeed Namaki said that the country will use two groups to enter the human clinical trials on the Coronavirus in the coming weeks.

Source: <https://en.trend.az/iran/society/3327986.html>

Reported: 02/11/2020

China

COVID-19 Vaccine

Event – CEPI to fund development of COVID-19 vaccine candidate by China's Clover.

Summary – The Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovation (CEPI) said on Tuesday it will fund the development of the protein-based S-Trimer COVID-19 vaccine candidate by China's Clover Biopharmaceuticals Inc.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-clover-cepi/cepi-to-fund-development-of-covid-19-vaccine-candidate-by-chinas-clover-idUSKBN27J05S>

Reported: 03/11/2020

China

COVID-19 Vaccine

Event – China's Fosun to seek approval for BioNTech's COVID-19 second vaccine, ends trials on first.

Summary – BioNTech's Chinese partner Shanghai Fosun Pharmaceutical Group does not plan to run further clinical trials of the German firm's Coronavirus vaccine candidate that has completed early-stage trials in China, an executive said.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-fosunpharma/chinas-fosun-to-seek-approval-for-biontechs-covid-19-second-vaccine-ends-trials-on-first-idUSKBN27K0LH>

Reported: 04/11/2020



BIOLOGICAL



Syria

Medical Aid

Event – Syria receives largest Coronavirus medical aid from Pakistan since the pandemic started

Summary – Pakistan sent a plane-load of medical aid to Damascus, making it the largest shipment the country has received since the outbreak of the Coronavirus crisis, according to Deputy Foreign Minister Dr Faisal Mikdad in a statement to Syrian state-run SANA news agency. Pakistani Ambassador to Damascus, Saeed Mohammed Khan, said that his country had agreed to send medical aid weighing 25 tonnes to help Syria's health sector confront the pandemic. He noted that the aid includes personal protection materials and will be distributed to hospitals and the concerned authorities operating under the Ministry of Health.

Source: <https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20201105-syria-receives-largest-coronavirus-medical-aid-from-pakistan/>, <https://www.syriahr.com/en/191441/>
Reported: 05/11/2020

Israel-The Philippines

COVID-19

Event – Israel gives Philippines 10,000 Coronavirus test kits.

Summary – Israel gave the Philippines' Department of National Defense (DND) 10,000 Coronavirus testing kits to help with the country's COVID-19 response, Big News Network reported.

Source: <https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/israel-gives-philippines-10000-coronavirus-test-kits-648265>
Reported: 06/11/2020

North Korea

Biological Weapons

Event – North Korea and Biological Weapons: Assessing the evidence.

Summary – This report discusses what the two countries with the greatest security interests on the Korean Peninsula, the United States and the Republic of Korea, have said publicly on the issue over the past 20 years. It also examines whether the policy responses adopted by the two governments have been consistent with concerns that North Korea has an advanced BW program, as these media reports have claimed.

Source: <https://www.38north.org/reports/2020/11/eharris110620/>
Reported: 06/11/2020



BIOLOGICAL



China

COVID-19 Vaccine

Event – AstraZeneca's COVID-19 vaccine to begin clinical trials in China.

Summary – AstraZeneca Plc plans to start early and mid-stage clinical trials of its COVID-19 vaccine candidate in China this year, a senior executive said on Friday, as it prepares a global rollout of the vaccine.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-astrazeneca-china/astrazenecas-covid-19-vaccine-to-begin-clinical-trials-in-china-executive-idUSKBN27M0CV>

Reported: 06/11/2020

Israel

COVID-19 Surveillance System

Event – System detects masks and social distancing.

Summary – New monitoring system installed in Or Aqiva can detect whether a person is wearing a face cover and measure distance between individuals to determine whether they are observing social distancing, however, the system does not possess facial recognition capabilities. The new system can also measure the density of groups in a certain area to prevent overcrowding.

Source: <https://www.jpost.com/health-science/israels-new-virus-surveillance-system-detects-masks-and-social-distancing-648756> ,

<https://www.ynetnews.com/business/article/HJA419rKP>

Reported: 11/11/2020

China-Brazil

COVID-19 Vaccine

Event – First doses of China's CoronaVac COVID-19 vaccine arrive in Brazil.

Summary – The first 120,000 doses of CoronaVac, a COVID-19 vaccine developed by China's Sinovac Biotech SVA.O that is being tested in Brazil, arrived at São Paulo's international airport on Thursday morning, the state government said.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-coronavirus-health-brazil/first-doses-of-chinas-coronavac-covid-19-vaccine-arrive-in-brazil-idUSKBN27Z223>

Reported: 19/20/2020



RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR



Iran

Nuclear Development

Event – Iran's centrifuge assembly plant is going underground.

Summary – The director-general of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Rafael M. Grossi, confirmed in an interview this week that Iran has begun replacing a key centrifuge assembly plant that a massive blast destroyed in July. Known as the Iran Centrifuge Assembly Center (ICAC), the ruined plant is where Tehran assembled advanced centrifuges for enriching uranium. An anonymous Middle Eastern official told the New York Times and Washington Post in the days after the explosion that Israel had planted a bomb at the site to sabotage Iran's centrifuge assembly line.

Source: <https://nationalinterest.org/blog/middle-east-watch/bad-news-iran%E2%80%99s-centrifuge-assembly-plant-going-underground-171632>

Reported: 01/11/2020

Iran

Uranium Enrichment

Event – Iran parliament approves bill on uranium enrichment.

Summary – The Iranian parliament yesterday approved a bill requiring the Atomic Energy Organisation of Iran (AEOI) to produce at least 120 kilogrammes of 20 per cent enriched uranium annually at the Fordow nuclear site.

Source: <https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20201103-iran-parliament-approves-bill-on-uranium-enrichment/>

Reported: 03/11/2020

China

Nuclear Development

Event – Cold testing completed at China's HTR-PM unit 2.

Summary – China National Nuclear Corporation (CNNC) announced that cold testing had been completed at unit 2 of the demonstration high-temperature gas-cooled pebble-bed module reactor plant (HTR-PM) at Shidaowan in Shandong province. Cold tests were completed at unit 1 on 19 October.

Source: <https://www.neimagazine.com/news/newscold-testing-completed-at-chinas-htr-pm-unit-2-8347170>

Reported: 05/11/2020



RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR



Iran

Nuclear Deal

Event – Nuclear deal possible if US sanctions are lifted.

Summary – Foreign Minister Javad Zarif stated that Iran will fully return to its nuclear commitments if US President-elect Joe Biden lifts sanctions imposed over the past two years. He explained that if the US meets its commitments under UN Security Council Resolution 2231, they would fulfil theirs under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action. Biden has repeatedly said he would re-join the landmark 2015 accord, which was negotiated between Iran and six world powers, if Iran returns to compliance.

Source: <http://www.irandaily.ir/News/276935.html>

Reported: 17/11/2020

China

Nuclear Weapons

Event – China now has the nuclear strength to hit back at a first strike, former PLA colonel says.

Summary – China has spent the last two decades building defences for its nuclear armoury on land and at sea, ensuring that the military can hit back at a nuclear attack and deter others from launching one, according a former Chinese People's Liberation Army senior colonel.

Source: <https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3110091/china-now-has-nuclear-strength-hit-back-first-strike-former-pla>

Reported: 17/11/2020

Saudi Arabia

Nuclear Weapons

Event – Saudi Arabia says it will develop nuclear weapons if Iran cannot be stopped from making one.

Summary – Saudi Arabia could develop nuclear weapons if Iran becomes a nuclear power, the country's foreign minister has warned. Adel al-Jubeir said it is 'definitely an option' for the Middle-Eastern state to develop nuclear capabilities if Iran could not be stopped from making one.

Source: <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8958657/Saudi-Arabia-says-develop-nuclear-weapons-Iran-stopped-making-one.html>

Reported: 17/11/2020



RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR



China

Nuclear Development

Event – China's self-developed third-generation nuclear power technology Hualong One passes EUR compliance assessment.

Summary – China's Hualong One technology, a domestically developed third-generation nuclear power reactor design, recently passed the European Utility Requirements (EUR) compliance assessment and received the EUR certificate, workercn.cn reported Tuesday.

Source: <http://en.people.cn/n3/2020/1118/c90000-9781378.html>

Reported: 18/11/2020

Iran

Uranium

Event – IAEA and US pressure Iran over uranium particles at 'atomic warehouse'.

Summary – The UN nuclear watchdog and the United States pressured Iran on Wednesday to finally explain the origin of uranium particles found almost two years ago at an old but undeclared site that Israel has called a "secret atomic warehouse".

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-iran-nuclear-iaea-turqazabad/iaea-and-u-s-pressure-iran-over-uranium-particles-at-atomic-warehouse-idUSKBN27Y2ER>

Reported: 18/11/2020

Iran

Nuclear Deal Breach

Event – Iran admits breach of nuclear deal discovered by UN inspectorate.

Summary – Iran has admitted a further breach of the 2015 nuclear deal by firing up advanced uranium-enriching centrifuges installed at its underground plant at Natanz. The finding was made by the UN nuclear weapons inspectorate, the International Atomic Energy Association, and confirmed by the Iranian ambassador to the IAEA. The IAEA report said that Tehran had been feeding uranium hexafluoride (UF6) gas feedstock into advanced IR-2m machines.

Source: [https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/nov/18/iran-admits-breach-of-nuclear-deal-discovered-by-un-inspectorate?](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/nov/18/iran-admits-breach-of-nuclear-deal-discovered-by-un-inspectorate?mkt_tok=eyJpIjoiTm1Gak9ETTVZamcwWIRjNCIsInQiOiJlUQ2g1dVYybmVFaTdVVGZKZzZlbnkwcEVDSTdMdGdlODIhVVU0NkNaUGo5cjQzSXRpRHQrZnJFT21QRExnUzF4MTBpd0pZUlwvb2hoY1NVVTVYNzhGOUFkK2pjMHpjVFU5aGFkdDg5T2c5K3pLdm9iUk1uXC9ldWlkZjJUSWhlSEVQIn0%3D)

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Reported: 18/11/2020



RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR



Saudi Arabia-Iran

Nuclear Inspections

Event – Saudi Arabia urges IAEA to inspect Iran nuclear sites.

Summary – The Saudi Cabinet on Tuesday urged the International Atomic Energy Agency to inspect Iranian nuclear sites, warning that Tehran could be carrying out undeclared nuclear activities, the SPA news agency reported.

Source: <https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20201126-saudi-arabia-urges-iaea-to-inspect-iran-nuclear-sites/>

Reported: 26/11/2020

China

Nuclear Development

Event – China's first domestically made nuclear reactor goes online.

Summary – China has powered up its first domestically developed nuclear reactor — the Hualong One — a significant step in Beijing's attempts to become less dependent on Western allies for energy security and critical technology.

Source: <https://www.arabnews.com/node/1769846/business-economy>

Reported: 28/11/2020



EXPLOSIVES



Afghanistan

Explosion

Event – Three policemen killed in Herat Blast.

Summary – At least three policemen were killed and two others including a civilian were wounded in an explosion near a police checkpoint in the city of Herat on Sunday morning, local officials said. The bomb was placed on a motorbike and was detonated near to a police checkpoint, said Abdul Ahad Walizada, a spokesman for Herat police.

Source: <https://tolonews.com/afghanistan-167453>

Reported: 01/11/2020

Afghanistan

Motorcycle IED

Event – 3 policemen killed.

Summary - Three policemen were killed and two further wounded, including a civilian, by the blast of a motorcycle Improvised Explosive Device near a police checkpoint in Herat.

Source: <https://www.khaama.com/3-police-killed-in-herat-blast-1-civilian-wounded-34534/>

Reported: 01/11/2020

Afghanistan

Drone Attack

Event – Deadly attack. Probably used drone.

Summary – A Taliban attack, most likely carried out by a drone, killed at least four security officers in northern Afghanistan on Sunday, according to senior and local Afghan officials, representing what could be the group's first publicly known use of the method in the 19-year war.

Source: <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/11/01/world/asia/taliban-drone-afghanistan.html>

Reported: 01/11/2020

Afghanistan

IED

Event – ANP engineering teams discovered and defused IEDs.

Summary – The engineering teams of Afghan National Police following point-to-point search operations, managed to discover and naturalize four roadside bombs in Herat province. Meanwhile, ANP detained two Taliban mine planters while they were planting roadside bombs in Gardiz City of Paktiya.

Source: <https://twitter.com/moiafghanistan/status/1322798713786564608>

Reported: 01/11/2020



EXPLOSIVES



Afghanistan

Roadside IED

Event – 7 civilians killed.

Summary – Seven civilians were killed in the southern province of Helmand; a vehicle struck a roadside Improvised Explosive Device at the outskirts of Lashkar Gah: women and children were among the dead.

Source: <http://www.afghanistantimes.af/landmine-blast-kills-at-least-7-in-helmand/>
Reported: 02/11/2020

Syria

IED

Event – Civilians injured in market.

Summary – Improvised Explosive Device targeted Al-Khodear market in Al-Ghoza injuring several civilians and producing physical damage.

Source: <https://www.dostor.org/3244012>
Reported: 02/11/2020

Syria

Motorcycle IED

Event – Damage and several injured.

Summary – Booby-trapped motorcycle Improvised Explosive Device exploded in the village of Bajlia, close to the town of Tal Abyad north of Raqqa, causing physical damage and several injured among civilians.

Source: <https://www.alalamtv.net/news/5256511/>
Reported: 03/11/2020

Afghanistan

VBIED

Event – 3 killed in military camp.

Summary – Three militants, including a suicide bomber, were killed in a car bomb explosion hitting an Afghan Border Forces' military camp in Imam Sahib district, Kunduz province.

Source: <http://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202011/03/WS5fa1285ca31024ad0ba82d95.html>
Reported: 03/11/2020



EXPLOSIVES



Afghanistan

Roadside IED

Event – 2 civilians killed.

Summary – Roadside Improvised Explosive Device blast killed two civilians and wounded one in Ghond area of Shinkai, district of Zabul.

Source: <http://www.afghanistantimes.af/bomb-blast-kills-2-in-zabul/>

Reported: 04/11/2020

Iraq

Roadside IED

Event – Peshmerga killed and 3 wounded.

Summary – Peshmerga was killed and three others were wounded as a roadside IED blast hit their vehicle in Chamanke sub-district of Amedi, northeast of Duhok.

Source: <https://estamedia.net/en/11233/>

Reported: 04/11/2020

Syria

IED

Event – 6 women killed and several injured.

Summary – 6 women were killed and several others injured by IED blast and its backup; the device went off in the ferry area NW of Baquba and its backup exploded as forces came to evacuate the victims of the first event.

Source: <http://burathanews.com/arabic/news/379856>

Reported: 05/11/2020

Iraq

Roadside IEDs

Event – 3 women and a policeman killed.

Summary – Three women and a policeman were killed in two roadside IED explosions; the blasts took place in the morning in a village near the town of Abbara, northeast of the provincial capital Baquba.

Source: http://www.china.org.cn/world/Off_the_Wire/2020-11/05/content_76880388.htm

Reported:

05/11/2020



EXPLOSIVES



Afghanistan

Roadside IED

Event – 3 Police officers killed and 2 injured.

Summary – Three Police officers have been killed and two more injured by the blast of a roadside Improvised Explosive Device in the southern province of Kandahar.

Source: <https://www.urdupoint.com/en/world/three-police-officers-killed-two-injured-by-1077929.html>

Reported: 06/11/2020

Myanmar

IED

Event – No one injured but physical damage only.

Summary – Two days ahead of Myanmar's general election, the blast of an Improvised Explosive Device damaged the compound of Bago Region's election sub-commission office.

Source: <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/ahead-sunday-polls-election-office-myanmar-attacked-explosives.html>

Reported: 06/11/2020

Iraq

IED

Event – Child killed and another injured.

Summary – Child was killed and another injured due to the blast of an Improvised Explosive Device in Mosul, north of Baghdad; the device exploded in one of the swamps in which children play.

Source: https://www.masrawy.com/news/news_publicaffairs/details/2020/11/7/1908019/

Reported: 07/11/2020

Syria

IED

Event – 3 policemen killed.

Summary – 3 elements of the engineering division of Al-Bab city Police, east of Aleppo, were killed as an Improvised Explosive Device detonated after being dismantled and transferred into their car.

Source: <https://www.enabbaladi.net/archives/430121>

Reported: 07/11/2020



EXPLOSIVES



Afghanistan

Car IED

Event – 2 civilians killed and 12 wounded.

Summary – 2 civilians were killed and 12 others wounded when a car Improvised Explosive Device detonated outside provincial council office in Qalat city, Zabul province.

Source: http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-11/07/c_139498690.htm

Reported: 07/11/2020

Afghanistan

Pressure-plate IED

Event – 5 killed and 2 wounded.

Summary – 5 civilians were killed and 2 wounded, in Arghandab district of Kandahar province, as a pressure-plate Improvised Explosive Device exploded after a tricycle touched off the device.

Source: http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-11/07/c_139498690.htm

Reported: 07/11/2020

India

IED

Event – No one injured in Assam school blast.

Summary – Improvised Explosive Device hit a primary school in Assam as tensions on the Assam-Mizoram border continue; the blast took place near the inter-state boundary in Cachar district.

Source:

<https://www.indiatoday.in/cities/guwahati/story/bomb-blast-at-another-primary-school-as-assam-mizoram-border-remains-tense-1738931-2020-11-07>

Reported: 07/11/2020



EXPLOSIVES



Afghanistan

Sticky IED

Event – Journalist and 2 other civilians killed.

Summary – Sticky Improvised Explosive Device attached to the vehicle of a former presenter on Afghanistan's Tolo TV exploded killing the journalist and two other civilians in Kabul.

Source: <https://www.thestar.com/news/world/asia/2020/11/07/former-afghan-tv-presenter-killed-in-explosion-in-capital.html?rf>

Reported: 07/11/2020

Iraq

Roadside IED

Event – Driver wounded by roadside IED.

Summary – Roadside Improvised Explosive Device targeted a military vehicle of the 6th Brigade in Makkal mountains, north of Salah Al-Din governorate, wounding the driver.

Source: <https://mangish.net/>

Reported: 08/11/2020

Iraq

Roadside IED

Event – Driver wounded and his vehicle damaged.

Summary – Roadside Improvised Explosive Device blast damaged a vehicle wounding the driver within Sultan Abdul-Llah village in the Bani-Qayara district.

Source: <https://www.alsumaria.tv/news/>

Reported: 08/11/2020

Syria

Roadside IED

Event – 4 US soldiers killed.

Summary – Four US soldiers were killed by the blast of an Improvised Explosive Device that targeted their vehicle in the countryside of Markida town, on the road connecting Al Hasakah to Deir el-Zor.

Source: <https://alqabas.com/article/5815016>

Reported: 08/11/2020



EXPLOSIVES



Afghanistan

Roadside IED

Event – 2 civilians killed and 3 others wounded.

Summary – Two civilians were killed and three others wounded in a roadside Improvised Explosive Device blast in Tabin village of the Arghandab district.

Source: <https://www.urdupoint.com/en/world/two-civilians-killed-3-injured-in-roadside-b-1079689.html>

Reported: 08/11/2020

Jordan

UXO

Event – Child injured by UXO.

Summary – 10-years-old child has been hospitalized in the State Hospital of Mu'az Bin Jabal due to the blast of an Unexploded Ordnance in the northern region of Shouna.

Source: <https://www.sarayanews.com/article/657723>

Reported: 08/11/2020

Afghanistan

IED

Event – Student killed and 8 injured.

Summary – IED exploded in Afghanistan's central province of Maidan Wardak, injuring eight students and causing one death: the blast occurred at the entrance gate of Tabesh Private University.

Source: <https://www.urdupoint.com/en/world/eight-students-injured-one-killed-by-blast-i-1080821.html>

Reported: 09/11/2020

Iraq

Roadside IED

Event – 2 members killed and 6 injured.

Summary – 2 killed and 6 injured due to the blast of a roadside Improvised Explosive Device that targeted a vehicle belonging to the 52nd Infantry Brigade of the 14th Division in Baladaa village, Kirkuk governorate.

Source: <https://hathalyoum.net/articles/2537597>

Reported: 09/11/2020



EXPLOSIVES



Iraq

Roadside IED

Event – Policeman killed and another injured.

Summary – Policeman was killed and another injured by a roadside Improvised Explosive Device that targeted a patrol of the North Gas Company passing by the village of Balkane in Kirkuk governorate.

Source: <https://www.shorouknews.com/news/view.aspx?cdate=09112020&id=aaf3200e-98cd-4129-9b6a-63775ea967e2>

Reported: 09/11/2020

Afghanistan

Roadside IED

Event – 2 civilians wounded.

Summary – 2 civilians were wounded in a roadside Improvised Explosive Device blast in Pul-e-Charkhi eastern area of Kabul; the device was planted in a culvert to target vehicle passing-by.

Source: <https://tolonews.com/afghanistan-167633>

Reported: 09/11/2020

Afghanistan

VBIED

Event – 8 killed and dozens injured.

Summary – Car Improvised Explosive Device detonated near the Police headquarters in Maywand district of Kandahar, leading to 8 deaths and 38 injured both civilians and security personnel.

Source: <https://en.mehrnews.com/news/165697/Car-bomb-blast-in-Kandahar-leaves-8-dead-dozens-injured>

Reported: 09/11/2020

Afghanistan

VBIED

Event – 4 policemen killed and 20 others injured.

Summary – 4 policemen were killed and 20 others injured as a car Improvised Explosive Device detonated next to a police base in Almar district of northern Faryab province.

Source: <https://www.radio.gov.pk/10-11-2020/afghanistan-four-policemen-killed-in-car-bomb-attack>

Reported: 10/11/2020



EXPLOSIVES



Iraq

Roadside IED

Event – 2 members of militia division killed.

Summary – Roadside Improvised Explosive Device killed two members of a militia division of the Iraqi government in the northern oil-producing province of Kirkuk.

Source: <https://www.thenationalnews.com/world/bomb-explosion-kills-two-members-of-pro-iranian-militia-in-iraq-1.1109209>

Reported: 10/11/2020

Saudi Arabia

Bomb

Event – Several injured in ‘bomb attack’ on Armistice Day ceremony at Saudi cemetery.

Summary – Several people were wounded Wednesday in what French officials described as a “bomb attack” targeting a World War I commemoration ceremony attended by European diplomats at a non-Muslim cemetery in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. France’s Foreign Ministry said the attack had taken place at a ceremony marking the end of World War I and that several people had been wounded as a result of an explosive device.

Source: <https://www.france24.com/en/middle-east/20201111-blast-rocks-non-muslim-cemetery-during-armistice-day-ceremony-in-saudi-arabia>

Reported: 11/11/2020

Syria

IED

Event – Big physical damage and slight injuries.

Summary – Improvised Explosive Device placed inside a car near a mosque, in the middle of a residential district in the eastern city of Al-Bab, detonated causing big physical damage and slight injuries.

Source: <https://www.shorouknews.com/news/view.aspx?cdate=11112020&id=ec01d11b-70c5-4574-93c5-ff631a32c2e6>

Reported: 11/11/2020



EXPLOSIVES



Afghanistan

Explosion

Event – Two policemen killed in early morning Kabul explosion.

Summary – Two policemen were killed and another wounded in an early morning magnetic IED explosion in Kabul city. The incident happened in Khair Khana area, in PD11. Early reports indicate that an explosive device had been attached to the police Ranger vehicle. In a separate attack, police confirmed two Afghan National Army soldiers were killed by unknown gunmen in Qala-e-Wazir, in Kabul on Tuesday night. These two incidents come amid a continuous increase in incidents around the country.

Source: http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-11/11/c_139508602.htm

Reported: 11/11/2020

Afghanistan

Sticky IED

Event – Journalist killed.

Summary – Afghan journalist working for a US-funded radio network was killed in a blast as a sticky Improvised Explosive Device attached to his car exploded in the city of Lashkar Gah in Helmand province.

Source: <http://nna-leb.gov.lb/en/show-news/122037/Afghan-journalist-for-US-funded-radio-killed-in-bombing>

Reported: 12/11/2020

Syria

IED

Event – Army patrol damaged.

Summary – Russian army patrol targeted by the blast of an Improvised Explosive Device on Suheh-Mussaifouh road in the eastern countryside of Daraa province.

Source: <https://shaamtimes.net/280768/>

Reported: 12/11/2020



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Afghanistan

VBIED

Event – 3 soldiers killed and 4 wounded.

Summary – Suicide car bomb exploded at the western entry gate of the Afghan capital Kabul, killing at least three soldiers and wounding four others.

Source: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/11/13/afghanistan-suicide-car-bomb-in-kabul-kills-several-troops>

Reported: 13/11/2020

Iraq

IED

Event – Popular crowd fighters militant injured.

Summary – Militant of the popular crowd fighters was injured by the blast of an Improvised Explosive Device near a checkpoint in Al-Bahbhan region, area of Jalf Al-Nasr NW of Hella.

Source: <https://afaq.tv/contents/view/details?id=143306>

Reported: 15/11/2020

Iraq

IED

Event – Car and house damaged.

Summary – Low-power Improvised Explosive Device targeted the house of Dhi Qar Education examination director causing physical damages to his car and the home front.

Source: <https://afaq.tv/contents/view/details?id=143242>

Reported: 15/11/2020

Lebanon

Grenade

Event – Damaged roof but no injuries.

Summary – Man threw a grenade on the roof of the Palestinian Mur's house inside the Al-Mia and Um camp; the explosion caused material damage but no injuries were reported.

Source: <https://www.mtv.com.lb/News/>

Reported: 15/11/2020



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Syria

IED

Event – Man and his child injured.

Summary – Man and his child were injured due to an Improvised Explosive Device blast in Hamamah village, western countryside of Idlib; the IED exploded in a Police car parked at the side of the road.

Source: <https://www.enabbaladi.net/archives/432281>

Reported: 16/11/2020

Afghanistan

IED

Event – 7 railways guards injured.

Summary – Seven railways security guards were injured due to an Improvised Explosive Device blast on the Herat-Islam Qala highway in western Herat province.

Source: https://www.pajhwok.com/en/subscription-required?redirect_from=583613

Reported: 16/11/2020

India

Sutli Firecracker

Event – Man seriously injured.

Summary – Man attempted to kill his girlfriend and later tried to suicide by blasting a sutli bomb inside his mouth in Pushpark area of Malad East, Kurar.

Source: <https://www.mid-day.com/articles/malad-man-tries-to-kill-self-with-sutli-bomb-in-mouth/23092236>

Reported: 16/11/2020

Thailand

Roadside IED

Event – Vehicle damaged but no injuries.

Summary – Pickup carrying a civic action team from Ranger Company 4608 to a wedding suffered major damage as a roadside IED exploded in Rueso district; no soldiers were injured.

Source: <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2020347/rangers-bombed-on-way-to-wedding>

Reported: 16/11/2020



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India

IED

Event – Couple injured outside hospital.

Summary – Man and his wife were seriously wounded due to the blast of an Improvised Explosive Device happened near the gate of the Regional Institute of Medical Sciences in Manipur, Imphal.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/couple-seriously-injured-in-bomb-explosion-outside-hospital-in-manipur/article33106494.ece>

Reported: 16/11/2020

Thailand

Grenade

Event – Man severely injured.

Summary – 2 gangs began fighting at a market in Chanthaburi when a man broke them up with a grenade in his hand to threaten them with; he was caught in the crossfire and the grenade in his hand exploded.

Source: <https://www.asiaone.com/asia/grenade-explodes-thai-mans-hand-he-tries-stop-gang-fight>

Reported: 17/11/2020

India

IID

Event – 2 clients injured.

Summary – 2 clients of a hotel-fast food outlet in Karanthai, Thanjavur district, were injured by the explosion of an incendiary device thrown by two men riding on a motorcycle.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/explosive-thrown-at-hotel-in-thanjavur-two-injured/article33114367.ece>

Reported: 17/11/2020

Afghanistan

VBIED

Event – 3 policemen wounded.

Summary – 3 policemen were wounded in a car bomb explosion in Qaisar district, northern province of Faryab; the vehicle was identified by security forces and was stopped before reaching its target.

Source: <https://tolonews.com/afghanistan-167821>

Reported: 17/11/2020



EXPLOSIVES



Afghanistan

Roadside IED

Event – 5 security forces killed.

Summary – Five agents of the security forces, including the Police Chief of Qorgal province in Faryab region, were killed by the blast of a roadside Improvised Explosive Device.

Source: <https://www.shorouknews.com/news/view.aspx?cdate=18112020&id=63fcc68f-86d7-4f3c-b4db-ef7cf2f98717>

Reported: 18/11/2020

Yemen

IED

Event – 3 persons injured.

Summary – Three people were seriously injured as an Improvised Explosive Device detonated on the international line between Ben Masili station and Safir area northeast of Marib city.

Source: <https://almasdaronline.com/articles/208110>

Reported: 18/11/2020

India

Industrial Explosion

Event – 5 workers killed and 5 critically injured.

Summary – 5 persons were killed and 5 others injured in West Bengal's Malda district; the incident took place in Sujapur area as a technical fault in a heavy machine inside a plastic factory caused high- intensity blast.

Source: <https://www.news18.com/news/india/5-killed-5-critically-injured-in-blast-in-plastic-factory-in-bengals-malda-rs-2-lakh-ex-gratia-for-deceaseds-kin-3096686.html>

Reported: 19/11/2020

Syria

IED

Event – Civilian wounded.

Summary – Improvised Explosive Device planted under a car in al-Bustan neighbourhood of Harasta, east of Damascus, detonated wounding the car's owner.

Source: <http://www.sana.sy/es/?p=160139>

Reported: 20/11/2020



EXPLOSIVES

India

Pressure-plate IED

Event – Policeman injured.

Summary – Policeman from the bomb disposal squad was injured when a pressure-plate Improvised Explosive Device detonated in Chhattisgarh's Bijapur district.

Source: <https://zeenews.india.com/india/cop-injured-in-ied-blast-in-chhattisgarhs-bijapur-2325669.html>

Reported: 20/11/2020

Iraq

Roadside IED

Event – 6 soldiers and 2 civilians killed.

Summary – Six soldiers and two civilians were killed in an ambush, happened 200 kilometres north of Baghdad, triggered by the blast of a roadside Improvised Explosive Device as a civilian car passed by.

Source: <https://www.tdg.ch/une-embuscade-de-letat-islamique-fait-huit-morts-dont-six-militaires-870386574758>

Reported: 21/11/2020

Palestine

IED

Event – Member of National Security injured.

Summary – National Security forces were targeted by an Improvised Explosive Device in Balata Camp, east of Nablus, during their mission of keeping order in the camp.

Source: <http://www.alquds.com/articles/1606073910461267000/>

Reported: 22/11/2020



EXPLOSIVES



Afghanistan

Roadside IED

Event – 2 vehicles damaged.

Summary – Roadside IED targeted an Afghan National Army's vehicle in Sultan Mahmoud Watt, the road connecting Kabul international airport to Intercontinental Hotel; two vehicles were damaged by the blast.

Source: <http://english.sina.com/world/as/2020-11-22/detail-iiznezxs3107130.shtml>

Reported: 22/11/2020

Afghanistan

Sticky IED

Event – Taxi driver wounded.

Summary – Taxi driver was wounded after a sticky Improvised Explosive Device attached to a wagon-type taxi detonated in Hesa-e-Hawal-e-Khair, Khana Mina, Kabul.

Source: <http://english.sina.com/world/as/2020-11-22/detail-iiznezxs3107130.shtml>

Reported: 22/11/2020

Iraq

IED

Event – Activist survived assassination attempt.

Summary – Improvised Explosive Device was placed in front of civil activist's house in Al-Sunniya district of Al-Diwaniya; the activist survived but explosion caused material damages.

Source: <http://albaghdadiyagroup.com/news/akhbar-iraq/ngat-alnasht-amar-alkhzale-mn-mhaolt-aghteal-fe-aldeoanet>

Reported: 22/11/2020

Afghanistan

Roadside IED

Event – 3 killed and 3 wounded.

Summary – Three people were killed and three others wounded by the blast of a roadside Improvised Explosive Device on a highway in the western province of Herat.

Source: <https://www.shorouknews.com/news/view.aspx?cdate=22112020&id=e0ac4ab1-d101-4242-a06b-654566a46aae>

Reported: 22/11/2020



EXPLOSIVES



Pakistan

Roadside IED

Event – Driver unharmed.

Summary – Vehicle of a member of Peace Committee was targeted by a roadside Improvised Explosive Device in Dera Ismail Khan; the driver and another person remained unharmed.

Source: <https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/747268-peace-body-member-s-vehicle-targeted-with-ied-in-di-khan>

Reported: 22/11/2020

Syria

IED

Event – Physical damage.

Summary – Improvised Explosive Device planted in a cargo vehicle detonated in the eastern town of Shaheil, governorate of Deir el-Zor, burning the truck and causing physical damage to the scene.

Source: <https://www.alalamtv.net/news/5293541/>

Reported: 23/11/2020

Iraq

IED

Event – Woman and her child injured.

Summary – Woman in the forties and her child were injured by the blast of an Improvised Explosive Device in Al-Fasreh village in Al-Shoura district, south of Mosul.

Source: <https://hathalyoum.net/articles/2550297>

Reported: 23/11/2020

Syria

IED

Event – Leader in the Syrian opposition killed.

Summary – Leader in the Syrian opposition was killed by the blast of an Improvised Explosive Device planted in his car in Kafr Takharim city, northern Idlib province.

Source: <https://shaamtimes.net/283074/>

Reported: 23/11/2020



EXPLOSIVES



India

IID

Event – AIADMK targeted.

Summary – No one was injured by a low-order explosive device triggered inside the compound wall of the house of A. Vijayakumar, an Indian politician from the state of Tamil Nadu and belongs to the AIADMK political party, Nagercoil, Kanyakumari district.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Madurai/minor-explosion-on-mps-house-premises-causes-panic/article33169908.ece>

Reported: 24/11/2020

Syria

IED

Event – 5 civilians killed and 18 injured.

Summary – 5 civilians were killed and 18 injured due to an IED blast in northern Syria; attackers detonated an explosive-laden vehicle in al-Bab district of Aleppo province, causing multiple casualties and material damage.

Source: <https://www.dailysabah.com/world/syrian-crisis/5-killed-18-injured-in-terrorist-attack-in-syrias-al-bab>

Reported: 24/11/2020

Afghanistan

Roadside IED

Event – 2 civilians injured including a child.

Summary – Roadside Improvised Explosive Device detonated injuring two civilians, including a child, in Dand district of Kandahar province.

Source: <https://www.khaama.com/2-injured-in-a-roadside-bomb-in-kandahar-878769/>

Reported: 24/11/2020



EXPLOSIVES



Yemen

IED

Event – 5 civilians killed and 7 wounded.

Summary – 5 civilians were killed and 7 others injured as an Improvised Explosive Device detonated on the road linking the two cities of Al-Hita and Al-Khakha in southern Al-Hadida province.

Source: <https://alsahwa-yemen.net/p-43427>

Reported: 24/11/2020

Thailand

IID

Event – Protesters targeted.

Summary – Soon after the protest in front of Bangkok Siam Commercial Bank's main office concluded, shots were fired and incendiary devices were thrown by assailants at protesters as they were leaving their rally.

Source: <https://www.khaosodenglish.com/news/crimecourtsclamity/2020/11/25/shots-fired-explosive-thrown-at-protesters-i>

Reported: 25/11/2020

Syria

IED

Event – 2 killed and 19 wounded.

Summary – 2 people were killed and 19 others were wounded in a car bomb blast at the Kawa roundabout, near the entrance to the industrial zone in the city of Afrin, Aleppo governorate.

Source: <https://www.nrttv.com/EN/News.aspx?id=25195&MapID=1>

Reported: 25/11/2020

Afghanistan

IED + Backup IED

Event – 14 killed and more than 45 wounded.

Summary – 14 people were killed and more than 45 wounded by two Improvised Explosive Device blasts, in quick succession, in a local market of the city of Bamiyan, home to many members of Hazara ethnic minority.

Source: <https://www.paktribune.com/news-details/bomb-blasts-kill-17-in-afghanistan>

Reported: 25/11/2020



EXPLOSIVES



Iraq

IED

Event – Farmer killed.

Summary – Farmer was killed by an Improvised Explosive Device blast while working in his field north of Tikrit, Salah al-Din governorate.

Source: <https://www.albayan.ae/one-world/arabs/2020-11-27-1.4023842>

Reported: 26/11/2020

Iraq

IED

Event – Wine store damaged.

Summary – Improvised Explosive Device targeted a wine store within the pool intersection in Al-Karadah, central Baghdad, without causing any casualties but only physical damage.

Source: <https://www.shorouknews.com/news/view.aspx?cdate=26112020&id=6c3f7885-60ef-4796-b598-11aaaa304fad>

Reported: 26/11/2020

India

IED

Event – 17-years-old boy dies.

Summary – Explosives-filled backpack, ready for an hunting mission for meat trading, exploded in a road accident in Belagavi district's Khanapur taluk, killing a 17-years-old boy and injuring another person.

Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/hubballi/man-teen-were-riding-into-forest-with-30-explosive-balls-in-bag/articleshow/79418715.cms>

Reported: 26/11/2020



EXPLOSIVES



Syria

VBIED

Event – 3 killed and 2 wounded.

Summary – Car bomb exploded at a checkpoint barrier in the western village of Tel al-Janb in the surroundings of Ras al-Ayn, Al-Hasakah governorate, killing and wounding militants.

Source: <https://www.nrttv.com/EN/News.aspx?id=25240&MapID=3>

Reported: 27/11/2020

Iraq

Roadside IED

Event – 4 soldiers injured.

Summary – Improvised Explosive Device targeted a patrol of Iraqi Army, injuring 4 soldiers, in a village in Dacq province, south of Kirkuk.

Source: <http://www.altaakhipress.com/viewart.php?art=130298>

Reported: 28/11/2020

Afghanistan

IEDs

Event – 5 civilians and 2 policemen injured.

Summary – Five civilians and two policemen were injured in two separate Improvised Explosive Device blasts that struck two vehicles in Afghanistan's capital Kabul.

Source: <http://english.sina.com/world/as/2020-11-28/detail-iiznctke3737698.shtml>

Reported: 28/11/2020



EXPLOSIVES



Afghanistan

Roadside IED

Event – Afghanistan- Border force commander killed in Helmand.

Summary – Roadside Improvised Explosive Device struck a car in the southern Helmand province's capital Lashkar Gah, killing a security staff member and wounding three civilians

Source: <https://menafn.com/1099349960/Afghanistan-Border-force-commander-killed-in-Helmand>

Reported: 28/11/2020

Afghanistan

VBIED

Event – 3 people killed and 21 wounded.

Summary – In southern Afghanistan, suicide car bomber targeted the convoy of a provincial council chief in Zubal, killing at least three people and wounding 21 others, including children.

Source: <https://www.thestar.com/news/world/asia/2020/11/29/afghan-officials-say-34-killed-in-separate>

Reported: 29/11/2020

Afghanistan

VBIED

Event – 31 soldiers killed and 24 wounded.

Summary – In eastern Ghazni province, 31 soldiers were killed and 24 others wounded when the attacker drove a military Humvee full of explosives onto an army commando base before detonating the car bomb.

Source: <https://www.thestar.com/news/world/asia/2020/11/29/afghan-officials-say-34-killed-in-separate>

Reported: 29/11/2020

India

IED

Event – Police officer killed and 9 injured.

Summary – Police officer was killed and 9 of his assistants were injured due to an explosion in Sukas region; the attack took place over the Arabraj Hills, adjacent to the Shintar Forest, 450 km away from the city of Reibor.

Source: <https://elfagr.com/4087823>

Reported: 29/11/2020



EXPLOSIVES



Syria

Motorcycle IED

Event – 3 civilians injured.

Summary – 3 Syrian civilians were seriously injured as a result of the explosion of a booby-trapped motorcycle on the road between Al-Gariya town and Al-Hamrak city in Rif Daraa.

Source: <https://www.syriahr.com/en/193945/>

Reported: 29/11/2020

Iraq

IED

Event – Officer killed.

Summary – Major officer was killed in an Improvised Explosive Device blast on a federal police patrol in Al-Huwaija district, Kirkuk governorate.

Source: <https://hathalyoum.net/articles/2556184>

Reported: 30/11/2020



EUROPE NEWS ON CBRNE EVENTS

This section gathers news collected from sources related to the European continent, in chronological order. The section is organized in four sections, according to news availability,:

- chemical
- biological
- radiological and nuclear
- explosives





CHEMICALS



Europe

Dual Use Technologies

Event – EU tightens export rules for dual-use technologies.

Summary– Policymakers in Brussels agreed on 9 November to substantially overhaul the EU's long-standing export regime for dual-use goods and technologies. Among other changes, the agreement will impose new risk assessment and reporting obligations on companies, tighten information exchange between national capitals and with the European Commission, and link human rights criteria to the export of cyber surveillance and other technologies.

Source: <https://intelhubspot.com/eu-tightens-export-rules-for-dual-use-technologies/>
Reported: 12/11/2020



RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR



United Kingdom

Nuclear Project

Event – US consortium set to revive UK nuclear project.

Summary– A US consortium led by engineering giant Bechtel is holding talks with the UK government to revive a multi-billion-pound nuclear plant project in northwest Wales. The Report comes two months after Japan's Hitachi axed the Wylfa Newydd project in Anglesey that involved Bechtel -- blaming a deteriorating investment environment and delivering a blow to Britain's atomic energy programme aimed at slashing carbon emissions.

Source:

https://www.nuclearpowerdaily.com/reports/US_consortium_set_to_revive_UK_nuclear_project_report_999.html

Reported: 10/11/2020



EXPLOSIVES



United Kingdom

EOD

Event – Ammunition disposed of in West Norfolk village.

Summary – Emergency services were called out to deal with ammunition discovered in a West Norfolk village over the weekend. Officers attended Thornham Road in Methwold on Saturday morning, although a social media post by King's Lynn Police said there were not any suspicious circumstances. Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD), a bomb disposal team, attended and safely disposed of the ammunition.

Source: <https://www.lynnnews.co.uk/news/emergency-services-attend-ammunition-in-village-9128590/>

Reported: 02/11/2020

United Kingdom

IID

Event – No one injured in Incendiary Improvised Device attack.

Summary – Bottle containing accelerant was thrown in Greencockat a ground floor flat; the bottle smashed on impact and didn't crash the window.

Source: <https://www.glasgowtimes.co.uk/news/18842118.new-greenock-petrol-bomb-attack-sees-womans-home-targeted/>

Reported: 03/11/2020

Ukraine

Explosive

Event – 327 explosives disposed of in Donbas over past week.

Summary – Over the past week, the units of the State Emergency Service of Ukraine inspected almost 30 hectares of territory, seized and disposed of 327 explosives in the Joint Forces Operation area in Donbas. During the week, October 24-30, the personnel and equipment of the State Emergency Service units as part of the Joint Forces were involved in carrying out mine clearance, restoring damaged buildings, firefighting, as well as ensuring the functioning of the points of assistance to the population located within the entry-exit checkpoints.

Source: <https://www.ukrinform.net/rubric-defense/3127902-327-explosives-disposed-of-in-donbas-over-past-week.html>

Reported: 06/11/2020



EXPLOSIVES



United Kingdom

IED

Event – Surrey Police explain the cause of 'loud bang' heard across Dorking.

Summary – Surrey Police was called to the discovery of suspected unexploded shells near Whitedown Lane shortly before 10.30 am on Monday (November 2). A large cordon was quickly placed around the wooded area and locals spotted multiple police officers at the scene of the investigation.

Source: <https://www.getsurrey.co.uk/news/surrey-news/surrey-police-explain-cause-loud-19211991>

Reported: 03/11/2020

Cyprus

IED

Event – Businessman's car damaged.

Summary – Improvised Explosive Device detonated in a car parked outside the owner's house in Ekali area, Limassol; the car suffered substantial damage.

Source: <https://in-cyprus.philenews.com/homemade-bomb-damages-businessmans-car-in-limassol/>

Reported: 13/11/2020

United Kingdom

Pipe IED

Event – Van damaged.

Summary – Transit van has been set on fire in the Waterside area of Londonderry after a pipe Improvised Explosive Device was detonated.

Source: <https://www.newsletter.co.uk/news/crime/pipe-bomb-device-detonated-londonderry-setting-fire-van-3051407>

Reported: 29/11/2020



LATIN-AMERICA NEWS ON CBRNE EVENTS

This section gathers news collected from sources related to the Latin-American continent, proposed in chronological order. The section is organized in four areas, according to news availability:

- chemical
- biological
- radiological and nuclear
- explosives





CHEMICALS



Colombia

Chemical Agents

Event – Government announced that will complies with ruling suspends use of tear gas in protests.

Summary – The Ministry of Defense announced the suspension of the use of chemical agents, a) Pepper thrower device, with pyrotechnic propulsion , gas or compressed air; b) Grenades with CS, OC chemical charge; c) Smoke grenades; d) CS, OC chemically charged cartridges and, e) Smoke cartridges and / or any other similar substance. This prohibition will be maintained during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Source: <https://www.semana.com/nacion/articulo/gobierno-anuncia-que-acata-fallo-que-ordeno-suspender-uso-de-gas-lacrimogeno-en-protestas/202023/>

Reported: 01/11/2020

Honduras

Methanol Poisoning

Event – Toxicological chemical laboratory confirms presence of methanol after analysis in deceased by ingesting adulterated alcohol.

Summary – A team from the Public Ministry made up of fiscal agents and forensic doctors, together with elements of the Police Investigation Directorate (DPI), carried out work to clarify the death of 24 people who consumed brandy in the north of the country. The latest information confirms the presence of methanol in nine autopsies performed.

Source: <https://www.mp.hn/index.php/author-login/166-noviembre2020/6604-laboratorio-quimico-toxicologico-confirma-presencia-de-metanol-tras-analisis-en-fallecidos-por-ingerir-alcohol-adulterado>

Reported: 02/11/2020



CHEMICALS



Mexico

Chemical Fire

Event – A fire was registered in a tannery in the Unidad Obrera neighbourhood.

Summary – The emergency services received the report that one of the chemical dust collectors for processing the skin and six electric motors were burning. Civil Protection elements arrived at the site and, together with the company's fire brigade, evacuated the more than one hundred administrative and operational employees of the plant.

Source: <https://www.heraldoleon.mx/arde-teneria/>
, <https://www.noticiasvespertinas.com.mx/policiaca/se-incendia-teneria-en-la-unidad-obrera-lefarc-avenida-transportistas-calle-jose-maria-cruz-5968006.html>

Reported: 02/11/2020

Mexico

Gas Pipeline Explosion

Event – Gas pipeline explosion.

Summary – According to the report, there are no people affected, injured or at risk or homes with any damage, because it occurred in a depopulated area of the municipality China-Nuevo Leon; however, it was reported that the damage reached 200 meters in diameter and the radiation reached about 800 meters in diameter. Civil Protection of the State, in coordination with Petroleos Mexicanos (PEMEX), performs manoeuvres to close the valves closest to the fire in order to reduce the intensity of the fire.

Source: <https://twitter.com/JaimeRdzNL/status/1323240878979403777?s=20>
, <https://www.milenio.com/policia/alertan-de-explosion-de-gasoducto-en-china-nuevo-leon>

Reported: 02/11/2020



CHEMICALS



Dominican Republic

Organisms Control Chemical Spill

Event – Calcium oxide spill on highway

Summary – First responders managed to control the spill of a calcium oxide that escaped at the Sánchez highway, Santo Domingo Oeste municipality, when it was transported from the Haina dock. At least four people were affected by inhalation of the substance and were taken to the Marcelino Vélez hospital.

Source: <https://www.elcaribe.com.do/panorama/pais/organismos-controlan-derrame-de-quimico/>

Reported: 03/11/2020

Mexico

Chlorine Gas Cylinders

Event – Alert in 5 states for theft of chlorine gas cylinders in Nuevo Leon.

Summary – Nuevo Leon authorities alerted the population of five States about the theft of two chlorine gas cylinders in the municipality of Zuazua. Civil Protection warned of the "high danger" that these cylinders represent, arguing that if the valves are opened or the cylinders are damaged, the population can be endangered within a kilometre. The officials stated that alerts have been issued to the police and municipal corporations, and to the authorities of the four states bordering Nuevo Leon: Tamaulipas, San Luis Potosi, Zacatecas and Coahuila.

Source: https://twitter.com/PC_NuevoLeon/status/1324360109561012226?s=20, <https://www.razon.com.mx/estados/alertan-5-estados-robo-cilindros-gas-cloro-nuevo-leon-411599>

Reported: 05/11/2020



CHEMICALS



Mexico

Chemical Spill

Event – Chemical spill recorded at the plant in León.

Summary – Five workers died from a chemical spill registered at the wastewater treatment plant of the León Potable Water and Sewer System (Sapal). Those affected were carrying out cleaning operations in a roughing module of the plant.

Source: <https://www.milenio.com/policia/mueren-leon-trabajadores-sapal-derrame-quimicos> , [https://www.eluniversal.com.mx/estados/mueren-5-trabajadores-en-planta-tratadora-de-aguas-de-leon-por-intoxicacion?](https://www.eluniversal.com.mx/estados/mueren-5-trabajadores-en-planta-tratadora-de-aguas-de-leon-por-intoxicacion?fbclid=IwAR3n8qWrXVCiem3Qlw2WqANJwhfNpBCX0QdQ58sQv6RG05AKDkqIRUbj604)

fbclid=IwAR3n8qWrXVCiem3Qlw2WqANJwhfNpBCX0QdQ58sQv6RG05AKDkqIRUbj604
Reported: 13/11/2020

Colombia

Chemical Explosion

Event – Explosion of chemicals in the sewer network.

Summary – An emergency was registered in Bosa due to the explosion of chemicals in the sewer network. After what happened, yellow smoke with a strong smell, similar to chlorine, began to come out of the sewers and spread through the place. A clandestine chemical factory was responsible for the dumping.

Source: <https://www.rcnradio.com/bogota/explosion-de-quimicos-genero-emergencia-en-bosa-sur-de-bogota> , <https://www.infobae.com/america/colombia/2020/11/25/explosion-de-quimicos-en-fabrica-clandestina-en-bosa/>

Reported: 25/11/2020



BIOLOGICAL



Caribbean

Biosecurity

Event – Cartagena Mayor launches epidemiological emergency operations center.

Summary – The city is ready to provide adequate care for the management of COVID-19 and that the implementation of this Epidemiological Emergency Operations Center will impact the health of the Cartageneros. It is the first city in the country to have such an operations center, and it will allow the increase of responsiveness.

Source: <https://www.diariodelnorte.net/noticias/caribe/alcaldia-de-cartagena-pone-en-marcha-el-centro-de-operaciones-de-emergencias-epidemiologicas/>

Reported: 04/11/2020

Colombia

COVID-19

Event – Reactivate clinical trials of the experimental COVID-19 vaccine.

Summary – Barranquilla reactivated the application of the experimental COVID-19 vaccine developed by the pharmaceutical company Janssen. It was known that the Cimedical Research Center in the Atlantic capital received authorization from the Government and the pharmacist to continue the clinical trial.

Source: <https://www.diariodelnorte.net/noticias/caribe/reactivan-ensayos-clinicos-de-la-vacuna-experimental-contr-el-covid-19-en-barranquilla/>

Reported: 04/11/2020

Peru-Chile

COVID-19 Vaccine

Event – Chile, Peru green-light AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine trials.

Summary – The countries' health regulator had given the go-ahead for clinical trials of AstraZeneca PLC's Covid-19 vaccine. Chile had been working for months to ensure sufficient and timely access to COVID-19 vaccines and hoped to start rolling them out to vulnerable people in the few months of next year. On the other hand, Peru would begin trials next week and two weeks ago, it had withdrawn from signing a Coronavirus vaccine purchase agreement with AstraZeneca because it did not provide data on its vaccine studies.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-chile-vaccines/chile-peru-green-light-astrazeneca-covid-19-vaccine-trials-idUSKBN27K207>

Reported: 04/11/2020



BIOLOGICAL



Peru

Biosecurity

Event – After a second diphtheria death, Peru declared epidemiological alert.

Summary – Peru declared the national epidemiological alert for diphtheria, after confirming a second death from the disease in Lima and launched a vaccination campaign that will be implemented in parallel with the prevention actions for the COVID-19 pandemic.

Source: <https://www.infobae.com/america/america-latina/2020/11/05/tras-una-segunda-muerte-por-difteria-peru-declaro-la-alerta-epidemiologica/>

Reported: 05/11/2020

Argentina

Waste Management

Event – The Assembly for the Environment reports biological risk in Rio Gallegos.

Summary – With the confirmation of the first cases of COVID-19 in Argentina, the Ministry of Health of the Nation issued the booklet "Recommendations for the management of household waste from quarantined patients." since in the country a third of the population has open dumps disposal with poor environmental and sanitary conditions" which increases the risk of contagion and spread of the virus. However, currently, a separation of home pathological waste is not carried out, nor any measures are taken to avoid the spread of diseases in the area.

Source: <https://opisantacruz.com.ar/2020/11/05/la-asamblea-por-el-medio-ambiente-acusa-al-intendente-de-tener-el-vaciadero-dentro-del-ejido-urbano-y-promover-un-menaje-que-ellos-mismos-incumplen/>

Reported: 05/11/2020



BIOLOGICAL



Mexico

Vaccine Clinical Trial

Event – CanSino Biotech vaccine trial will start in Acapulco, Guerrero

Summary – The undersecretary for Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Martha Delgado Peralta, and Governor Héctor Astudillo Flores announced that the Phase III clinical trial of the CanSino Biotech vaccine against COVID-19 will begin in Acapulco. They explained that Guerrero is a key state at the national and international level to know the safety and efficiency of the vaccine. Two states will install 20 recruitment centers for the clinical trial and it is expected that between 40 and 60 thousand volunteers will be applied. The undersecretary explained that the protocol of this clinical trial was endorsed by the Federal Commission for the Protection against Sanitary Risks (Cofepris) and will be the one who will evaluate the results of this phase in "real time".

Source: https://www.eluniversal.com.mx/estados/arranca-en-acapulco-ensayo-clinico-de-vacuna-covid-19?fbclid=IwAR1Ho9I59RHT3Lh0IHW6F6KLV-vf6om32xfuzG1rr_lIKiElN28wGi4OqKQ

Reported: 08/11/2020

Brazil

COVID-19 Vaccine

Event – Brazil authorized Coronavirus Coronavac vaccine trials to resume.

Summary – The Health Surveillance Agency reported that he gave the go-ahead for the resumption, after suspending his studies on Monday arguing that a volunteer suffered "a serious incident". The suspension was decided, according to Anvisa, by "a serious incident", of which they said they had no further information. The Butantan Institute, Brazil's leading vaccine producer, which signed an agreement with Sinovac to bring the vaccine into the study phase to the country, reported that the incident was not related to the investigation drug.

Source: <https://www.infobae.com/america/america-latina/2020/11/11/brasil-autorizo-a-retomar-los-ensayos-de-la-vacuna-coronavac-contra-el-coronavirus/>

Reported: 11/11/2020



BIOLOGICAL



Mexico

Phase 3 of COVID-19 Vaccine

Event – Phase three of the CanSinoBIO vaccine project will begin with 5,000 volunteers.

Summary – The studies will be carried out at the INCMNSZ and in three centers that have positivity rates above 30% in people who come to be tested for Covid-19. It was specified that the study has two objectives: to evaluate the efficacy of the Ad5-nCoV vaccine to virologically prevent the disease and to evaluate its safety.

Source: <https://www.elfinanciero.com.mx/salud/ensayo-de-fase-3-de-vacuna-contracovid-19-de-cansino-inicia-este-viernes-en-cdmx>

Reported: 11/11/2020

Cuba

COVID-19 Vaccine

Event – Cuba leads race for Coronavirus vaccine in Latin America.

Summary – While several Latin American nations test experimental Coronavirus vaccines in the world and the heavyweights of the regional economy, such as Brazil and Mexico, compete for supply agreements with major pharmaceutical companies, Cuba already has two vaccines of its own on its way in clinical trials. If a Cuban vaccine is safe and effective, it will be available for purchase in the region through PAHO, the regional office for the Americas of the World Health Organization (WHO).

Source: <https://lta.reuters.com/article/salud-coronavirus-vacunas-cuba-idLTAKBN27S1T7>

Reported: 12/11/2020

Latin America

COVID-19 Vaccine

Event – AstraZeneca to deliver 216 million vaccines to 6 Latin American countries.

Summary – The laboratory is making progress in its response to address "the unprecedented challenges" posed by the COVID-19 pandemic by working with various governments and multilateral organizations to provide broad access to the drug AstraZeneca closed agreements to supply more than 200 million doses of its SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus candidate vaccine to six Latin American countries such as Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador and Mexico.

Source: <https://www.infobae.com/america/america-latina/2020/11/13/astrazeneca-suministrara-216-millones-de-vacunas-a-6-paises-de-latinoamerica/>

Reported: 13/11/2020



BIOLOGICAL



Mexico

COVID-19 Vaccine

Event – Mexico will not acquire Pfizer vaccine without ultra freezing network.

Summary – After it was announced that the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine against COVID-19 has certain specifications that make it effective in humans, it was also revealed that due to the innovative technology used in its creation, one of its greatest challenges is the distribution of it around the world, as it must be kept at temperatures up to -70 degrees Celsius. In this regard, Mexico does not have an ultra freezing network that will set it on track to buy the necessary doses of the vaccine, but the investment possibilities are already evaluated by the relevant authorities. In addition, he assured that this was a widespread obstacle.

Source: <https://www.infobae.com/america/mexico/2020/11/13/mexico-no-adquirira-vacuna-de-pfizer-sin-red-de-ultracongelacion-hugo-lopez-gatell/>

Reported: 13/11/2020

Mexico

COVID-19

Event – Reusable anti-covid medical developed.

Summary – The project was centred in the development of gowns with new technology that can be reused, in order to prevent disposable items from becoming another long-term problem. The suits developed have liquid-repellent fabric, which is useful against droplets of saliva that transmit the coronavirus. They are made with 100% natural and biodegradable textile fibres, with 150 grams of cotton per meter, and can be used until the fibre lasts.

Source: <https://www.eluniversal.com.mx/estados/crean-bata-anti-covid-que-es-reutilizable>

Reported: 14/11/2020



BIOLOGICAL



Mexico

COVID-19 Detection System

Event – System to identify covid-19 infections launched.

Summary – The "System for the identification of contagions in closed spaces" will be implemented in Mexico City. With this measure, before entering a commercial establishment, customers must register a QR code with their cell phone, to be notified in case it is detected that there was a person with COVID-19 in the place, so that they take the sanitary measures. After a registration, which is saved in a database of the Mexico City's Digital Agency for Public Innovation (ADIP), the capital government will send an SMS message from the number 51515 or it will call people from the Locatel number, in case the person has been in the same closed place with someone positive for covid-19

Source: [https://www.proceso.com.mx/nacional/cdmx/2020/11/18/arranca-el-lunes-el-sistema-para-identificar-contagios-de-covid-19-como-funciona-252970.html?](https://www.proceso.com.mx/nacional/cdmx/2020/11/18/arranca-el-lunes-el-sistema-para-identificar-contagios-de-covid-19-como-funciona-252970.html?fbclid=IwAR0OKIWzk3y9aknJd9sOV_8u0FU8hNVcelDEy5dvqtHgQExyKG-gwNpAyOU)

<https://elpais.com/mexico/2020-11-17/asi-funciona-el-nuevo-sistema-de-rastreo-de-covid-19-en-ciudad-de-mexico.html>

Reported: 18/11/2020

Bolivia

Chapare Virus

Event – New cases of the Chapare virus detected.

Summary – Specialists from the American Society for Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (ASTMH) detected new cases of the Chapare virus in Bolivia, which has similarities to Ebola and can be spread from person to person through secretions, even in a health care setting . There is no specific treatment against this disease, of which outbreaks have been registered in 2003 and 2019.

Source: [https://www.dw.com/es/descubren-nuevos-casos-de-virus-similar-al-%C3%A9bola-en-bolivia/a-55656001?](https://www.dw.com/es/descubren-nuevos-casos-de-virus-similar-al-%C3%A9bola-en-bolivia/a-55656001?fbclid=IwAR0Sw1Rmllk2CMgJ0jE8JPRbxm7hGq9X5MJUacQCa_LtU9QGhqDezaX2WfK)

[fbclid=IwAR0Sw1Rmllk2CMgJ0jE8JPRbxm7hGq9X5MJUacQCa_LtU9QGhqDezaX2WfK](https://www.dw.com/es/descubren-nuevos-casos-de-virus-similar-al-%C3%A9bola-en-bolivia/a-55656001?fbclid=IwAR0Sw1Rmllk2CMgJ0jE8JPRbxm7hGq9X5MJUacQCa_LtU9QGhqDezaX2WfK)

Reported: 18/11/2020



BIOLOGICAL



Brazil

COVID-19

Event – Spray to eradicate COVID-19 from surfaces invented.

Summary – Brazilian scientists have created a spray to eradicate COVID-19 from surfaces and also textiles. It can be sprayed directly on the masks and is capable of completely eradicating it, combining metal ions with natural polymers. The anti-covid spray is capable of ending the COVID-19 up to 99.9% and it lasts for at least 48 hours. When used on surfaces, it acts as a protective layer, preventing the virus from overcoming it.

Source: https://www.abc.es/internacional/abci-cientificos-brasilenos-inventan-spray-anti-covid-202011201336_video.html?ref=https:%2F%2Fwww.google.com%2F, <https://vivasaudedigital.com.br/saude/pesquisadores-brasileiros-criam-spray-anti-covid-que-tem-duracao-de-ate-3-dias.phtml>

Reported: 20/11/2020

Mexico

COVID-19 Vaccines Plan

Event – Pfizer vaccine logistics plan presented.

Summary – The Secretary of Foreign Relations, Marcelo Ebrard, reported that they already have a plan to receive and distribute the COVID-19 vaccine that Pfizer's laboratory developed, which will take five days from the point of production to the vaccination post.

Source: <https://aristeguinoticias.com/2411/mexico/vacuna-de-pfizer-tardara-cinco-dias-en-llegar-de-la-fabrica-al-punto-de-aplicacion-en-mexico-enterate/?fbclid=IwAR2g0wxKzTi8io9bjkJeCMAIOy6bvMmGKjO5oD6XsAqDxMbgB2kv62zBQIE>

Reported: 24/11/2020

Peru

Mercury Risks

Event – Gold miners' ponds increase mercury risks.

Summary – Part of the chemical used by miners is burned in the air or spilled into nearby rivers in the Peruvian Amazon, creating serious environmental and human health risks. The proliferation of wells and ponds created in recent years by miners digging for small deposits of alluvial gold in the Peruvian Amazon has dramatically altered the landscape and increased the risk of mercury exposure for indigenous communities and wildlife.

Source: https://www.ecoavante.com/contaminacion/estanques-mineros-oro-aumentan-riesgos-mercurio-en-amazonia-peruana_5837_102.html

Reported: 30/11/2020



BIOLOGICAL



Mexico

Management of Pesticides

Event – Campaign for the proper use and management of pesticides.

Summary – The State Commission for the Protection against Sanitary Risks of Sinaloa (Coepriss) reinforced the campaign for the proper use and management of pesticides in the state in order to avoid situations of risk for people who come into contact with products derived from agriculture. The risk of poisoning by this class of chemicals, can occur in the people who intervene directly or indirectly in the process of these products. Coepriss also collects, collects and safely uses empty containers of agrochemicals and agro-plastics, since they constitute a source of potential environmental contamination and accumulation of high-density plastic waste with slow or no degradation.

Source: <https://www.elsoldemazatlan.com.mx/local/uso-de-plaguicidas-sin-preparacion-es-una-actividad-riesgosa-coepriss-6077713.html>

Reported: 30/11/2020



RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR



Mexico

Particle Detector

Event – Built-in subatomic particle detector developed.

Summary – The new V0 + subatomic particle detector, designed and manufactured in Universidad Autónoma de México (UNAM), awaits its turn to be incorporated into one of the four experiments that operate in the Large Hadron Collider. Mexico participates in the ALICE project with the design and production of four instruments, of which the most important is the V0 subatomic particle detector, which since it began operations has been key for the international team in which 1,500 researchers from all the world.

Source: [https://www.dgcs.unam.mx/boletin/bdboletin/2020_980.html?](https://www.dgcs.unam.mx/boletin/bdboletin/2020_980.html?fbclid=IwAR2Fx8rYpCZ8d2ClbulCHHGz4bdLK46RbW5wzZzXWYIOgoh_JjV8qmxTk8)

[fbclid=IwAR2Fx8rYpCZ8d2ClbulCHHGz4bdLK46RbW5wzZzXWYIOgoh_JjV8qmxTk8](https://www.dgcs.unam.mx/boletin/bdboletin/2020_980.html?fbclid=IwAR2Fx8rYpCZ8d2ClbulCHHGz4bdLK46RbW5wzZzXWYIOgoh_JjV8qmxTk8)

Reported: 11/11/2020

Brazil

Inspection of Dangerous Products

Event – Thematic Operation for the Inspection of Dangerous Products (OTEPP) carried out in Bahia.

Summary – The Federal Highway Police (PRF) carried out in Bahia the Thematic Operation for the Inspection of Dangerous Products (OTEPP). Loading of explosive, radioactive and combustible materials is the focus of inspection during the PRF operation. During the operation, 222 vehicles were consulted in the police's computerized systems. The PRF issued 593 notices of violation for irregularities in the rules that regulate the transport of dangerous products. Vehicles assessed (fined), depending on the case, are retained until settlement.

Source: <https://blogdoredacao.com.br/bahia-carga-de-materiais-explosivos-radioativos-e-combustiveis-e-foco-de-fiscalizacao-durante-operacao-da-prf-confira/>

Reported: 12/11/2020



RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR



Brazil

Nuclear Submarine

Event – Nuclep to assemble prototype reactor of Brazil's first nuclear submarine.

Summary – Brazilian company Amazul has hired Nuclep for the assembly of the prototype nuclear reactor for Brazil's first unconventional submarine. The contract entails the manufacture, assembly and supply of the vessel and the internal containment structures where the reactor will be installed. Nuclep is a company linked to the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation that is located in the municipality of Itaguaí (Rio de Janeiro).

Source: <https://www.infodefensa.com/latam/2020/11/27/noticia-nuclep-ensamblara-prototipo-reactor-primer-submarino-nuclear-brasil.html>

Reported: 27/11/2020



RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR



Chile

Magnetic Resonator

Event – Latin America's first public health nuclear magnetic resonator.

Summary – The first helium-free magnetic resonator in the Latin American public system will start operating in the new premises of the La Serena Therapeutic Diagnostic Center (CDT), which is expected to be operational by the end of 2021. It is the Ingenia Ambition S 1.5 Tesla, manufactured in the Netherlands, which will begin its transfer to the Coquimbo Region at the end of November.

Source: <https://www.cooperativa.cl/noticias/pais/region-de-coquimbo/la-serena-tendra-el-primer-resonador-magnetico-nuclear-de-la-salud/2020-11-13/191135.html>

Reported: 13/11/2020

Colombia

Disused Sealed Radioactive Sources

Event – DSRs secured.

Summary – Several Disused Sealed Radioactive Sources were successfully brought to a safer and more secure storage facility in Colombia over the last few weeks with support from the IAEA. The sources had been used in cancer treatment but have reached the end of their useful life. Their transfer represents a major milestone in an ongoing project to increase the security of disused sources in the country. As part of the implementation of Colombia's national action plan to secure all radioactive material in use and storage, within the framework of its Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plan (INSSP), the implementation of the project began in 2014.

Source: <https://www.iaea.org/newscenter/news/colombia-enhances-security-of-disused-sealed-radioactive-sources>

Reported: 13/11/2020



EXPLOSIVES



Brazil

Explosives Seized

Event – Military Police seized explosives in Pitangui, preventing attacks on bank branches.

Summary – The Public Security Intelligence of the Military Police and soldiers from the 60th Battalion of Military Police, seized twenty explosive devices (dynamite sticks), 5 meters detonation cord, 5 fuses and one cell phone. The materials were collected by the anti-bomb squad of the Military Police Special Operations Battalion (BOPE).

Source: <https://destaknewsbrasil.com.br/index.php/2020/11/12/pm-apreende-grande-quantidade-de-explosivos-em-pitangui-mg-prende-autores-e-previne-atentados-a-agencias-bancarias/> , <https://g37.com.br/c/policia/pm-apreende-grande-quantidade-de-explosivos-prende-autores-e-previne-atentados-a-agencias-bancarias-em-pitangui>

Reported: 12/11/2020

Paraguay

Explosive Materials

Event – 12 explosive cartridges sized in a bus would be used for prison escape

Summary – 12 cartridges of dynamite gel, weighing around 1.5 kilograms each, were to be used for a possible massive escape of inmates in Itapúa. In addition to the dynamite gel, three shock tubes or detonators of 12 meters each were seized. The anti-kidnapping department agents stopped the march of a bus that was circulating along the PY01 route, when it reached the height of kilometre 45, where they found the explosives.

Source: <https://www.ultimahora.com/incautan-dinamita-gel-que-iba-camino-la-penitenciaria-itapua-n2913864.html>

<http://www.nanduti.com.py/2020/11/13/explosivos-incautados-serian-utilizados-una-fuga-masiva-presumen-desde-ministerio-justicia/>

Reported: 13/11/2020



EXPLOSIVES



Mexico

Drone with Explosives

Event – CJNG show the use of drones loaded with explosives.

Summary – Drug traffickers of the Jalisco Nueva Generación Cartel (CJNG) recorded a video showing the use of drones loaded with explosives to attack their rivals from other criminal groups that rival Nemesio Oseguera Cervantes alias El Mencho, Señor de los Gallos or el Gallero, maximum leader of said crime gang. In the scenes, a subject appears in an apocryphal uniform of a military from the Secretariat of National Defense (Sedena), with a covered face who is manipulating a drone.

Source: <https://laopinion.com/2020/11/15/video-sicario-del-mencho-y-el-cjng-usan-dron-con-explosivos/> , <https://www.grillonautas.mx/cjng-usa-drones-con-explosivos-contra-sus-enemigos-en-michoacan/>

Reported: 15/11/2020

Venezuela

Grenade + IID

Event – 3 injured by double attack.

Summary – Grenade and an Improvised Incendiary Device were thrown in the municipality of Urdaneta, Zulia district, targeting a supermarket and injuring three people.

Source: <https://www.elinformadorvenezuela.com/sucesos/doble-ataque-con-granada-y-bomba-molotov-en-un-municipio-del-estado-zulia/>

Reported: 16/11/2020

Venezuela

Attack with Explosives

Event – Attack with explosives in shops in Zulia.

Summary – A fragmentary grenade was thrown at the Cow butcher shop. Several parked vehicles were partially damaged by grenade shards. The wounded, it was known unofficially, worked at the Western Discount Bank. Several businesses in Maracaibo, Cabimas, Lagunillas and La Cañada de Urdaneta have been the target of attacks with explosive devices and their owners have reported being victims of extortion by structured organized crime groups.

Source: <https://soynuevaprensadigital.com/npd/lanzaron-granada-contra-una-carniceria-en-el-zulia/> , <https://tuflashnews.com/sucesos/ataque-con-explosivos-en-comercios-del-estado-zulia/> .

Reported: 20/11/2020



EXPLOSIVES



Chile

Explosive

Event – Famae opens explosive waste destruction center in Antofagasta.

Summary – Fabrica y Meastranzas del Ejercito (Famae) inaugurated the center for the destruction, collection, and distribution of explosive waste in the industrial barrio La Negra. The new center was handed over to the company by the Ministry of National Goods to carry out the process of collecting and eliminating both military ammunition and mining explosive and pyrotechnics with all safety conditions in a place outside the urban radius.

Source: <https://www.infodefensa.com/latam/2020/11/27/noticia-famae-inaugura-centro-destruccion-residuos-explosivos-antofagasta.html>

Reported: 27/11/2020

Chile

Parcel IED

Event – 2 Police officers injured.

Summary – Explosion caused by a parcel Improvised Explosive Device, occurred at the fourth Cancha Rayada police station in Talca district, injured two police officers.

Source: <https://www.emol.com/noticias/Nacional/2020/11/26/1004990/Explosion-Talca-Bomba.html>

Reported: 26/11/2020



NORTH-AMERICA NEWS ON CBRNE EVENTS

This section gathers news collected from sources related to the North-American continent, proposed in chronological order. The section is organized in four areas:

- chemical
- biological
- radiological and nuclear
- explosives





CHEMICALS



USA-Poland

Chemical

Event – Ultra safe nuclear corporation partners with Synthos green energy to develop micro reactor-based systems to decarbonize company chemical facilities.

Summary – Synthos Green Energy is actively pursuing carbon-free energy solutions for its manufacturing facilities and in order to meet this goal the company has signed a cooperation agreement with U.S. based Ultra Safe Nuclear Corporation which aligns with the Poland company's strategy aimed to reduce CO2 emissions from fossil fuels.

Source: <https://www.usnc.com/ultra-safe-nuclear-corporation-partners-with-synthos-green-energy-to-develop-micro-reactor-based-systems-to-decarbonize-company-chemical-facilities/>

Reported: 03/11/2020

USA

Chemical Guidance

Event – The importance of CFATS and Security Critical Chemical Industry Infrastructure.

Summary – When the coronavirus pandemic hit, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) promptly issued guidance naming the chemical industry as an essential critical industry and workforce. Making sure products needed for the energy sector, water treatment, food supply, pharmaceuticals, and so much more to keep our economy running and our communities healthy is what the chemical distributors and affiliates who are a part of the National Association of Chemical Distributors (NACD) proudly do every day. This role was even more important to keep American communities safe during the COVID-19 crisis. At the critical level, bad actors still troll for hazardous chemicals to use for attacks against our country. On an operational level, consultation with CFATS regulators helps facilities handling hazardous chemicals prioritize security when making day-to-day decisions like siting new physical structures.

Source: <https://www.hstoday.us/subject-matter-areas/infrastructure-security/the-importance-of-cfats-and-securing-americas-critical-chemical-industry-infrastructure/>

Reported: 19/11/2020



BIOLOGICAL



USA-Ohio

COVID-19 Vaccine

Event – University Hospitals, Case Western Reserve University to study AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine candidate.

Summary – In a phase three clinical trial, University Hospitals and its affiliate Case Western Reserve University will study AstraZeneca's vaccine candidate. The vaccine was co-created by the University of Oxford and Vaccitech before licensed to AstraZeneca. It uses a replication-deficit chimpanzee viral vector based on a weakened version of a common cold virus. The new study will enroll non-pregnant adults older than 18, and its primary endpoint will be prevention of COVID-19 illness after two doses in those that were not previously infected by the Coronavirus.

Source: <https://homelandprepnews.com/stories/56843-university-hospitals-case-western-reserve-university-to-study-astrazeneca-covid-19-vaccine-candidate/>
Reported: 02/11/2020

USA-Philadelphia

COVID-19

Event – Data analysis identifies the “mother” of all SARS-CoV-2 genomes.

Summary – Temple researchers have identified the first genome to transmit the Coronavirus. In the absence of patient zero, a Temple University research team may have found the progenitor of all SARS-CoV-2 genomes and its early offspring strains, which have subsequently mutated and spread to dominate the world pandemic. To identify the genome, they used a mutational order analysis technique, which relies on a clonal analysis of mutant strains and the frequency in which pairs of mutations appear together in the SARS-CoV-2 genomes.

Source: <https://cst.temple.edu/about/news/temple-study-uses-novel-data-approach-trace-back-progenitor-all-sars-cov-2-genomes>
Reported: 04/11/2020



BIOLOGICAL



USA-Massachusetts

COVID-19 and Health

Event – Using machine learning to track the pandemic's impact on mental health.

Summary – Dealing with a global pandemic has taken a toll on the mental health of millions of people. A team of Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard University researchers has shown that they can measure those effects by analyzing the language that people use to express their anxiety online. Using machine learning to analyze the text of posts, the researchers were able to identify changes in the tone and content of language.

Source: <https://news.mit.edu/2020/covid-19-impact-mental-health-1105>

Reported: 05/11/2020

USA-Seattle

COVID-19 Vaccine

Event – Researchers use new technology to design promising vaccine for COVID-19.

Summary – A new nanoparticle vaccine candidate developed for the novel coronavirus creates virus-neutralizing antibodies in mice at levels that are 10 times higher than is observed in individuals, who have recovered from the COVID-19 disease. A professor of the University of Washington School of Medicine has also invented the computational vaccine design technology.

Source: <https://www.azolifesciences.com/news/20201104/Researchers-use-new-technology-to-design-promising-vaccine-for-COVID-19.aspx>

Reported: 04/11/2020

USA

COVID-19

Event – Pfizer and BioNTech announce their COVID-19 vaccine is more than 90% effective.

Summary – Pfizer Inc. and BioNTech SE have announced that their mRNA-based vaccine candidate, BNT162b2, against SARS-CoV-2 has demonstrated evidence of efficacy against COVID-19 in participants without prior evidence of SARS-CoV-2 infection, based on the first interim efficacy analysis conducted on November 8, 2020 by an external, independent Data Monitoring Committee (DMC) from the Phase 3 clinical study.

Source: <https://www.pfizer.com/news/press-release/press-release-detail/pfizer-and-biontech-announce-vaccine-candidate-against>

Reported: 09/11/2020



BIOLOGICAL



USA

COVID-19 Vaccine

Event – HHS to partner with pharmacy chains to provide access to COVID-19 vaccine.

Summary – The US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is partnering with large chain pharmacies and networks of independent pharmacies and regional chains to maximize access to COVID-19 vaccines. This effort will cover approximately 60 percent of pharmacies throughout the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands. The vaccines will be administered at the partners' pharmacy locations at no cost to patients.

Source: <https://homelandprepnews.com/stories/57566-hhs-to-partner-with-pharmacy-chains-to-provide-access-to-COVID-19-vaccines/>

Reported: 16/11/2020

USA

COVID-19 Vaccine

Event – New understanding of Neuropilin-1 protein could speed pandemic vaccine research.

Summary – A protein called Spike that sits on the outer surface of SARS-CoV-2 allows this virus to attach to protein receptors of human cells. Recognizing that a tiny piece of Spike was similar to regions of human protein sequences known to bind to neuropilin receptors, both research teams realized that neuropilin-1 may be critical for infecting cells. Using a technique called X-ray crystallography, which allows researchers to see the three-dimensional structure of the Spike protein at a resolution of individual atoms, as well as other biochemical approaches. In experiments in the lab, the SARS-CoV-2 virus was able to infect fewer human cells that lacked neuropilin-1. In cells with both the ACE2 and neuropilin-1 proteins, SARS-CoV-2 infection was greater compared to cells with either "doorway" alone.

Source: <https://globalbiodefense.com/2020/11/18/new-understanding-of-neuropilin-1-protein-could-speed-pandemic-vaccine-research/>

Reported: 18/11/2020



BIOLOGICAL



USA - Arizona

Antibodies, COVID-19

Event – Arizona researchers publish latest on SARS-CoV-2 lasting immunity antibody testing project.

Summary – University of Arizona Health Sciences researchers studied the production of antibodies from a sample of nearly 6,000 people and found immunity persists for at least several months after being infected with SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. They found COVID-19 antibodies are present in blood tests at viable levels for at least five to seven months, although they believe immunity lasts much longer. Antibody tests are still available or anyone in Arizona age 18 and older at multiple locations throughout the state.

Source: <https://globalbiodefense.com/2020/10/13/uarizona-researchers-publish-latest-on-sars-cov-2-lasting-immunity-antibody-testing-project/>

Reported: 13/10/2020

USA

COVID-19 Vaccines

Event – Trump administration expands manufacturing capacity with Cytiva for components of COVID-19 vaccines.

Summary – The Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA), part of the HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, collaborated with the DoD Joint Program Executive Office for Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Defense and Army Contracting Command, to provide approximately \$31 million to Cytiva for COVID-19 vaccine-related consumable products, such as liquid and dry powder cell culture media, cell culture buffers, mixer bags, and XDR bioreactors.

Source: <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/10/13/trump-administration-expands-manufacturing-capacity-cytiva-components-covid-19-vaccines.html>

Reported: 13/10/2020

USA

COVID-19

Event – PSNS & IMF Innovation

Lab designs, builds prototype LED disinfecting devices to combat COVID-19.

Summary – A team of innovators from Puget Sound Naval Shipyard & Intermediate Maintenance Facility designed and built two handheld ultraviolet-C LED disinfecting prototype devices that are currently being tested to determine how effective they are at killing COVID-19 on surfaces.

Source:

<https://www.navsea.navy.mil/Media/News/SavedNewsModule/Article/2428286/psns-imf-innovation-lab-designs-builds-prototype-led-disinfecting-devices-to-co/>

Reported: 25/11/2020



RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR



USA-New Mexico

Nuclear

Event – New Los Alamos national laboratory spin-off aims to put nuclear reactors in space.

Summary – Los Alamos National Laboratory has agreed to license Kilopower space reactor technology to New Mexico company Space Nuclear Power Corporation, which aims to commercialize the technology for use in space. Kilopower is a small, lightweight fission power system capable of providing various ranges of power depending on the need. The New Mexican company is also pursuing opportunities with NASA for a lunar surface reactor.

Source: <https://losalamosreporter.com/2020/11/02/new-los-alamos-national-laboratory-spin-off-aims-to-put-nuclear-reactors-in-space/>

Reported: 02/11/2020

USA

Nuclear

Event – US firms said to be in talks for Wylfa Newydd project.

Summary – A US consortium of Bechtel, Southern Company and Westinghouse is in talks with the British government about reviving the Wylfa Newydd nuclear power plant project in north Wales by building AP1000 reactors at the site on Anglesey. The discussions about Wylfa began after the US consortium contacted the British government in September, expressing its wish to take over the project.

Source: <https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/US-firms-said-to-be-in-talks-for-Wylfa-Newydd%C2%A0proj>

Reported: 10/11/2020

USA

Nuclear regulations

Event – Modernized safety management rule streamlines process.

Summary – A modernised nuclear safety management rule due to come into effect in the USA focuses on safety while minimising unnecessary administrative burden. The Final Rule focuses on improved clarity of requirements and will allow more attention to be paid to safety hazard challenges and less time on redundant efforts or administrative tasks, according to Garrett Smith, director of the Office of Nuclear Safety at the US Department of Energy (DOE).

Source: <https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/Modernised-safety-management-rule-streamlines-proc>

Reported: 11/11/2020



RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR



USA-Wisconsin

Nuclear Technology

Event – US company announces first commercial sales of Lutetium-77.

Summary – Wisconsin-based Shine Medical Technologies, a nuclear technology company focused on becoming a leading producer of medical isotopes, announced that its therapeutics division has made its first commercial sales of lutetium-177 to multiple customers.

Source: <https://www.nucnet.org/news/us-company-announces-first-commercial-sales-of-lutetium-77-11-3-2020>

Reported: 11/11/2020

USA

Nuclear

Event – National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) non-proliferation chief discusses safeguards and security in advanced nuclear technologies.

Summary – NNSA has a key role in ensuring that tomorrow's advanced nuclear technologies integrate safeguards and security to ensure they don't present future risks to the world, according to Dr. Brent Park, the agency's non-proliferation leader. He offered that perspective in an October 29 virtual event, Strengthening Global Safeguards and Security in an Advanced Nuclear Age, which was co-hosted by the Atlantic Council and Third Way. The event highlighted the future global market for advanced nuclear technologies, and the importance of integrating safeguards and security to ensure that U.S. companies are ready to compete. Dr Park stressed how DNN's decades of experience in nuclear security, reactor conversion, international safeguards, and export controls can help the US advanced reactor industry succeed.

Source: <https://www.energy.gov/nnsa/articles/nnsa-nonproliferation-chief-discusses-safeguards-and-security-advanced-nuclear>

Reported: 24/11/2020



RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR



New Mexico

Nuclear Fuel

Event – Novel chemical process a first step to making nuclear fuel with fire.

Summary – Developing safe and sustainable fuels for nuclear energy is an integral part of Los Alamos National Laboratory's energy security mission. Uranium dioxide, a radioactive actinide oxide, is the most widely used nuclear fuel in today's nuclear power plants. A new "combustion synthesis" process recently established for lanthanide metals—non-radioactive and positioned one row above actinides on the periodic table—could be a guide to produce safe, sustainable nuclear fuels.

Source: <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2020/11/201124150834.htm>

Reported: 24/11/2020

United States

Holtec

Event – US regulator approves transfer of license to Holtec.

Summary – The US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has approved the transfer of the Indian Point nuclear power station licence from Entergy Corporation to Holtec International, as owner, and subsidiary Holtec Decommissioning International as decommissioning operator. The NRC said in a statement that the license transfer will also include the station's dry cask spent fuel storage installation. The NRC said Holtec met the regulatory, legal, technical and financial requirements necessary to qualify as licensees, after examining technical and financial qualifications, the adequacy of the Indian Point decommissioning trust funds, and the adequacy of plans to manage the onsite storage of spent nuclear fuel.

Source: <https://www.nucnet.org/news/us-regulator-approves-transfer-of-licence-to-holtec-11-2-2020>

Reported: 24/11/2020



EXPLOSIVES



USA

Bomb

Event – Targeted victim in Maryland bomb attack recovering, as Police continue probe.

Summary – Federal and municipal authorities say a home-made bomb that injured a 28-year-old Carroll County, Maryland man on Friday – just south of the Pennsylvania line – was dropped off at his home and addressed to him. The 28-year-old unnamed man may have been the intended victim in the attack, but Carroll County Sheriff James DeWees said.

Source: <https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/crime/targeted-victim-in-maryland-bomb-attack-recovering-as-police-continue-probe/ar-BB1aCORZ>

Reported: 03/11/2020

USA

Explosives

Event – Authorities in Washington County investigating 2 incidents involving explosives.

Summary – The Washington County Sheriff's Office is investigating two incidents involving homemade explosives. The incidents happened just hours apart Monday night. The first went off near Inwood Avenue North and 27th Street North in Lake Elmo. The second happened in the Afton Creek Preserve development off of Trading Post Trail in Afton.

Source: <https://kstp.com/minnesota-news/authorities-in-washington-county-investigating-2-incidents-involving-explosives/5914673/>

Reported: 03/11/2020

USA

IED

Event – Hagerstown man charged with manufacturing multiple explosive devices.

Summary – The Office of the Maryland State Fire Marshal has arrested and charged a Hagerstown man who they say manufactured multiple explosive devices. Stephen Russell Smith, 40, is charged with four counts of manufacturing and possession of a destructive device, and four counts of possession of explosive material with intent to create a destructive device.

Source: <https://baltimore.cbslocal.com/2020/11/04/stephen-russell-smith-hagerstown-manufacturing-explosives-arrest/>

Reported: 04/11/2020



EXPLOSIVES



USA

IED

Event – Homemade explosives found at home of Ocala man charged with aggravated assault on Officer.

Summary – An Ocala man is in custody after deputies say they removed several homemade explosive devices from his home. On Oct. 27, Paul Thomas Giangrasso, 47, was arrested for aggravated assault on a law enforcement Officer, deputies say. During the arrest process, Giangrasso made several statements that caused concern regarding him possessing any weapons.

Source: <https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/crime/homemade-explosives-found-at-home-of-ocala-man-charged-with-aggravated-assault-on-officer/ar-BB1aGW0W>

Reported: 05/11/2020

USA

Pyrotechnics

Event – Vehicle destroyed.

Summary – Two people are killed after a gunman opened fire at a Sonic restaurant in Bellevue, Nebraska and a firework-packed truck exploded in a drive-in fast food.

Source: <https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/13265030/bellevue-sonic-shooter-nebraska-gunman-fire/>

Reported: 22/11/2020



OCEANIA NEWS ON CBRNE EVENTS

This section gathers news collected from sources related to the Oceanic continent, proposed in chronological order. The section is organized in four areas, according to news availability:

- chemical
- biological
- radiological and nuclear
- explosives





EXPLOSIVE



Australia

IED

Event – Man with rocket fuel, dozens of IEDs had an ‘unhealthy hobby’ making explosives, court hears.

Summary – A man had five homemade rockets, 27 Improvised Explosive Devices and almost 1.5 kilograms of rocket fuel at his Adelaide home because of his “unhealthy hobby” of manufacturing bombs, a court has heard. Lawyers for Phillip John Copley told the District Court that his hobby of building the explosive devices became more sophisticated over time.

Source: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-11-02/man-with-homemade-explosives-has-unhealthy-hobby-court-told/12839574>

Reported: 02/11/2020



TERRORISM AND COUNTER- TERRORISM NEWS

This section gathers news collected from sources related terrorism and counter-terrorism.

News are proposed in chronological order.





NEWS



Afghanistan

Mortar Attack

Event – Four killed as mortar shell hits Kunduz governor's compound.

Summary – The Kunduz governor's spokesman Esmatullah Muradi said the mortar shell hit a sports ground in the compound when some soldiers were playing volleyball. He said there were casualties but did not provide further details.

Source: <https://tolonews.com/afghanistan-167473>

Reported: 01/11/2020

Afghanistan

Taliban Attacks

Event – Clashes continue near three provincial centers.

Summary – Parts of Lashkargah in Helmand, Faizabad in Badakhshan and the city of Kunduz in Kunduz province have witnessed attacks by the Taliban in the last few days amidst the ongoing peace talks that have faced delays over disputed points between both sides of the negotiations.

Source: <https://tolonews.com/afghanistan-167465>

Reported: 01/11/2020

United Kingdom

Counterterrorism

Event – Attack methodology guidance.

Summary – The National Counter Terrorism Security Office published on 2 November 2020 the "Guidance Attack Methodology: Vehicle bombs".

Source: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/crowded-places-guidance/attack-methodology-vehicle-bombs>

Reported: 02/11/2020



NEWS



Iraq

IS

Event – Security Forces and Residents protect Jalawla from IS.

Summary – Islamic State members burned an orchard and opened fire on north of Jalawla district residents, northeast of Baqubah.

Source: <https://shafaq.com/en/Iraq-News/Security-Forces-and-Residents-protect-Jalawla-from-ISIS>

Reported: 03/11/2020

Afghanistan

Terrorist Attack

Event – At least 19 dead after gunmen storm university.

Summary – At least 19 people were killed when gunmen stormed Kabul University, opening fire on students in their classrooms.

Source: <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/asia/kabul-university-shooting-afghanistan-attack-death-toll-b1533528.html>

Reported: 03/11/2020

Iraq

IS

Event – Iraqi forces thwart an IS terrorist attack in Diyala.

Summary – A security source told: "The attack targeted a tribal mobilization point on the outskirts of a village in the countryside of Jalawla", no casualties were registered among the Iraqi forces.

Source: <https://shafaq.com/en/Iraq-News/Iraqi-forces-thwart-an-ISIS-terrorist-attack-in-Diyala>

Reported: 03/11/2020



NEWS



Iraq

IS

Event – A security source refutes rumours on large-scale IS attacks on Iraqi governorates.

Summary – An informed security source denied on Tuesday social media reports on a plan for large-scale Islamic State attacks on central and southern governorates in Iraq.

Source: <https://shafaq.com/en/Iraq-News/A-security-source-refutes-rumors-on-large-scale-ISIS-attacks-on-Iraqi-governorates>

Reported: 03/10/2020

Syria

Counterterrorism Operation

Event – Three jihadists arrested in Idlib countryside.

Summary – Security forces arrested a member of the “Ansar al-Tawhid” jihadist group.

They have also arrested a member of the “Huras al-Din” in the town of Jisr al-Shughour and another person near the town of Mahambel, west of Idlib. This comes as part of the security crackdown on jihadist factions

Source: <https://www.syriahr.com/en/191076/>

Reported: 03/11/2020

Syria

Counterterrorism Operation

Event – SDF and Global Coalition arrest three IS members in Syria’s Deir ez-Zor.

Summary – The Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) arrested three members of an Islamic State sleeper cell, including a former leader, in the countryside of Syria’s eastern city of Deir ez-Zor on Monday.

Source: <https://npasyria.com/en/49223/>

Reported: 03/11/2020



NEWS



Nigeria

Counterterrorism Operation

Event – Operation Fire Ball.

Summary – The Acting Director, Defence Media Operations, Brig. Gen. Benard Onyeuko said that Operation Fire Ball was a subsidiary operation under Operation Lafiya Dole meant to clear the remnants of the Boko Haram/Islamic State's West Africa Province terrorists from their identified enclaves in the North-East. He added large cache of ammunition including 36 hand grenades, 567 rounds of 7.62mm special ammunition, 448 rounds of 12.7mm ammunition, 50 rocket propelled grenade bombs and 17 locally manufactured rounds were recovered. According to him, three shells for making Improvised Explosive Device (IED), one smoke grenade and two belts of PKT rounds as well as assorted non-lethal items were also captured from the criminals.

Source: <https://www.pulse.ng/news/local/troops-kill-75-terrorists-lose-3-soldiers-in-north-east/21c7zxk>

Reported: 03/11/2020

Austria

Terrorism

Event – Vienna shooting: Austria hunts suspects after 'Islamist terror' attack.

Summary – A gunman shot dead by police has been identified as a 20-year-old "Islamist terrorist" who was released early from jail in December. Two men and two women died of their wounds after gunmen opened fire at six locations in the city centre on Monday evening. Twenty-two people were wounded.

Source: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-54788613>

Reported: 04/11/2020

United Kingdom

Counterterrorism

Event – UK terrorism threat level raised to 'Severe'.

Summary – The UK's terrorism threat level has been upgraded from "Substantial" to "Severe". The move means security chiefs believe that an attack is highly likely but there is no specific intelligence of an imminent incident. The move follows Monday night's shooting in Vienna in which four people died.

Source: <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-54799377>

Reported: 04/11/2020



NEWS



Syria

Armed Attack

Event – Unidentified attack kills opposition militant, injures others in Syria's Afrin.

Summary – A Syrian opposition militant was killed and others were wounded on Wednesday in an armed attack by unidentified people near the city of Afrin, northwest Syria.

Source: <https://npasyria.com/en/49298/>

Reported: 04/11/2020

Iraq

Counterterrorism Operation

Event – Popular Mobilization Force (PMF) destroys supplies of an IS gang in western Al-Anbar.

Summary – Al-Anbar Operations Command of Al-Hashd Al-Shaabi carried out a three-day operation in the desert in western Al-Anbar, to destroy supplies and equipment belonging to an Islamic State gang.

Source: <https://shafaq.com/en/Iraq-News/PMF-destroys-supplies-of-an-ISIS-gang-in-western-Al-Anbar>

Reported: 05/11/2020

Syria

IS

Event – IS cells shoot dead SDF fighter in eastern Deir Ezzor.

Summary – Syrian Observatory For Human Rights activists have documented the death of Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) fighter after being shot by unknown gunmen in Al-Baghouz town in the eastern countryside of Deir Ezzor. This assassination coincides with the ongoing activities and operations of Islamic State cells in areas under the control of SDF in Deir Ezzor.

Source: <https://www.syriahr.com/en/191240/>

Reported: 05/11/2020

Afghanistan

Counterterrorism Operation

Event – Kandahar districts cleared of Taliban: Army chief.

Summary – Gen. Yasin Zia, Chief of Army Staff on Thursday said that the Afghan security forces have cleared Zherai and Panjwai districts of the Taliban.

Source: <https://tolonews.com/afghanistan-167566>

Reported: 05/11/2020



NEWS



Afghanistan

Counterterrorism Operation

Event – Al-Qaeda members killed in Taliban-influenced area in Farah.

Summary – Gen. Yasin Zia, Chief of Army Staff, who is in south of the country following an increase in Taliban attacks, said on Thursday that more al-Qaeda members have been killed in operations by Afghan National Defense and Security Forces in a Taliban-influenced area in Farah province in the last few days.

Source: <https://tolonews.com/index.php/afghanistan-167561>

Reported: 05/11/2020

Syria-Iraq

IS

Event – IS lost the ability to occupy any territory in Iraq and Syria.

Summary – US-led Coalition spokesman declared that the Islamic State group no longer has the ability to sustain and occupy any territory in Iraq and Syria. The US-led Global Coalition against IS's Operation Inherent Resolve (OIR), was formally established in October 2014 by the US Department of Defense after the Islamic State took control of large swathes of territories in Iraq and Syria. The forces have recently handed over several military bases to the control of Iraqi security forces. Last month, the US decided to shrink its troop numbers in Iraq to 3,000.

Source: <https://www.rudaw.net/english/middleeast/01112020>

Reported: 05/11/2020

Turkey

Counterterrorism Operation

Event – DHKP-C archives shed light on terrorist group's connections in Turkey.

Status – Security forces seized an immense digital archive in the latest raid against members of the far-left terrorist group Revolutionary People's Liberation Party-Front (DHKP-C). On Oct. 29, police detained 97 suspects in raids conducted across the country. Forty-nine of these suspects, including senior figures of the group, were arrested.

Source: <https://www.dailysabah.com/turkey/investigations/dhkp-c-archives-shed-light-on-terrorist-groups-connections-in-turkey>

Reported: 05/11/2020



NEWS



United Kingdom

Terrorism

Event – Man jailed for downloading Islamic State terror videos.

Summary – A man has been jailed for downloading Islamic State group material, including bomb-making videos and a video showing two men being killed with a knife. Atabaq Taj, 34, of Hacking Street, Salford was sentenced to six years when he appeared at Manchester Crown Court. Taj, formerly of Accrington, was convicted last month of making a record containing information likely to be useful to a terrorist.

Source: <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-manchester-54816406>

Reported: 07/11/2020

Afghanistan

Counterterrorism Operation

Event – Afghanistan Air Force airstrikes killed Taliban commander.

Summary – The Afghan Defense Ministry tweeted, Head of Taliban's intelligence for Nadali district of Helmand Province was killed with 9 others and Muhibullah, Taliban's shadow governor for Helmand was wounded in an airstrike.

Source: <https://www.khaama.com/aaf-airstrikes-claim-taliban-intelligence-commander-9-others-987987/>

Reported: 07/11/2020

Turkey

Counterterrorism Operation

Event – Security forces in south-eastern Turkey's Diyarbakır raided an arsenal belonging to PKK.

Status – The recovered ammunition was reportedly transferred in from abroad to be used in the group's future terrorist attacks on major Turkish cities.

Source: <https://www.dailysabah.com/politics/war-on-terror/security-forces-bust-pkk-arsenal-in-southeast-turkey>

Reported: 08/11/2020



NEWS



Iraq

Counterterrorism Operation

Event – One IS terrorist killed and several IEDs dismantled in Saladin.

Summary – A leader in Al-Hashd Al-Shaabi revealed on Sunday that an Islamic State terrorist had been killed, several Improvised Explosive Devices were dismantled, and tunnels were destroyed, during a security operation in Makhoul mountains, north of Saladin.

Source: <https://shafaq.com/en/Iraq-News/One-ISIS-terrorist-killed-and-several-IEDs-dismantled-in-Saladin>

Reported: 08/11/2020

Afghanistan

Counterterrorism Operation

Event – Taliban battered in Helmand, 6 nabbed.

Summary – At least four Taliban insurgents were killed and further five wounded in a battle with Afghan National Army in Nadali district of Helmand province, said the Ministry of Defense in a statement Sunday.

Source: <https://www.khaama.com/taliban-battered-in-helmand-6-nabbed-34534/>

Reported: 08/11/2020

Afghanistan

Taliban Attacks

Event – Four soldiers killed in Taliban attacks in Baghlan.

Summary – At least four security forces members were killed and six more were wounded in Taliban attacks in different areas in the northern province of Baghlan in the last 24 hours, security sources said on Sunday.

Source: <https://tolonews.com/afghanistan-167619>

Reported: 08/11/2020



NEWS



USA-Indiana

Counterterrorism

Event – Indiana woman captured in Caliphate sentenced to over six years for financing terrorism.

Summary – Samantha Marie Elhassani, aka Samantha Sally, 35, formerly of Elkhart, Indiana, was sentenced by US District Court Judge to 78 months in prison and three years of supervised release after pleading guilty to Financing Terrorism, announced Assistant Attorney General for National Security John C. Demers, U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Indiana Thomas L. Kirsch II, FBI Assistant Director of the Counterterrorism Division Jill Sanborn, and FBI Special Agent in Charge of the Indianapolis field office Paul Keenan.

Source: <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/former-elkhart-indiana-resident-sentenced-over-six-years-prison-financing-terrorism>

Reported: 09/11/2020

USA

Counterterrorism

Event – Coordinator for Counterterrorism Ambassador Nathan A. Sales designated Special Envoy to the Global Coalition to defeat IS.

Summary – Ambassador Nathan A. Sales, the State Department's Coordinator for Counterterrorism, will assume the additional role of the Special Envoy to the Global Coalition to Defeat Islamic State following the retirement of Special Envoy James Jeffrey. Jeffrey, a senior American diplomat with experience in political, security, and energy issues in the Middle East, Turkey, Germany, and the Balkans, was appointed to the highest rank in the US Foreign Service, Career Ambassador, in 2010. He came out of retirement in 2018 to serve as special envoy for Syria engagement, and became the lead US representative at the Global Coalition to Defeat IS in 2019.

Source: <https://www.hstoday.us/people-on-the-move/coordinator-for-counterterrorism-ambassador-nathan-a-sales-designated-special-envoy-to-the-global-coalition-to-defeat-isis/>

Reported: 09/11/2020



NEWS



Turkey

Counterterrorism Operation

Event – Turkey eliminates PKK responsible for death of 12 Police officers in southeast.

Status – Turkey's National Intelligence Organization announced Monday that PKK Mesut Taşkın, responsible for the plot that killed 12 police officers in the south-eastern Turkish border town of Cizre in 2016, was killed abroad. According to security sources, in an operation conducted abroad, MIT killed the terrorist, who was codenamed Demhat Sperti and who planned the attack on the Cizre action force department with an explosive-laden truck in August 2016, killing 12 police officers and wounding another 75.

Source: <https://www.dailysabah.com/politics/war-on-terror/turkey-eliminates-pkk-terrorist-responsible-for-death-of-12-police-officers-in-southeast>

Reported: 09/11/2020

Iraq

Counterterrorism Operation

Event – Iraqi Intelligence arrests IS members.

Summary – “The Nineveh Intelligence Directorate has arrested four Islamic State members in separate areas of Nineveh Governorate, who worked in the so-called “Diwan Al-Jund” and “Wilayat Dijlah”, they also participated in several terrorist operations against the security forces and citizens.” The intelligence said in a statement

Source: <https://shafaq.com/en/Iraq-News/Iraqi-Intelligence-arrests-ISIS-members>

Reported: 09/11/2020

Iraq

Counterterrorism Operation

Event – A joint security operation to clear Al-Anbar from the remnants of ISIS.

Summary – The Iraqi Joint Operations Command announced on Tuesday launching an operation to pursue ISIS members in Al-Anbar Governorate.

Source: <https://shafaq.com/en/Iraq-News/A-joint-security-operation-to-clear-Al-Anbar-from-the-remnants-of-ISI>

Reported: 10/11/2020



NEWS



Mozambique

Terrorism

Event – Militant islamists in Mozambique kill 50, abduct women and children.

Summary – The United Nations Secretary-General has called on the authorities in Mozambique to investigate the brutal killings that were reported this past weekend in the country's northern Cabo Delgado province and to bring the perpetrators to justice. There were reports of massacres by non-State armed groups in several villages, including beheading attacks. According to media reports, an armed militant group attacked several villages in northern parts of the province from November 6 to 8, brutally killing more than 50 people, abducting several women and children and burning down homes.

Source: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/11/1077382>

Reported: 11/11/2020

Nigeria

Terrorism

Event – Nigerian Army releases names of 86 people wanted for terrorism.

Summary – The Nigerian Army on Wednesday released a list of 86 persons wanted in connection with act of terrorist. They were alleged to be members of the notorious Boko Haram terror group. The latest release was the fourth in such releases as the military authorities had in the past rolled out lists of wanted terrorist. The latest list was launched by the Chief of Army Staff, Lt. Gen. Tukur Buratai alongside Borno State Governor Babagana Zulum at the Nigerian Army Super Camp, Chabbal in Konduga Local Government Area of the state.

Source: <https://www.thisdaylive.com/index.php/2020/11/11/army-releases-names-of-86-people-wanted-for-terrorism/>

Reported: 11/11/2020

Afghanistan

Counterterrorism Operation

Event – Islamic Movement for Uzbekistan leader killed by Afghan Forces.

Summary – Aziz Yuldash, the leader of the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan, was killed in an operation by Afghan forces in the northern province of Faryab, the Ministry of Defense said on Thursday.

Source: <https://tolonews.com/index.php/afghanistan-167708>

Reported: 12/11/2020



NEWS



Saudi Arabia

IS attack

Event – IS claims attack at Saudi WWI ceremony.

Summary – The Islamic State group claimed responsibility for the explosion at a cemetery in Saudi Arabia, saying it primarily targeted French diplomats attending the ceremony in remembrance of the end of World War I. IS said through its news agency, Amaq, that it primarily targeted the French consul attending the ceremony because of his country's publication of caricatures of the Prophet Muhammad.

Source: <https://apnews.com/article/saudi-arabia-islamic-state-group-jiddah-greece-europe-a48050685d7756d42f5cc592ab632f37>

Reported: 12/11/2020

Saudi Arabia

Thwarted Attack

Event – Saudi Arabia claims it thwarted an attack by Yemen's Houthi rebels.

Summary – An unnamed official at the Ministry of Energy reported that Saudi security forces had intercepted and destroyed two explosives-packed boats that it said Yemen's Houthi rebels were using to target a major refinery and terminal in the southern Saudi province of Jizan. The attempted attack took place near an offloading platform and caused the floating hoses that unload oil to catch fire.

Source: https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/middle_east/saudis-say-they-thwarted-attack-on-oil-facility-near-yemen/2020/11/13/b8f6d1bc-257d-11eb-9c4a-0dc6242c4814_story.html

Reported: 13/11/2020

Syria

IS

Event – Over 20 regime soldiers and loyal militiamen killed in yesterday's attack in eastern Salamiyah.

Summary – The death toll of regime soldiers and loyal militiamen rose to 21, who were killed in the Islamic State surprise attack on the area. The death toll is expected to rise as some injured are in serious condition.

Source: <https://www.syriahr.com/en/192129/>

Reported: 13/11/2020



NEWS



Iraq

IS

Event – Islamic State members involved in attack in Radwaniyah were killed.

Summary – Lt. Gen. Qais al-Muhammadawi confirmed in a statement that based on intelligence, Baghdad Operations Command killed all members of a terrorist group that targeted Al- Sahwa fighters and Iraqi soldiers in the Radwaniyah area. On November 9, four killed and three wounded in a terrorist attack in the Radwaniyah area, west of Baghdad.

Source: <https://shafaq.com/en/Iraq-News/Radwaniyah-attack-all-ISIS-militants-are-killed>
Reported: 13/11/2020

Mali

Counterterrorism Operation

Event – Operation to kill GSIM commander Bah Ag Moussa.

Summary – According on what was reported by French Defence Minister Florence Parly, Bah Ag Moussa was killed in an operation involving ground troops and helicopters. He was the top commander of the Group to Support Islam and Muslims (GSIM), Al-Qaeda-linked terrorist group. The operation took place near Menaka, in eastern Mali.

Source: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/11/13/french-troops-kill-top-al-qaeda-commander-in-mali>
Reported: 13/11/2020

Somalia

Al-Shabab

Event – UN vote to crack down Al-Shabab.

Summary – The UN Security Council voted Thursday to prevent the sale or shipment to Somalia of components of improvised explosive devices if there is “significant risk” they may be used to manufacture the often deadly devices that are increasingly being used in attacks by al-Shabab extremists. It also urged the Somali government to keep cracking down on the militant group’s illegal financing methods that UN experts estimate raised over \$21 million last year.

Source: <https://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/votes-crack-somalias-al-shabab-extremists-74183192>
Reported: 13/11/2020



NEWS



Bahrain

Counterterrorism Operation

Event – 51 people convicted of founding and organizing a terrorist group.

Summary – On Tuesday, Bahrain's High Criminal Court issued a ruling convicting 51 defendants of founding, organizing, and joining a terrorist group and having committed crimes. (51,400) dinars, acquittal of the accused, and the confiscation of the seized items.

Source: <https://english.alarabiya.net/en/News/gulf/2020/11/03/Bahrain-s-High-Criminal-Court-sentences-51-to-prison-for-establishing-terrorist-group>

Reported: 13/11/2020

Iran

Counterterrorism Operation

Event – Abu Mohammed al-Masri, Al Qaeda's No. 2, killed in US-Israel joint operation in Iran.

Summary – Four current and former US officials said Abu Mohammed al-Masri, Al Qaeda's No. 2, was killed by assassins in the Iranian capital in August. The US provided intelligence to the Israelis on where they could find al-Masri and the alias he was using at the time, while Israeli agents carried out the killing, according to two of the officials. The two other officials confirmed al-Masri's killing but could not provide specific details.

Source: <https://www.foxnews.com/world/abu-mohammed-al-masri-al-qaedas-no-2-killed-in-us-israel-joint-operation-in-iran>

Reported: 15/11/2020



NEWS



Bangladesh

Attack

Event – Another 15 arrested over torching of buses.

Summary – Police yesterday arrested 15 more people in connection with the cases filed over arson attack on buses and subversive activities in the capital on Tuesday. With them, so far 47 people have been arrested since the incidents, said Walid Hossain, deputy commissioner, media and public relations of Dhaka Metropolitan Police. Police filed 16 cases with different police stations in Dhaka on Tuesday and Wednesday after about 12 buses were torched and several crude bombs were exploded in the city on Thursday, the day of polling in the by-polls to Dhaka-18 parliamentary seat.

Source: <https://www.thedailystar.net/city/news/another-15-arrested-over-torching-buses-1995717>

Reported: 16/11/2020

Turkey

Counterterrorism Operation

Event – Counterterrorism operations against YPG/PKK resume both domestically and abroad.

Status – Turkish security forces continue to target YPG/PKK through counterterrorism operations that are being conducted both domestically and in cross-border operations. At least six YPG/PKK members were killed by Turkish security forces in northern Syria, Turkey's National Defense Ministry said on Monday.

Source: <https://www.dailysabah.com/politics/war-on-terror/counterterrorism-operations-against-ypgpkk-resume-both-domestically-abroad>

Reported: 16/11/2020

India

Counterterrorism Strategy

Event – BRICS adopts new counter-terror strategy.

Summary – The five-nation grouping BRICS on Tuesday adopted a new counterterrorism strategy to effectively deal with the menace, as Prime Minister Narendra Modi asserted that there is a need to ensure that countries supporting terrorists are held guilty, a call backed by Russian president Vladimir Putin, who dubbed such nations “black sheep of the family”. Modi, while addressing the 12th BRICS (Brazil-Russia-India-China-South Africa) summit, held virtually, said terrorism is the “biggest problem” the world is facing, and needed to be dealt with in an organised manner.

Source: <https://www.devdiscourse.com/article/law-order/1311107-brics-adopts-new-counter-terror-strategy-modi-says-nations-supporting-terrorists-should-be-held-guilty>

Reported: 17/11/2020



NEWS



Turkey

Counterterrorism Operation

Event – Captured YPG terrorist says received US training in Syria.

Status – A PKK member, who was recently captured as part of a counterterrorism operation in Syria's al-Bab, has confessed to receiving training from US forces in the country, according to security sources. The member, identified as Mahmud Hamid, told security forces that he, along with 500 other terrorists, received a month-long training from the US forces in Syria.

Source: <https://www.dailysabah.com/politics/war-on-terror/captured-pkk-terrorist-says-received-us-training-in-syria>

Reported: 17/11/2020

Iraq

Counterterrorism Operation

Event – Iraqi F-16s log first combat mission since return of contractor support.

Summary – Both the Iraqi Air Force (IqAF) and the US Central Command (CENTCOM) announced on 17 November that an undisclosed number of F-16s had participated in air strikes against the Islamic State group north of the capital Baghdad.

Source: <https://www.janes.com/defence-news/news-detail/iraqi-f-16s-log-first-combat-mission-since-return-of-contractor-support>

Reported: 18/11/2020

North Africa

Terrorism

Event – Al-Qaeda in North Africa appoints new leader after killing.

Summary – The al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) group has chosen a new leader to replace Abdelmalek Droukdel, who was killed in June by French forces, the SITE monitoring group reported.

Source: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/11/22/al-qaeda-in-north-africa-appoints-leader-to-replace-droukdel>

Reported: 22/11/2020



NEWS



Afghanistan

Terrorism

Event – Afghan spy chief warns drone warfare is Taliban’s new fighting method.

Summary – The director of Afghanistan’s main intelligence agency warned on Monday that the Taliban are for the first time resorting to using drones in order to carry out attacks against the Afghan government. Groups such as the Islamic State in Syria, and Houthi rebels in Yemen, have been using modified drones to drop makeshift bombs on enemy targets since at least 2016. But the Taliban have not previously been known to make use of such weapons.

Source: <https://www.thedefensepost.com/2020/11/23/taliban-rigging-drones/>

Reported: 23/11/2020

Nigeria

Terrorism

Event – Nigerian troops neutralise 23 terrorists, capture IED specialist.

Summary – Troops of Operation Fire Ball in the North-East have neutralised 23 terrorists and captured one Improvised Explosive Device specialist in Ngamdu, near Maiduguri. Brig.-Gen. Benard Onyeuko, Acting Director, Defense Media Operations, who disclosed this on Tuesday said that some of the terrorists were decimated while trying to obtain ransom from relatives of their abducted victims. According to him, two women and three children are rescued unhurt from the Boko Haram/Islamic State of West Africa Province (ISWAP) terrorists.

Source: <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2020/11/troops-neutralise-23-terrorists-capture-ied-specialist/>

Reported: 24/11/2020

United Kingdom

Terrorism

Event – Far-right extremist jailed for terror and explosives offences.

Summary – A far-right extremist has been jailed for possessing explosives and terrorist documents. Filip Golon Bednarczyk, 26, denied planning an attack or attempting to make a bomb and claimed he was acting on “curiosity borne out of boredom”. Giving evidence at the Old Bailey on Tuesday, he said he had downloaded numerous terrorist manuals and collected chemicals and components because he wanted to make fireworks.

Source: <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/filip-bednarczyk-luton-explosives-terror-jail-b1761242.html>

Reported: 24/11/2020



NEWS



Turkey

Intelligence Counterterrorism Operations

Event – PKK members killed by Turkish intelligence in northern Iraq

Status – Turkey's National Intelligence Organization (MIT) has killed a wanted PKK member in an operation in northern Iraq, a security source confirmed Tuesday. Hizret Çalkın, codenamed Dıhlaz, was in the gray category on the Interior Ministry's Most Wanted Terrorist List. The Interior Ministry's wanted list is divided into five color-coded categories, with red marking the most wanted, followed by blue, green, orange and gray, depending on the degree of their criminal activity.

Source: <https://www.dailysabah.com/politics/war-on-terror/pkk-terrorist-killed-by-turkish-intelligence-in-northern-iraq>

Reported: 24/11/2020

UAE

Terrorism

Event – Government led UAE Fatwa Council designates Muslim Brotherhood a 'terrorist group'.

Summary – The United Arab Emirates Fatwa Council, a state led religious body which critics say is used by the repressive Gulf monarchy to rubber stamp its policies, has declared the Muslim Brotherhood a terrorist organisation.

Source: <https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20201125-government-led-uae-fatwa-council-designates-muslim-brotherhood-a-terrorist-group/>

Reported: 25/11/2020

Russia

Terrorism

Event – FSB nabs several militants plotting terror attacks in Moscow Region.

Summary – Russia's Federal Security Service has detained several militants of the Islamic State terror group (outlawed in Russia), who plotted terror attacks in the Moscow Region. According to a video posted by the FSB Public Relations Center, five people were held and one of them pleaded guilty. "Do you acknowledge your guilt?" an FSB officer asked him. "Yes," the detained man said. The suspects were apprehended in residential buildings during an operation carried out jointly with security forces. One of them admitted that a package he was carrying contained a bomb.

Source: <https://tass.com/emergencies/1227669>

Reported: 25/11/2020



NEWS



Afghanistan

Terrorism

Event – 3 suspects arrested over deadly blasts in Bamiyan.

Summary – At least 3 suspects were arrested in connection with deadly bomb blasts in the city of Bamiyan on Tuesday that according to sources killed at least 17 people and wounded over 50 others, police said. Bamiyan police said that according to their initial investigation, “Taliban has plotted the attack.” Taliban has denied involvement in the attack.

Source: <https://tolonews.com/afghanistan-168027>

Reported: 25/11/2020

The Philippines

Counterterrorism

Event – 3 Abu Sayyaf bombers killed in Zambo offshore encounter.

Summary – Police intercepted a pump boat speeding towards Zamboanga City at daybreak this morning with an Abu Sayyaf team on board believed to be on a bombing mission, resulting in the death of three extremist militants. The operation was initiated by the Regional Intelligence Unit (RIU)-9 of PNP Intelligence Group) with elements of 5th Special Action Battalion (5SAB) and Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Unit of PNP-Special Action Force (SAF); Regional Maritime Unit (RMU)-9; Regional Intelligence Division, CIDG-9 and Zamboanga City Police Office.

Source: <https://ptvnews.ph/3-abu-sayyaf-bombers-fall-in-zambo-offshore-encounter/>

Reported: 25/11/2020

USA

Terrorism

Event – American ex-soldier allegedly provided material support to Syrian-based terrorist.

Summary – A former US soldier was arrested Wednesday in connection to providing financial support to a self-identified member of al-Nusra Front, a designated terrorist organization based in Syria, according to federal prosecutors. Bell is accused of providing material support to the al-Nusra Front, which operates in northwest Syria, according to the Department of Justice. The group also goes by Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham, or HTS, and was at one point linked to Al Qaeda.

Source: <https://www.foxnews.com/us/us-ex-soldier-charged-providing-support-syrian-terrorist>

Reported: 25/11/2020



NEWS



Spain

CT Operations

Event – Two arrests in Spain for terrorist financing.

Status – The Spanish National Police supported by Europol, arrested two individuals for their suspected involvement in the facilitation of terrorist financing in the Spanish provinces of Madrid and Toledo. They are believed to be part of the 'remittance office' in Europe of the so-called Islamic State. In direct communication with jihadi fighters, this network aimed at transferring assets to conflict zones. The network had contacts in different European countries who were in charge of collecting financial contributions from followers of the so-called Islamic State. The funds were mainly destined to support foreign fighters in Syria. A hawala network facilitated the final transactions sent from Spain to the conflict zones.

Source: <https://counteriedreport.com/two-arrests-in-spain-for-terrorist-financing/>

Reported: 26/11/2020

Qatar

Counterterrorism

Event – UN to open counterterrorism programme office in Qatar.

Summary – The United Nations Counter-Terrorism Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement will serve as a hub for research, knowledge, and capacity-building, leveraging on innovation and partnerships to enhance support to parliamentarians worldwide, according to a joint statement issued after the signing on Wednesday.

Source: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/11/26/un-to-open-counterterrorism-programme-office-in-qatar>

Reported: 26/11/2020



TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATIONS

This section gathers news collected from sources related technological innovations. News are proposed in cronological order.





NEWS



*SYnergy of integrated Sensors and Technologies for urban sEcured environment (SYSTEM) is a 42-month, € 9 million **H2020 project** coordinated by Fondazione FORMIT involving the participation of other 22 partners, amongst whom is OSDIFE. Started in September 2018, it aims at developing and testing a **customised sensing system for hazardous substances detection** in complementary utility networks and public spaces which are tested and adapted in six urban areas.*

SYSTEM recently shared its experience with the Community of Users and EXERTER project

After being presented to a community of practitioners working in the field of explosives during the online Community of Users Workshop on Forensics: Explosives, Conventional forensics, Digital Forensics in October 2020, last 5 November SYSTEM joined its sister project EXERTER (Security of Explosives pan-European Specialists Network) in the EXERTER Virtual Conference 2020 on “Attacks on Public Transport”. Organised by the BKA’s Department for Explosives and FOI (Swedish Defence Research Agency), the conference was attended by approximately 90 experts of the explosive’s security community resulting in fruitful discussions with respect to different national and international projects aiming to counter, prevent, mitigate or detect threats associated with explosives. BKA/Bavarian State Police presented the SYSTEM project to share the technologies and analytical methods under development which aim to improve the sensing of explosives. Additionally to the presented projects, the gained practical experiences from the field were presented by LEAs as well as Emergency and Rescue Services referring to some occurred explosive attacks

USA

Technology

Event – How US Army’s scientists are 3D printing cyberpunk-style biological sensors.

Summary – Fitting soldiers with biological monitoring devices by using 3D printing allows the US Army to be fast-tracking. The US Army Combat Capabilities Development Command (CCDC) has developed novel multipurpose biosensors that also have the potential to provide them with an enhanced awareness of situational threats in the field.

Source: <https://3dprintingindustry.com/news/interview-how-the-us-armys-scientists-are-3d-printing-cyberpunk-style-biological-sensors-178426/>

Reported: 02/11/2020



NEWS



USA

Defense

Event – DOD releases Electromagnetic Spectrum Superiority Strategy.

Summary – The Department of Defense (DOD) maintains the recent release of its Electromagnetic Spectrum Superiority Strategy aligns electromagnetic spectrum (EMS) activities with national economic and technology policy goals. This strategy will help set the conditions needed to endure the warfighters have freedom of action within the electromagnetic spectrum to successfully conduct operations and training.

Source: <https://homelandprepnews.com/stories/56854-dod-releases-electromagnetic-spectrum-superiority-strategy/>

Reported: 02/11/2020

China

Event – China to accelerate modernization of national defense and armed forces.

Summary – China will accelerate the modernization of its national defense and armed forces, according to the full text of the Communist Party of China Central Committee's proposals for formulating a new five-year development plan and long-range objectives.

Source: http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-11/03/c_139488596.htm

Reported: 03/11/2020

Korea

Military Innovations

Event – Hanwha Defense works with KT to apply 5G technology to unmanned equipment

Summary – Hanwha Defense, a major defense contractor in South Korea, will use KT's 5G technologies to bolster its position in supplying military equipment such as multi-purpose unmanned ground vehicles that can carry supplies. Hanwha Defense competes with its domestic rival, Hyundai Rotem, to supply military unmanned ground vehicles (UGVs).

Source: <https://www.ajudaily.com/view/20201030145440871>

Reported: 03/11/2020



NEWS



USA

Technology

Event – The Pentagon will test industry's counter-drone tech for an enduring capability.

Summary – The Pentagon will host the first opportunity for industry to demonstrate counter-drone technology aimed at small system. The defense secretary delegated the Army to lead the effort to consolidate the wide range of counter-small unmanned aerial system capabilities into a select group of interim systems.

Source: <https://www.defensenews.com/unmanned/2020/11/04/heres-how-the-pentagon-will-test-industrys-counter-drone-tech-for-an-enduring-capability/>

Reported: 05/11/2020

Israel

Military Development

Event – Israel's Navy to receive first German-made Sa'ar 6 ship.

Summary – The first of Israel's Sa'ar-6 missile corvettes (equipped with 40 C-Dome CRAM interceptors & 16 Barak-8 air defence missiles which can intercept supersonic anti-ship cruise missiles) will arrive from Germany early next month.

Source: <https://twitter.com/ELINTNews/status/1324372033204006912>

Reported: 05/11/2020

UAE-US

Drone Sale

Event – US administration advances \$2.9 billion drone sale to UAE.

Summary – The US State Department gave Congress notification it plans to sell 18 sophisticated armed MQ-9B aerial drones to the United Arab Emirates in a deal worth as much as \$2.9 billion, people briefed on the notification said.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-emirates-drones-exclusive/exclusive-trump-administration-advances-2-9-billion-drone-sale-to-uae-sources-idUSKBN27M06L>

Reported: 06/11/2020

China

Satellite

Event – China sends 13 satellites into orbit with single rocket.

Summary – A Long March-6 carrier rocket carrying 13 satellites is launched from Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center in north China's Shanxi Province, Nov. 6, 2020.

Source: http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-11/06/c_139496072_2.htm

Reported: 06/11/2020



NEWS



Mexico

Technology in Risk Prevention

Event – Puebla capital becomes the first municipality with technology in risk prevention.

Summary – Equipment will be installed to warn of chemical disasters, gas leaks, ash fall, river overflows and earthquakes. Three multi-alert modules will be placed in La Margarita, San Bartolo and Amalucan, housing units that were selected due to seismic vulnerability and their geographic location. Five more will be placed in rivers and ravines, as well as in regulating vessels such as Puente Negro and Revolución Mexicana, Río Alseseca at La Hacienda, Río Atoyac in Reforma Sur and in Esfuerzo Nacional.

Source: <http://retodiario.com/noticia/CAPITAL/Puebla-capital-primer-municipio-a-Nivel-Nacional-con-tecnologia-en-prevencion-de-riesgos/199792>

<https://elpopular.mx/secciones/puebla/2020/11/08/puebla-capital-contara-con-8-modulos-de-alertas>

Reported: 08/11/2020

Saudi Arabia

Drones

Event – Saudi-led coalition destroys two drones launched by Yemen's Houthis.

Summary – Saudi state TV reported that the Saudi-led coalition on Monday destroyed two explosive-laden drones launched by Yemen's Iran-aligned Houthi group in the direction of Saudi Arabia. The Houthis did not confirm the two incidents.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-yemen-security-saudi/saudi-led-coalition-destroys-drone-launched-by-yemens-houthis-saudi-tv-idUSKBN27P16U>

Reported: 09/11/2020

Saudi Arabia

Air Force Development

Event – Saudi Arabia's Wahaj to work on Typhoon components.

Summary – Saudi Arabia's Wahaj has received a quality licence from BAE Systems to manufacture a range of consumable parts for the country's Eurofighter Typhoon fleet.

Source: <https://saudigazette.com.sa/article/599169/SAUDI-ARABIA/Wahaj-wins-license-to-manufacture-Eurofighter-Typhoons-components>

Reported: 09/11/2020



NEWS



China

Military Flight Development

Event – PLAAF J-16 fighter pilots seen using new helmet.

Summary – Footage released on 11 November by the state-owned China Central Television 7 channel shows that People's Liberation Army Air Force pilots of J-16 multirole fighter aircraft are using what appears to be a new helmet featuring a helmet-mounted display system (HMDS) for increased situational awareness.

Source: <https://chinanewsstories.com/2020/11/11/plaaf-j-16-fighter-pilots-seen-using-new-helmet/>

Reported: 11/11/2020

-

Qatar

F-15 Combat Aircraft

Event – US awards Qatari F-15QA support contract.

Summary – The contract, announced on 9 November, covers spares and logistical support for the in-country sustainment of the F-15QA fleet. Work will be performed at Al Udeid Air Base, though no completion date was given.

Source: <https://www.newsbreak.com/news/2100216867810/us-awards-qatari-f-15qa-support-contract>

Reported: 10/11/2020



NEWS



Qatar

Military Flight Development

Event – Qatar signs up for Leonardo's company International Flight Training School.

Summary – Qatari pilots will soon be training at Italy's International Flight Training School, following an agreement between the Qatar's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Defence Affairs, Dr Khalid bin Mohamed al-Attiyah, and Italy's minister of defence Lorenzo Guerini on 11 November.

Source: <https://www.edrmagazine.eu/italy-qatar-the-two-air-forces-sign-a-technical-agreement-for-military-pilot-training>

Reported: 12/11/2020

Argentina

Detection Scanner

Event – Explosive and drug detection scanner installed in highway.

Summary – The federal police mounted, together with the prefecture and provincial security forces, an operation at the head of the Rosario-Santa Fe highway with scanners that detect any type of prohibited substances or elements that can be transported in vehicles. The operation is carried out randomly on different routes in the country.

Source: <https://sl24.com.ar/montan-gigante-maquina-en-la-autopista-con-la-que-descubriran-drogas-o-explosivos>

Reported: 13/11/2020

China

Tech Development

Event – China's space tracking ship sets sail on monitoring missions.

Summary – China's third-generation space tracking ship Yuanwang-6 departed on Friday for multiple spacecraft monitoring missions.

Source: http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-11/13/c_139514087.htm

Reported: 13/11/2020



NEWS



Africa

COVID-19 and Innovation

Event – GRID3 population data were used to model virus spread post-lockdown.

Summary – The Government of Nigeria collaborated with researchers from the United Kingdom's University College London (UCL) to study, using GRID3 (The Geo-Referenced Infrastructure and Demographic Data for Development) Nigeria's gridded population estimates, the transmission of SARS-CoV-2 — the virus causing the COVID-19 disease — across Nigeria. The GRID3 population counts were used to estimate on the impact of non-pharmaceutical interventions, including community lockdowns and restrictions on gatherings, and guidance on scaling testing, isolation measures, and contact tracing across the country.

Source: <https://grid3.org/news/tackling-covid-19-in-nigeria>

Reported: 18/11/2020

Iran

Military Development

Event – Iran's Revolutionary Guard launches aircraft-carrying ship.

Summary – Iran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard said it launched a heavy warship Thursday capable of carrying helicopters, drones and missile launchers.

Source: <https://english.alaraby.co.uk/english/news/2020/11/19/irans-revolutionary-guard-launches-aircraft-carrying-ship>

Reported: 19/11/2020

China

Technology Development

Event – Chinese scientists use gene-editing technology to promote agriculture.

Summary – China has released the country's 10 most significant advances in agricultural science and technology. Notably, five of them are associated with gene-editing technology.

Source: http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-11/20/c_139530747.htm

Reported: 20/11/2020



NEWS



Taiwan

Military Development

Event – Taiwan to build eight submarines to defend itself against China.

Summary – On 24 November, Taiwan will start building eight submarines, the first built on the island, the Presidential Office announced.

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Taiwan-to-build-eight-submarines-to-defend-itself-against-China-51650.html>

Reported: 20/11/2020

USA

Technology

Event – Recent tests advance drone use for laser target firing.

Summary – Naval Surface Warfare Center, Port Hueneme Division (NSWC PHD) researchers recently took an idea to use drones to test and evaluate ships' new laser weapons a step further by successfully launching and landing one from a moving ship. The quadcopter was operating with San Diego, Calif.-based Planck Aerosystems Inc.'s autonomous navigation software that the pair had certified on earlier this year. The software is specially designed so Autonomous Aerial Vehicles (UAV) correctly manoeuvre and operate independently from ships and other moving platforms that heave and roll amid high winds and tight spaces so a pilot is not needed.

Source: <https://www.navsea.navy.mil/Media/News/Article/2427341/recent-tests-advance-drone-use-for-laser-target-firing/>

Reported: 24/11/2020

Turkey

Defense Submarine

Event – Turkey's Havelsan completes 'hearts' of new type submarines.

Status – A major Turkish defense contractor has successfully conducted production and acceptance tests for the information distribution system for the last of six submarines the country is currently developing.

Dubbed the "heart" of the vehicles, the Submarine Information Distribution System (DBDS) was developed to meet the demanding criteria of the operational environment. Havelsan's original product, the system is also said to have managed to surpass its counterparts around the world with its newly added capabilities.

Source: <https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkeys-havelsan-completes-hearts-of-new-type-submarines>

Reported: 22/11/2020



NEWS



USA

Technology

Event – US Air Force Awards Drone Defeating Radar System Contract to Black Sage.

Summary – The US Air Force has purchased a Counter Unmanned Aerial System (C-UAS) radar system from Black Sage Technologies. The system, a state-of-the-art drone detection and elimination platform, allows “precise targeting data for the Air Force Research Laboratory’s (AFRL) Tactical High Power Microwave Operational Responder (THOR)” to effectively combat 21st-century enemy Unmanned Aerial System threats.

Source: <https://www.thedefensepost.com/2020/11/30/air-force-cuas-black-sage/>

Reported: 30/11/2020

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