

South Thailand Security and Terrorism Report

Executive Summary

Local media reports noted a 2008 year end total of 1056 violent incidents in Narathiwat, Pattani and Yala that resulted in 546 deaths and 1075 injuries, down from just under 2000 reported incidents and 866 deaths during 2007. Shootings accounted for 70-percent of the violence, with villagers making up more than 75-percent of the total number of casualties.

Recent Amnesty International accusations that Thai security forces' counter-insurgency efforts involve the torture of suspected militants are indicative of the free-hand the military has to operate in the southern provinces in light of three years of political instability in Bangkok. The Thai Army is also under intense international and diplomatic scrutiny over widely circulated media reports that Muslim asylum seekers from Myanmar and Bangladesh were towed out to sea and left adrift without food or water.

The government has pledged to review the recent extension of the Emergency Decree in place since October 2005 that gives southern security forces sweeping powers of arrest and detention as well as immunity from prosecution. Amnesty International cited the emergency decree as a key contributing factor to alleged human rights abuses.

Political opponents of the current government may attempt to incite violence in southern Thailand with the aim of discrediting the Abhisit administration, which continues to claim that inroads are being made to solve the crisis. However, mainstream political parties have very little influence over insurgent activities.

Event Summary

Monday, December 15 (continued from end of previous report)

At 10:00 PM in Rueso district, Narathiwat province, a group of eight heavily armed militants forced their way into 50-year-old deputy village leader Mr. Withaya Ranwet's home and shot him dead as he watched television with his family. The gunmen then instructed Withaya's wife to hand over two government-issued firearms, as well as radio communication equipment, while holding the couple's nine-year-old son at gunpoint.

Tuesday, December 16

At 2:30 PM in Rueso district, Narathiwat province, two gunmen on a motorcycle shot dead village defense volunteers Mr. Niphon Saechu and his wife Mrs. Dawan Saechu, 45, as they made their way home from a village market.

At 2:35 PM in Rueso district, Narathiwat province, suspected insurgents shot and killed 42-year-old Keytu Suwan as he stood talking on his cell phone outside the market that the victims of the previous incident had just left.

At 3:00 PM in Thung Yang Daeng district, Pattani province, an eight-man teacher protection unit on a routine patrol came under fire from an unknown number of gunmen in a pickup. Security forces returned fire and a five-minute gunfight ensued, during which two soldiers were killed and one seriously injured.

Wednesday, December 17

At 2:50 AM in Muang district, Yala province, a gunman wielding an 11mm pistol shot dead 16-year-old Amaen Salaeman, before fleeing on a motorcycle with a group of five insurgents that had been waiting nearby.

At 12:30 PM in Rueso district, Narathiwat province, a bomb disposal team was dispatched to examine a suspected explosive device discovered by an army patrol unit in front of a vegetable stall. The package was later found to be a hoax bomb composed of scrap marble pieces packed inside a plastic bag.

At 1:30 PM in Yarang district, Pattani province, an unknown number of gunmen hiding at the side of the road opened fire on a police patrol unit killing Pol. Sen. Sgt. Maj. Yusup Binmalee and seriously injuring a fellow officer. The attack took place as state highway police were inspecting the Pattani-Yala road (Highway 410) prior to escorting Madam Wiraya Chawakul to Yala province. The gunmen scattered road spikes along a section of the road before fleeing the area.

At 9:45 PM in Yaha district, Yala province, masked gunmen shot dead military informant Mr. Salae Kayuma, 54, as he sat inside his home. Police believe Salae was targeted after insurgents discovered he was providing local authorities with information on their movements.

Thursday, December 18

At 7:30 AM in Yaring district, Pattani province, insurgents used a mobile phone to detonate a five-kilogram bomb packed inside a steel box buried under the roadside. The force of the blast, which targeted a six-man teacher protection unit, injured two soldiers.

At 8:40 AM in Bacho district, Narathiwat province, one police officer was injured when insurgents detonated a five-kilogram bomb hidden at the foot of an electricity post opposite a village school. The device exploded nearby police stationed outside the building. That the blast did not cause any fatalities was attributed to the fact that all the officers were wearing body armor.

At 11:30 AM in Muang district, Yala province, police received information that militants had removed bolts from a one-kilometer section of railway track on the line between Yala and Mai Kaen stations. As a security measure, all rail services at Yala station were suspended for one hour while state railway authorities repaired the section of damaged track.

At 3:00 PM in Rangae district, Narathiwat province, security forces arrested suspected insurgents Yuso Yunu, 49, and Matola Paoding, 33, in connection with the fatal shooting of police personnel and state railway employees in Rueso district in June of last year, as well as the killing of school teacher Ms. Chuling Pongkanmul. The arrests were made using information garnered from fellow militant Kaori Sodao, who had already confessed to taking part in the attacks. During questioning

both detainees admitted to carrying out the first of the attacks, but denied having any involvement in the killing of Chuling.

At 5:25 PM in Raman district, Yala province, an unknown number of gunmen hiding at the side of the track opened fire on a Yala-bound train, after which they fled into surrounding jungle. No injuries were reported.

Friday, December 19

At 9:15 AM in Krong Pinang district, Yala province, insurgents used a mobile phone to detonate a one-kilogram homemade bomb buried under a tree at the side of the road. The device exploded as army personnel conducted a routine foot patrol of the Yala-Betong road, slightly injuring one soldier.

At 10:00 AM in Rueso district, Narathiwat province, a team of 30 police came under fire from a group of five heavily armed militants while photographing a village house. The pictures were to be used as evidence in a case involving mid-level Runda Kumpulan Kecil (RKK) leader Amdan Maerao, 35, who was arrested in November of last year after a cache of M16s was discovered hidden inside his property.

The two sides exchanged fire for approximately 15 minutes before the gunmen fled into a nearby fruit orchard. While clearing the area security forces discovered the body of insurgent combatant Mahamasophi Ako, 34, and confiscated a 9mm pistol.

At 12:00 PM in Than To district, Yala province, an unknown number of gunmen hiding at the side of the road opened fire on a military unit assigned to protect a team of electrical authority engineers dispatched to repair electricity cables in the area. Security forces returned fire and a brief gunfight ensued, before the militants escaped into surrounding jungle. No injuries were reported.

Saturday, December 20

At 4:00 AM in Betong district, Yala province, two gunmen on a motorcycle attacked the home of 36-year-old Mana Kajae, shooting the front of his property and pickup truck with a shotgun. A vehicle belonging to local resident Mrs. Krongkanjon Nuancharoen was also discovered with bullet holes in the front license plate and windshield approximately 200-meters from the scene of the first shooting. Elsewhere, a separate group of militants fired at a passing car traveling on the Yala-Betong road. There were no reported injuries.

At 7:30 AM in Mayo district, Pattani province, Mr. Niyom Khunthiprak, 60, was shot and injured by suspected insurgents while riding his bicycle along a village road.

At 10:30 AM in Raman district, Yala province, two gunmen on a motorcycle shot dead village defense volunteer Somkuan Kaewsawat, 49, as he made his way to a friend's house to repair a motorcycle. Fellow villager Mrs. Sengiem Petchrayot, 55, was also injured by a stray bullet while walking near the scene of the attack.

At 6:00 PM in Muang district, Pattani province, insurgents used a mobile phone to detonate a five-kilogram bomb hidden under the seat of a motorcycle parked outside a downtown convenience store. The force of the blast killed 35-year-old Mrs. Seuni Wansulong and injured eight other people, including Seuni's two young sons, aged two and four.

At 6:30 PM in Muang district, Yala province, militants detonated a homemade bomb packed inside a 15-kilogram petrol canister hidden in a pickup truck parked near the entrance to the Park View Hotel. The device failed to properly explode and caused only minor damage to the vehicle. No injuries were reported.

Sunday, December 21

At 9:30 AM in Sai Buri district, Pattani province, one soldier was injured when insurgents used a mobile phone to detonate a 3-kilogram bomb buried next to a roadside pavilion. Although the device exploded as a six-man military patrol unit was approaching the structure, it did not cause any injuries.

At 10:30 AM in Yaha district, Yala province, a military patrol team was ambushed by an unknown number of gunmen hiding at the side of the road while traveling along the Yaha-Bannang Sata road (Highway 407). One soldier was injured during the attack.

At 3:00 PM in Muang district, Yala province, army personnel raided the home of Jehdo Sulong, 42, after learning that militants suspected of attempting to detonate a car bomb outside the Park View Hotel in downtown Yala the previous night were hiding inside his property.

During the operation security forces came under heavy gunfire and a gun battle ensued, during which wanted insurgent Arawi Radaeng, 26, was shot dead. Authorities fired several rounds of teargas into the building forcing the two remaining gunmen to surrender. All three detainees were transferred to a nearby police station for further questioning.

At 6:45 PM in Bacho district, Narathiwat province, police personnel on duty at a roadside checkpoint were fired upon by a group of gunmen wielding M16s. No officers were injured.

At 10:00 PM in Bacho district, Narathiwat province, an unknown number of militants opened fire on army personnel stationed inside a temporary naval base. No injuries were reported.

At 9:30 PM in Yarang district, Pattani province, 29-year-old Maposi Tayong and his friend Mahamadolao Kalong were shot and injured by two gunmen on a motorcycle while riding along a village road.

At 10:45 PM in Than To district, Yala province, suspected insurgents shot at Mahamri Yijehwae, 29, son of village leader Mr. Tapa Yijehwae, 55, as he returned home from a night out with friends. Mahamri managed to escape unharmed.

Monday, December 22

At 3:55 PM in Sai Buri district, Pattani province, one soldier was slightly injured when militants opened fire on a teacher protection unit traveling in a pickup along the Pattani-Narathiwat road (Highway 24).

Tuesday, December 23

At 8:30 AM in Nong Chik district, Pattani province, two gunmen on a motorcycle shot dead Sub. Lt. Manun Wae-ali, 51, as he drove to work at Ingkayuth-boriharn military base hospital.

At 8:50 AM in Cho-ai Rong district, Narathiwat province, insurgents used a mobile phone to detonate a five-kilogram bomb buried under a tree in front of Bukit Tambon Administration

Organization (TAO) office. The force of the blast, which targeted a passing military patrol unit, injured seven soldiers and one TAO employee.

At 11:00 AM in Muang district, Pattani province, 24-year-old Tuwaemae Sari was driving along a village road when two gunmen on a motorcycle pulled up alongside his vehicle and shot him dead.

Wednesday, December 24

At 9:30 AM in Sai Buri district, Pattani province, three soldiers were injured when insurgents detonated a three-kilogram bomb hidden inside a flowerpot in the grounds of a village school. The device exploded as security forces sat resting after escorting teachers to morning classes.

At 10:00 AM in Chanae district, Narathiwat province, van driver Mr. Hawaetae Taye, 51, was shot and seriously injured when an unknown number of militants in a pickup opened fire on a convoy of 15 vehicles traveling to Sukirin district in order to canvass votes for Chart Thai Pattana party candidate Mr. Niarit Chetaphiwan ahead of upcoming local elections.

Thursday, December 25

At 8:30 AM in Sai Buri district, Pattani province, two gunmen on a motorcycle shot and killed Sai Buri deputy Secretariat of the Senate Pol. Sub. Lt. Mahamatsahae Anyufri, 46, while he was on a motorcycle patrol. Mahamatsahae's attackers stole his .45 caliber pistol before fleeing the scene.

Friday, December 26

At 8:30 AM in Krong Pinang district, Yala province, insurgents used a remote control to detonate a three-kilogram bomb placed under a plastic traffic cone in the middle of the road near Krong Pinang market. The blast, which targeted a four-man student/teacher protection unit, injured two soldiers.

At 1:00 PM in Yarang district, Pattani province, insurgents carried out a series of attacks across the district:

- A group of masked gunmen forced their way into the Sanor Tambon Administration Organization (TAO) office and ordered employees to vacate the premises before setting the building on fire. The entire structure was destroyed in the attack. Before fleeing, the gunmen placed a hoax bomb in the middle of Sano-Yarang road, and set car tires on fire and deployed road spikes on an adjacent road.
- A group of six militants set fire to and destroyed a fire engine parked inside a garage at Kaotum TAO. Assailants then blanketed roads in the area with spikes before fleeing.
- A teacher's car parked in the school lot was seriously damaged when suspected insurgents set the vehicle on fire. The militants also shot into the school, as well as a number of nearby houses before fleeing on a motorcycle. No injuries were reported.
- Militants broke into a village school and set fire to a car owned by one of the teachers, causing extensive damage to the vehicle.

- A group of six gunmen instructed staff working at Wat TAO to vacate the premises before setting fire to office equipment inside the building. The militants covered roads in the area with spikes before fleeing on motorcycles.

Saturday, December 27

No reported incidents.

Sunday, December 28

At 6:45 AM in Muang district, Yala province, 42-year-old Abdulhaling Maso was shot and killed by two suspected insurgents while waiting at a roadside restaurant. Authorities believe Abdulhaling was targeted due to his employment as an internal security operations officer at Ingkayuth-boriharn military base in Pattani province. Gunmen had targeted Abdulhaling on at least three occasions prior to his murder.

At 11:00 AM in Narathiwat province, a combined force of 1,600 army and police personnel carried out a total of 50 searches in 13 separate districts as part of a series of measures aimed at cracking down on militant groups ahead of New Year's celebrations.

During the operation security forces arrested Abdulsolat Darahong, Pari Li-adae and Wandee Salae for their a role in a bridge bombing on the Thai-Malay border last year that killed one and injured numerous others.

Two additional suspects, identified as Harun Jeh-amalae and Rusadan Sama-ae, were also apprehended for their role in detonating a car bomb in Sukirin district last September. A car used in the attack was also seized.

At 8:45 PM in Bannang Sata district, Yala province, a masked gunman summoned Tambon Administration Organization (TAO) member Yali Masae, 46, to his front yard and shot him dead.

Monday, December 29

At 7:30 AM in Rueso district, Narathiwat province, two soldiers were killed when an unknown number of militants hiding at the side of the road opened fire on army personnel and village defense volunteers patrolling roads in the vicinity of a village health center. The two sides exchanged fire for several minutes before the gunmen fled into surrounding jungle with the dead soldiers' M16 rifle, M203, ammunition, body armor and helmets.

At 8:30 AM in Muang district, Pattani province, insurgents targeting a military patrol traveling on the Pattani-Hat Yai road (Highway 41) attempted to detonate a 15-kilogram bomb buried at the side of the road using a remote control. No injuries were reported as the device failed to properly explode and caused only minor damage to the road surface.

At 1:15 PM in Yaha district, Yala province, a 10-man teacher protection unit on a routine patrol of Highway 4077 came under heavy fire from militants hiding at the side of the road. Security forces returned fire and a 15-minute gunfight ensued during which one soldier was killed and three injured.

At 4:30 PM in Sai Buri district, Pattani province, two gunmen on a motorcycle shot dead Telephone Organization of Thailand (TOT) employees Sutham Thawisri, 40, and Ms. Sowika Soikaew, 26, as they made their way home from work.

Tuesday, December 30

At 12:10 AM in Kapho district, Pattani province, militants hiding at the side of the road opened fire six pickup convoy of military personnel traveling along a village road, killing one soldier and injuring three.

At 9:00 AM in Raman district, Yala province, insurgents used a remote control to detonate a homemade bomb buried at the side of the road as an 11-man police patrol composed of an armored vehicle and several motorcycles traveled along Highway 4017. There were no reported injuries.

At 3:30 PM in Raman district, Yala province, seven soldiers were injured, two of them seriously, when militants detonated a 15-kilogram bomb buried under the road. The device exploded as military personnel stationed at a nearby health center were on a routine patrol of the area.

At 10:15 PM in Muang district, Yala province, a rudimentary bomb exploded outside a village mosque killing one soldier and seriously injuring two others. The device, which was buried under the road in front of the mosque, went off as volunteer field army scouts were examining a nearby house that had been targeted by militants earlier that day.

Wednesday, December 31

At 8:00 AM in Muang district, Yala province, insurgents used a mobile phone to detonate a three-kilogram bomb packed inside a steel box placed outside a downtown car-care center. The blast injured Sgt. Maj. Prawith Kwanlert, 48, and Cpl. Kietkul Phromsugyang, 30, as they conducted a foot patrol of the area. One villager was also injured.

At 8:50 AM in Than To district, Yala province, a 12-man military patrol composed of two armored Humvees armored came under fire from an unknown number of gunmen hiding at the side of the road. There were no reported injuries.

At 10:30 AM in Rangae district, Narathiwat province, a bomb disposal unit was dispatched to defuse a 15-kilogram bomb packed inside fire extinguisher buried under the road. Authorities temporarily suspended mobile phone services to prevent militants from detonating the device, which was then defused.

The device was engineered to be detonated by hard wire from a site deep inside the jungle 100-meters away. Police suspect militants intended to target a military patrol as road spikes were scattered a short distance from where the bomb had been placed.

At 2:00 PM in Yaha district, Yala province, police searching Ban Leuneng village after receiving information that militants had moved into the area to stage an attack came under fire from a group of heavily armed militants and a 20-minute gun battle ensued, after which the militants fled into surrounding jungle. While clearing the area, authorities discovered the body of suspected insurgent Usaman Seng, 30. A .38 caliber pistol, mobile phone and a variety of documents were also discovered on the ground nearby.

At 9:00 PM in Muang district, Yala province, a group of masked gunmen hiding at the side of the road opened fire on Pol. L/C Pisanuchai Karom and Pol. L/C Montri Klahan as they made their way home. Both men escaped unharmed.

Thursday, January 1, 2009

At 4:00 AM in Bacho district, Narathiwat province, an eight-man Special Forces unit was ambushed by an unknown number of gunmen hiding at the side of the road while traveling to meet government officials at a military base in Pattani province. The two sides exchanged gunfire for approximately five-minutes before the militants fled into surrounding jungle. Two soldiers were injured during the attack.

At 6:45 AM in Mai Kaen district, Yala province, a bomb disposal squad was dispatched to examine a suspected improvised explosive device (IED) discovered in a drainage ditch running alongside a section of railway track. Authorities used a high-pressure water cannon to destroy the object, which was found to be a fake bomb.

At 5:00 PM in Cho-ai Rong district, Narathiwat province, insurgents used a remote control to detonate a five-kilogram bomb hidden inside the gas tank of a parked motorcycle. The blast, which targeted police traveling to the scene of an earlier explosion outside a motorcycle repair shop, killed one person and seriously injured two, including one police officer.

Friday, January 2

At 8:30 AM in Muang district, Pattani province, Pvt. Sitthisak Ninsri, 23, was shot and seriously injured when an unknown number of gunmen in a pickup drew him out of his father's home before opening fire.

At 11:00 AM in Rangae district, Narathiwat province, insurgents used a mobile phone to detonate a six-kilogram homemade bomb buried under a tree at the side of the road. The device, which had been packed inside a steel box, exploded as a team of village defense volunteers were examining the area after discovering a hoax bomb nearby. No injuries were reported.

At 12:50 PM in Rangae district, Narathiwat province, insurgents detonated two 20-kilogram bombs packed inside fire extinguishers hidden under the seat of a sedan parked opposite the Tanyongmas railway station. The blast, which targeted a bomb disposal squad returning from the scene of an attack at a nearby village house, destroyed the vehicle inside which the bomb had been placed and caused extensive damage to a number cars parked in the vicinity. No soldiers were injured by the explosion. Following the blast, authorities arrested eight suspected militants after forensic tests revealed traces of explosive residue on their body and clothing. All eight detainees were transferred to a nearby military base for further questioning.

Saturday, January 3

At 6:30 AM in Narathiwat province, a combined force of 1,600 police, army and security personnel carried out 60 searches in 13 separate districts. During the operation authorities apprehended suspected insurgents Ahama Jeh-isor and Jehmama Masae and made two other drug-related arrests.

Sunday, January 4

At 9:30 AM in Yarang district, Pattani province, two gunmen on a motorcycle shot and killed Mr. Suwat Longsamuth, 55, as he rode along a village road. Suwat's 51-year-old wife was also seriously injured during the attack.

Monday, January 5

At 5:30 AM in Rueso district, Narathiwat province, security forces came under heavy gunfire while conducting a raid of three suspected insurgent safe-houses after receiving information that a group of militants connected to the murder of two soldiers last December were hiding in the area. A 10-minute gunfight ensued, during which Pol. Lt. Tanot Kuhamuk, 51, was shot dead and another officer seriously injured.

At 11:15 AM in Raman district, Yala province, Mahamatsaisu Sasu, 30, a former volunteer soldier and military informant, was shot and killed by an unknown number of gunmen in a pickup as he and fellow villagers pushed their motorcycles to higher ground after rising floodwaters submersed the farmland where they were parked. Two other villagers were also shot and injured during the attack.

At 12:30 PM in Rangae district, Narathiwat province, suspected insurgents shot dead 36-year-old Nukiffi Karim and seriously injured his wife Mrs. Sulaina Ari, 29, as they made their way to downtown Narathiwat on a motorcycle.

At 4:00 PM in Kapho district, Pattani province, tambon gamnan Makta Tipong, 44, was shot and injured by an unknown number of gunmen in a pickup as he inspected a newly-constructed wall at a village school.

Tuesday, January 6

At 2:30 AM in Muang district, Pattani province, a group of masked gunmen wielding M16s opened fire on army personnel stationed inside a temporary military base killing one volunteer soldier.

Wednesday, January 7

At 8:15 AM in Muang district, Yala province, insurgents used a remote control to detonate a five-kilogram bomb hidden inside a trashcan outside a village school. The blast targeted a three-man teacher protection unit but exploded after the team had passed. No injuries were reported.

Thursday, January 8

At 8:30 AM in Muang district, Yala province, villagers discovered a four-kilogram bomb hidden inside a flowerpot outside a roadside grocery store. A bomb disposal team sealed-off the area before safely defusing the device.

At 11:30 AM in Yarang district, Pattani province, a military patrol unit discovered a 15-kilogram bomb packed inside a fire extinguisher buried under the side of the road. The device was hard-wired to a 160-meter-long wire leading to a detonation site deep inside the jungle. A bomb disposal squad safely destroyed the device.

At 12:10 PM in Rangae district, Narathiwat province, two soldiers were injured when insurgents used a mobile phone to detonate a five-kilogram bomb packed inside a steel box hidden next to a section of railway track a short distance from Tanyongmas railway station. The blast targeted army personnel assigned to protect state railway engineers repairing a broken down train.

Following the explosion, militants hiding at the side of the road opened fire on security forces and a brief gunfight ensued before the gunmen fled into surrounding jungle. No railway staff were harmed in the attack.

At 6:30 PM in Kabang district, Yala province, a group of five militants fired on a police patrol as they inspected a roadside hole believed to have been dug by insurgents to be used in a bomb attack. The two sides exchanged fire for approximately five minutes before the gunmen fled. While clearing the area authorities discovered a discarded homemade bomb and detonator on the ground nearby. No injuries were reported.

Friday, January 9

At 4:40 PM in Bannang Sata district, Yala province, an unknown number of masked gunmen opened fire on a police patrol as they made their way back to the Bannang Sata police station at the end of their shift. Authorities returned fire and a 10-minute gunfight ensued, during which three officers were seriously injured.

Saturday, January 10

No reported incidents.

Sunday, January 11

At 7:00 AM in Bannang Sata district, Yala province, rubber tappers Mrs. Siti-asama Malitaeha, 30, Ton Wansung, 48, and a yet unidentified man were shot dead by suspected insurgents as they made their way to a local rubber plantation. Two other workers were also injured during the attack.

At 5:30 PM in Thung Yang Daeng district, Pattani province, an unknown number of gunmen in a pickup shot and seriously injured 30-year-old Abdulkarim Samaeng as he rode his motorcycle along a village road.

Monday, January 12

At 7:25 AM in Mayo district, Pattani province, an eight-man teacher protection unit on a routine patrol discovered a homemade bomb hidden in a bag at the side of the road. A bomb disposal squad was dispatched to defuse the device, which exploded before the team arrived at the scene. No injuries were reported.

At 7:30 AM in Nong Chik district, Pattani province, two gunmen on a motorcycle shot and killed state highway authority employee Wichira Tungnet, 48, as he and his wife, Mrs. Payom Buapetch, were traveling to work together along the Pattani-Hat Yai road. Payom was seriously injured in the attack.

At 7:50 AM in Nong Chik district, Pattani province, Provincial Electricity Authority (PEA) worker Bunderm Srinuan, 39, was shot dead by suspected militants while riding to work on his motorcycle.

At 2:40 PM in Cho-ai Rong district, Narathiwat province, insurgents detonated a 20-kilogram by hardwire from a site some 100-meters away. The bomb was packed inside a fire extinguisher and buried under the road. The blast targeted army personnel traveling in a Humvee at the head of a convoy of three trucks taking 120 villagers home after participating in a youth education project at

Narathiwat provincial gymnasium. The force of the blast caused extensive damage to the Humvee and injured six soldiers. No civilian casualties were reported.

Tuesday, January 13

At 3:00 PM in Yarang district, Pattani province, deputy village leader Abdulloh Beunae, 36, was shot and killed by a masked gunman riding on a motorcycle as he made his way home.

At 3:30 PM in Betong district, Yala province, army and police personnel conducted a search of hills located behind behind Aiyerweng sub-district after receiving information from local hunters that insurgents had been seen in the area. Security forces discovered a 30-liter aluminum drum buried in the ground that contained a 389 improvised explosive devices (IED), 22 electrical detonators and more than 50 assorted pieces of bomb-making equipment.

Wednesday, January 14

At 6:20 AM in Sungai Kolok district, Narathiwat province, insurgents detonated a one-kilogram pipe bomb hidden inside a computer at the Sungai Kolok Customs and Excise office. The device had been packed inside a 2x6 inch steel pipe and wired to a pre-set digital wristwatch. The force of the blast shattered nearby windows and caused extensive damage to the office's ceiling.

A second identical device exploded as a bomb disposal team accompanied by military and police personnel were in route to the site. No injuries were reported from either blast.

At 12:50 PM in Krong Pinang district, Yala province, one soldier was injured when an unknown number of militants hiding at the side of the road opened fire on a seven-man unit of volunteer soldiers carrying out a routine patrol of the area.

At 2:00 PM in Muang district, Pattani province, school defense volunteer Makosi Mama was shot and killed by two gunmen on a motorcycle while riding home from a downtown school. Makosi's attackers stole his air rifle before fleeing.

At 6:30 PM in Tak Bai district, Narathiwat province, militatns shot dead deputy village leader Ibrohim Iso, 29, as he rode to a nearby village on his motorcycle.

Thursday, January 15

At 8:15 PM in Muang district, Yala province, insurgents used a mobile phone to detonate a five-kilogram bomb hidden inside a motorcycle parked in front of Yala Medical Center. The blast injured five people, including two soldiers on duty outside the building.

Friday, January 16

At 10:00 AM in Yarang district, Pattani province, security forces searching land surrounding Ban Bango Kabu mosque came under fire from a group of four suspected militants hiding in a village house. Authorities returned fire and a 10-minute gunfight ensued, during which one soldier was injured. While clearing the area police discovered the body of 25-year-old insurgent Abdul-azi Kongthien. Two other suspected insurgents were also apprehended and transferred to Ingkayuth-boriharn military camp for questioning.

Saturday, January 17

At 1:00 AM in Muang district, Yala province, militants set fire to and damaged three 10-wheeled trucks parked inside the grounds of a local rubber galvanizing plant located on the Yala-Donyang road.

At 10:30 AM in Muang district, Yala province, a bomb disposal team was dispatched to defuse a three-kilogram explosive device wired to a pressure trigger and buried under the ground next to a roadside pavilion destroyed by insurgents the previous night.

Sunday, January 18

At 4:10 PM in Than To district, Yala province, insurgents used a mobile phone to detonate a three-kilogram homemade bomb packed inside a steel box buried under the road. The blast targeted army personnel on a routine patrol of the Yala-Betong road (Highway 410), but exploded after the unit had passed. No injuries were reported.

At 8:00 PM in Kapho district, Pattani province, district defense volunteer Muammatusalan Salaemae, 34, was shot dead by an unknown number of gunmen in a pickup as he sat chatting with friends outside the home of Tambon Administration Organization (TAO) chairman Abdulroning Seng. Three other villagers, including Abdulroning, were also injured in the attack.

Monday, January 19

At 7:00 PM in Bannang Sata district, Yala province, suspected militants shot and killed 43-year-old Abdulraoman Sama-ae as he stood talking to neighbors in his front yard.

Tuesday, January 20

At 6:35 AM in Raman district, Yala province, rubber tapper Topha Pae, 49, and his wife were shot and injured by two gunmen on a motorcycle as they made their way to work.

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