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Canadian death toll in Afghanistan: 77 soldiers, one diplomat

DATE: 2008.01.15
KEYWORDS: DEFENCE INTERNATIONAL POLITICS
PUBLICATION: cpw
WORD COUNT: 1314

Since 2002, 77 Canadian soldiers and one diplomat have been killed in Afghanistan. Here is a list of the deaths:

2008

Jan. 15 _ Trooper Richard Renaud, 26, of Alma Que., a member of the 12e Regiment blindé du Canada, killed when the Coyote light armoured vehicle he was travelling in hit a roadside bomb while on patrol in the Arghandab district, north of Kandahar city.

Jan. 6 _ Warrant Officer Hani Massouh, 41, and Cpl. Eric Labbe, 31, of 2nd Battalion, Royal 22nd Regiment, killed when their armoured vehicle rolled over in wet, rugged terrain southwest of Kandahar City.

2007

Dec. 30 _ Jonathan Dion, 27, gunner with 5th Regiment d'Artillerie légère du Canada from Val-d'Or, Que., killed when his light armoured vehicle struck a roadside bomb in southern Afghanistan.

Nov. 17 _ Cpl. Nicolas Raymond Beauchamp of the 5th Field Ambulance in Valcartier and Pte. Michel Levesque of the Royal 22nd Regiment, killed when their light armoured vehicle hit a roadside bomb near Bazar-e Panjwahi.

Sept. 24 _ Cpl. Nathan Hornburg, 24, with the King's Own Calgary regiment, killed by a mortar shell while trying to repair a Leopard tank in southern Afghanistan.

Aug. 29 _ Maj. Raymond Ruckpaul, 42, died from a gunshot wound in his room at the headquarters of NATO's International Security Assistance Force in Kabul. He was an armoured officer based at the NATO Allied Land Component Command Headquarters in Heidelberg, Germany.

Aug. 22 _ Master Warrant Officer Mario Mercier, Royal 22nd Regiment; Master Cpl. Christian Duchesne, 5th Field Ambulance unit, both based in Valcartier, Que., killed when light armoured vehicle struck by roadside bomb after battle for strategic hill west of Kandahar city.

Aug. 19

_ Pte. Simon Longtin, 23, of Longueuil, Que., on Montreal's south shore, a member of the Royal 22nd Regiment, killed when his light armoured vehicle was hit by a roadside bomb west of Kandahar city.

July 4 _ Cpl. Cole Bartsch, Capt. Matthew Johnathan Dawe, Pte. Lane Watkins and Cpl. Jordan Anderson, all of 3rd Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry based in Edmonton; Master Cpl. Colin Bason, a reservist from The Royal Westminster Regiment based in New Westminster, B.C., and Capt. Jefferson Francis of the 1st Royal Canadian Horse Artillery based in Shilo, Man., killed by a roadside bomb west of Kandahar city.

June 20 _ Sgt. Christos Karigiannis, Cpl. Stephen Frederick Bouzane and Pte. Joel Vincent Wiebe, all of 3rd Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, killed when their vehicle hit a roadside bomb near a forward-operating base at Sperwan Ghar, west of Kandahar.

June 11 _ Trooper Darryl Caswell, 25, of the Royal Canadian Dragoons, killed when an improvised explosive device detonated underneath his vehicle north of Kandahar City.

May 30 _ Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede, a combat photographer based at CFB Gagetown, N.B., killed when a U.S. helicopter was reportedly shot down by the Taliban in Helmand province.

May 25 _ Cpl. Matthew McCully, 25, a signals operator from 2 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group Headquarters and Signals Squadron based at Petawawa, Ont., killed by an improvised explosive device in Zhari district.

April 18 _ Master Cpl. Anthony Klumpenhower, 25, of Listowel, Ont., died after falling from a communications tower while on duty with the elite Special Operations Forces Command, conducting surveillance in Kandahar City.

April 11 _ Master Cpl. Allan Stewart, 30, and Trooper Patrick James Pentland, 23, both of the Royal Canadian Dragoons based in Petawawa, Ont., killed when their Coyote vehicle struck an improvised explosive device.

April 8 _ Pte. Kevin V. Kennedy, 20, of St. Lawrence, Nfld., Sgt. Donald Lucas, 31, of Burton, N.B., Cpl. Aaron E. Williams, 23, of Lincoln, N.B., Pte. David R. Greenslade, 20, of Saint John, N.B., Cpl. Brent Poland, 37, of Sarnia, Ont., all of Gagetown, N.B.-based 2nd Battalion, RCR; and Cpl. Christopher Stannix, 24, of Dartmouth, N.S., from the Halifax-based Princess Louise Fusiliers, killed when their armoured vehicle hit a roadside bomb in the Maywand district.

March 6 _ Cpl. Kevin Megeney, 25, of Stellarton, N.S., a member of 1st Battalion of Nova Scotia Highlanders, killed by accidental shooting at NATO base in Kandahar.

2006

Nov. 27 _ Chief Warrant Officer Bobby Girouard, his battalion's regimental sergeant major, and Cpl. Albert Storm, both of Royal Canadian Regiment based in CFB Petawawa, killed when suicide car bomber attacked their Bison armoured personnel carrier on outskirts of Kandahar City.

Oct. 14 _ Sgt. Darcy Tedford, based at CFB Petawawa, and Pte. Blake Williamson from Ottawa killed in ambush west of Kandahar.

Oct. 7 _ Trooper Mark Andrew Wilson of Royal Canadian Dragoons, based in Petawawa, Ont., killed when his armoured vehicle hit by roadside bomb in Panjwaii district.

Oct. 3 _ Sgt. Craig Gillam and Cpl. Robert Mitchell of Royal Canadian Dragoons, based in Petawawa, Ont., killed in series of mortar, rocket attacks just west of Kandahar City.

Sept. 29 _ Pte. Josh Klukie of First Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment, based in Petawawa, Ont., killed by explosion in Panjwaii while on foot patrol.

Sept. 18 _ Pte. David Byers, Cpl. Shane Keating and Cpl. Keith Morley, all of 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry based in Shilo, Man., and Cpl. Glen Arnold, 2 Field Ambulance, based in Petawawa, Ont., killed in suicide bicycle bomb attack while on foot patrol in Panjwaii.

Sept. 4 _ Pte. Mark Graham, based at CFB Petawawa, killed when two NATO planes accidentally strafed Canadian troops in Panjwahi district.

Sept. 3 _ Sgt. Shane Stachnik, Warrant Officer Frank Robert Mellish, Pte. William Cushley and Warrant Officer Richard Francis Nolan, all based at CFB Petawawa, Ont., killed in fighting in Panjwahi district.

Aug. 22 _ Cpl. David Braun, based at Shilo, Man., killed in suicide bomb attack in Kandahar City.

Aug. 11 _ Cpl. Andrew Eykelenboom, 23, of Comox, B.C., stationed with 1st Field Ambulance, based in Edmonton, killed in suicide attack.

Aug. 9 _ Master Cpl. Jeffrey Walsh, 33, of Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, based in Shilo, Man., killed by apparent accidental discharge of rifle.

Aug. 5 _ Master Cpl. Raymond Arndt, 31, of Loyal Edmonton Regiment, killed when large truck collided head-on with his G-Wagon patrol vehicle.

Aug. 3 _ Cpl. Christopher Reid, 34, of 1st Battalion of Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, based in Edmonton, killed by roadside bomb. Three other members of same battalion killed in rocket-propelled grenade attack by Taliban forces west of Kandahar: Sgt. Vaughan Ingram, 35, Cpl. Bryce Keller, 27, and Pte. Kevin Dallaire, 22.

July 22 _ Cpl. Francisco Gomez, 44, of Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, based in Edmonton, and Cpl. Jason Warren, 29, of Black Watch, Royal Highland Regiment of Canada, based in Montreal, killed when car packed with explosives rammed their armoured vehicle.

July 9 _ Cpl. Anthony Boneca, 21, reservist from Lake Superior Scottish Regiment based in Thunder Bay, Ont., killed in firefight.

May 17 _ Capt. Nichola Goddard, artillery officer based in Shilo, Man., with 1st Royal Canadian Horse Artillery, killed in Taliban ambush during battle in Panjwahi region. She was first Canadian woman to be killed in action while serving in combat role.

April 22 _ Cpl. Matthew Dinning of Richmond Hill, Ont., stationed with 2nd Canadian Mechanized Brigade in Petawawa, Ont., Bombardier Myles Mansell of Victoria, Lt. William Turner of Toronto, stationed in Edmonton, and Cpl. Randy Payne, born in Lahr, Germany, stationed at CFB Wainwright, Alta., all killed when their G-Wagon destroyed by roadside bomb near Gumbad.

March 29 _ Pte. Robert Costall of Edmonton, machine-gunner, killed in firefight with Taliban insurgents in Sangin district of Helmand province.

March 2 _ Cpl. Paul Davis of Bridgewater, N.S., and Master Cpl. Timothy Wilson of Grande Prairie, Alta., killed when their armoured vehicle ran off road in Kandahar area.

Jan. 15 _ Glyn Berry, British-born Canadian diplomat who had served with Foreign Affairs Department since 1977, killed in suicide bombing near Kandahar.

2005

Nov. 24 _ Pte. Braun Woodfield, born in Victoria and raised in Eastern Passage, N.S., killed when his armoured vehicle rolled over near Kandahar.

2004

Jan. 27 _ Cpl. Jamie Murphy, 26, of Conception Harbour, Nfld., killed in suicide bombing while on patrol near Kabul.

2003

Oct. 2 _ Sgt. Robert Short, 42, of Fredericton, and Cpl. Robbie Beerenfenger, 29, of Ottawa, killed in roadside bombing southwest of Kabul.

2002

April 17 _ Sgt. Marc Leger, 29, of Lancaster, Ont., Cpl. Ainsworth Dyer, 24, of Montreal, Pte. Richard Green, 21, of Mill Cove, N.S., and Pte. Nathan Smith, 27, of Tatamagouche, N.S., all killed when U.S. F-16 fighter mistakenly bombed Canadians on pre-dawn training exercise. Eight other Canadians wounded in friendly-fire incident.

CTV National News, Tuesday, Jan. 15

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UNDATED _ The federal government says it's reviewing the regulations surrounding the transportation of children, but it could take months to complete its investigation. CVD

TORONTO _ Nine Canadians are arrested as part of an international child pornography ring that provided custom-made sex abuse videos. CVD

TORONTO _ The Toronto stock market drops more than 380 points in reaction to financial sector fallout from the U.S. mortgage crisis and a drop in oil and gold futures. CVD

UNDATED _ Canadian Trooper Richard Renaud is killed in southern Afghanistan when his Coyote armoured vehicle struck a roadside bomb; one other soldier is injured in the blast. CVD

WASHINGTON _ Republican candidate Mitt Romney wins Michigan's primary over rival Sen. John McCain. CVD

TORONTO _ A new analysis commissioned for the Canadian Medical Association estimates that it cost Canada's economy \$14.8 billion in 2007 to have patients waiting longer than needed for medical procedures. CVD

UNDATED _ The San Francisco Department of Emergency Services releases tapes of the frantic 911 calls preceding the Christmas Day tiger attacks at the San Francisco Zoo. CVD

MONTREAL _ Meat and milk from cloned animals is as safe as that from "normal" animals, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration concludes. CVD

UNDATED _ The NCAA decides to allow Canadian universities to apply for membership. CVD

DETROIT _ Concept cars are featured at the North American International Auto Show; most concept cars will never go into production. FEATURE

The Canadian Press – Toronto

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WORD COUNT: 153

^Message from Her Excellency the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, Gov@<

January 15, 2008

OTTAWA, ONTARIO--(Marketwire – Jan. 15, 2008) –

It was with great sadness that my husband, Jean-Daniel Lafond, and I heard of the death of Trooper Richard Renaud, whose vehicle hit an improvised explosive device during a patrol north of Kandahar City.

He will be sorely missed by all of his colleagues from the 12e Regiment blindé du Canada, Valcartier, where he was based.

All Canadians join me in offering sincere condolences to his family and friends, who are still reeling from the shock of this news. Please know that we grieve with you during this difficult time.

We also wish a full recovery to his comrade, who was injured in the same incident.

Canadians know the efforts being made by our troops to bring peace, security and stability to Afghanistan, and they honour the commitment of Trooper Renaud, who gave his life for this ideal.

Michaëlle Jean

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www.citizenvoices.gg.ca

INDUSTRY: Government – International, Government – Local,

Government – National, Government – Security (law enforcement,

homeland etc), Government – State

SUBJECT: CNT

NEWS RELEASE TRANSMITTED BY Marketwire

Que. soldier killed during recon mission leaves behind pregnant wife

DATE: 2008.01.15
KEYWORDS: DEFENCE INTERNATIONAL
PUBLICATION: cpw
WORD COUNT: 348

A Quebec soldier who perished in Afghanistan on Tuesday leaves behind a wife who is pregnant with his first child.

Trooper Richard Renaud, 26, originally of Alma, Que., was killed when the Coyote light armoured vehicle he was riding in hit an improvised explosive device.

“Richard left us doing something he loved. We will miss him dearly,” Renaud's family said in a statement on Tuesday night.

Renaud, a member of the 12e Regiment blindé du Canada, joined the military in October 2004, was married and lived in the Quebec City area.

His wife is pregnant with their first child and Renaud also leaves behind a four-year-old stepson in addition to his father, mother and sister.

They say he served in the military with pride and was enthusiastic about being in Afghanistan.

“He always talked about his mission abroad with passion,” his family said. “For him it was a way to make a difference in our world.”

Meanwhile, Renaud's colleagues say his contribution made a difference.

Col. Eric Tremblay, who heads up the 5th Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group, said in statement that Renaud's work in Afghanistan was important and his death was not in vain.

“I can certify that his life was not given in vain, and that his contribution in Afghanistan made a difference,” Tremblay said.

“The news of the loss of a brother in arms comes with a great deal of sorrow. The work accomplished by Trooper Renaud was certainly difficult, and the nature of the tasks given to all Canadian soldiers sets them apart and is very gratifying,” said Lt.-Col. Stephen Tremblay, Renaud's commanding officer.

Tremblay said he is aware of the dedication and pride with which members of his unit serve and says he finds some relief in the fact Renaud was serving his country with great honour when he died.

The military says Afghanistan was Renaud's first mission.

Renaud's death marks the 77th time a Canadian soldier has died in Afghanistan since the mission in the country began in 2002.

Another soldier was injured in Tuesday's blast but has since been released.

The explosion took place during a reconnaissance patrol in the Arghandab district, about 10 kilometres north of Kandahar city, about 7:15 a.m. local time.

Meanwhile, funeral plans were announced for two other Quebec soldiers who were killed on Jan. 6.

Warrant Officer Hani Massouh, 41, and Cpl. Eric Labbe, 31, were killed when their armoured vehicle rolled over in wet, rugged terrain southwest of Kandahar city.

Both were members of 2nd Battalion, Royal 22nd Regiment, known as the Van Doos and based out of CFB Valcartier, Que.

Labbe's funeral will be held in his native Rimouski on Wednesday. Massouh's funeral will be held in Quebec City on Thursday.

Canadian death toll in Afghanistan: 77 soldiers, one diplomat

DATE: 2008.01.15
KEYWORDS: DEFENCE INTERNATIONAL POLITICS
PUBLICATION: cpw
WORD COUNT: 609

Since 2002, 77 Canadian soldiers and one diplomat have been killed in Afghanistan. Here is a list of the deaths:

2008

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Jan. 6 _ Warrant Officer Hani Massouh, 41, and Cpl. Eric Labbe, 31, of 2nd Battalion, Royal 22nd Regiment, killed when their armoured vehicle rolled over in wet, rugged terrain southwest of Kandahar City.

2007

Dec. 30 _ Gunner Jonathan Dion Jonathan Dion, 27, a gunner with the 5th Regiment d'Artillerie légère du Canada, killed and four others injured when their vehicle hit a roadside bomb in southern Afghanistan.

Nov. 17 _ Cpl. Nicolas Raymond Beauchamp of the 5th Field Ambulance in Valcartier and Pte. Michel Levesque of the Royal 22nd Regiment, killed when their light armoured vehicle hit a roadside bomb near Bazar-e Panjwaii.

Sept. 24 _ Cpl. Nathan Hornburg, 24, with the King's Own Calgary regiment, killed by a mortar shell while trying to repair a Leopard tank in southern Afghanistan.

Aug. 29 _ Maj. Raymond Ruckpaul dies from gunshot inside a secure NATO compound in Kabul.

Aug. 22 _ Master Warrant Officer Mario Mercier and Master Cpl. Christian Duchesne killed by roadside bomb west of Kandahar city.

Aug. 19 _ Pte. Simon Longtin killed by a roadside bomb west of Kandahar city.

July 4 _ Cpl. Cole Bartsch, Capt. Matthew Johnathan Dawe, Pte. Lane Watkins, Cpl. Jordan Anderson, Master Cpl. Colin Bason and Capt. Jefferson Francis, killed by a roadside bomb west of Kandahar city.

June 20 _ Sgt. Christos Karigiannis, Cpl. Stephen Frederick Bouzane and Pte. Joel Vincent Wiebe, killed by a roadside bomb west of Kandahar city.

June 11 _ Trooper Darryl Caswell killed a roadside bomb north of Kandahar.

May 30 _ Master Cpl. Darrell Jason Priede, killed when a U.S. helicopter was reportedly shot down by the Taliban in Helmand province.

May 25 _ Cpl. Matthew McCully killed by an improvised explosive device in Zhari district.

April 18 _ Master Cpl. Anthony Klumpenhower, who served with elite special forces, died after falling from a communications tower while on duty conducting surveillance in Kandahar city.

April 11 _ Master Cpl. Allan Stewart and Trooper Patrick James Pentland, killed when their Coyote vehicle struck an improvised explosive device.

April 8 _ Sgt. Donald Lucas, Cpl. Aaron E. Williams, Pte. Kevin V. Kennedy, Pte. David R. Greenslade, Cpl. Christopher P. Stannix and Cpl. Brent Poland killed when their vehicle hit a roadside bomb.

March 6 _ Cpl. Kevin Megeney killed in accidental shooting at NATO base in Kandahar.

2006

Nov. 27 _ Chief Warrant Officer Bobby Girouard and Cpl. Albert Storm killed by suicide car bomber.

Oct. 14 _ Sgt. Darcy Tedford and Pte. Blake Williamson killed in ambush.

Oct. 7 _ Trooper Mark Andrew Wilson killed by roadside bomb.

Oct. 3 _ Sgt. Craig Gillam and Cpl. Robert Mitchell killed in series of mortar, rocket attacks.

Sept. 29 _ Pte. Josh Klukie killed by explosion in Panjwaii while on foot patrol.

Sept. 18 _ Pte. David Byers, Cpl. Shane Keating, Cpl. Keith Morley and Cpl. Glen Arnold killed in suicide bicycle bomb attack while on foot patrol in Panjwaii.

Sept. 4 _ Pte. Mark Graham killed when two NATO planes accidentally strafed Canadian troops in Panjwaii district.

Sept. 3 _ Sgt. Shane Stachnik, Warrant Officer Frank Robert Mellish, Pte. William Cushley and Warrant Officer Richard Francis Nolan killed in fighting in Panjwaii district.

Aug. 22 _ Cpl. David Braun killed in suicide attack.

Aug. 11 _ Cpl. Andrew Eykelenboom killed in suicide attack.

Aug. 9 _ Master Cpl. Jeffrey Walsh killed by apparent accidental discharge of rifle.

Aug. 5 _ Master Cpl. Raymond Arndt killed when his G–Wagon patrol vehicle collided with truck.

Aug. 3 _ Cpl. Christopher Reid killed by roadside bomb. Sgt. Vaughan Ingram, Cpl. Bryce Keller and Pte. Kevin Dallaire killed in rocket–propelled grenade attack.

July 22 _ Cpl. Francisco Gomez and Cpl. Jason Warren killed when car packed with explosives rammed their armoured vehicle.

July 9 _ Cpl. Anthony Boneca killed in firefight.

May 17 _ Capt. Nichola Goddard killed in Taliban ambush. She was first Canadian woman to be killed in action while serving in combat role.

April 22 _ Cpl. Matthew Dinning, Bombardier Myles Mansell, Lt. William Turner and Cpl. Randy Payne

killed when their G-Wagon destroyed by roadside bomb.

March 29 _ Pte. Robert Costall killed in firefight with Taliban.

March 2 _ Cpl. Paul Davis and Master Cpl. Timothy Wilson killed when their armoured vehicle ran off road.

Jan. 15 _ Glyn Berry, British-born Canadian diplomat, killed in suicide bombing.

2005

Nov. 24 _ Pte. Braun Woodfield killed when his armoured vehicle rolled over.

2004

Jan. 27 _ Cpl. Jamie Murphy killed in suicide bombing while on patrol.

2003

Oct. 2 _ Sgt. Robert Short and Cpl. Robbie Beerenfenger killed in roadside bombing.

2002

April 17 _ Sgt. Marc Leger, Cpl. Ainsworth Dyer, Pte. Richard Green and Pte. Nathan Smith killed when U.S. F-16 fighter mistakenly bombed Canadians.

Bomb blast kills Canadian as insurgents step up attacks in Afghanistan

DATE: 2008.01.15
KEYWORDS: DEFENCE INTERNATIONAL
PUBLICATION: cpw
WORD COUNT: 779

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan _ Trooper Richard Renaud died Tuesday when explosive devices planted by insurgents hit Canadian troops in Afghanistan for the third time in as many days in an escalation of violence across the country.

While the first two explosions caused relatively minor injuries and vehicle damage, the latest blast killed Renaud, 26, originally of Alma, Que., of 12e Regiment blindé du Canada.

Renaud's death, in the Arghandab district about 10 kilometres north of Kandahar city, marks the 77th time a Canadian soldier has died in Afghanistan since 2002. It came exactly two years after Canadian diplomat Glyn Berry was killed in a suicide bombing near Kandahar on Jan. 15, 2006.

Most of Canada's combat deaths have been the result of improvised explosive devices, or IEDs _ commonly known as roadside bombs.

"This is a very emotional time for the family and friends of Trooper Renaud and our thoughts are with them," said Brig.-Gen. Guy Laroche, the top Canadian commander in Afghanistan.

"Our brave men and women have a dangerous but important job to do. Our determination to carry out our mission is stronger than ever."

Renaud and three other soldiers were conducting a reconnaissance patrol in a Coyote light armoured vehicle around 7:15 a.m. local time when the explosion occurred, Laroche said.

A soldier who suffered minor injuries in the explosion was evacuated by land to hospital at Kandahar Airfield. The soldier has since been released.

"Trooper Renaud died for his country and for the right of the people of Afghanistan to have a peaceful future," Laroche said. "His sacrifice will not be forgotten."

Renaud was married and live in the Quebec City area. He left behind a wife who is pregnant with his first child. He also leaves behind a four-year-old stepson, along with his father, mother and sister.

"Richard left us doing something he loved. We will miss him dearly," his family said in a statement. "He always talked about his mission abroad with passion. For him it was a way to make a difference in our world."

Prime Minister Stephen Harper sent his condolences to Renaud's family and friends and affirmed his commitment to the current mission.

"Trooper Renaud made the ultimate sacrifice while working to bring security, democracy and self-reliance to the people of Afghanistan, all the while protecting Canada's values and security," Harper said.

“As we mourn the loss of Trooper Renaud we think of his courage, commitment and bravery. He was part of coalition efforts that are creating the conditions for reconstruction and development to progress in a country ravaged by decades of conflict.”

Laroche noted the three IED attacks in recent days have happened in different places and do not appear to be co-ordinated.

Monday's blast in the volatile Panjwai district resulted only in property damage. But on Sunday, four Canadian soldiers were injured in Zangabad, about 35 kilometres southwest of Kandahar city, when their vehicle struck an IED that was planted along a dirt road.

The troops were on a road-clearance patrol aimed at finding and defusing mines at the time.

Besides the three IED hits against Canadians, Taliban insurgents seem to have escalated their attacks right across the country in the last few days.

Some 10 Afghan police officers were massacred Sunday in the Maywand district of Kandahar, while another cop died when a suicide bomber blew himself up in neighbouring Helmand province.

Two Afghan soldiers were killed over the weekend in Uruzgan province, and eight people, including several foreigners, died Monday night when armed militants loaded with explosives stormed the posh Serena Hotel in Kabul.

The Taliban vowed Tuesday to step up attacks against foreigners, noting they will be targeting restaurants frequented by non-Afghans.

Laroche said Canadian troops have been conducting regular patrols in Arghandab since beating back Taliban insurgents who sought to occupy the region in late October.

While three other soldiers were injured in a similar attack in the region just days before Christmas, Laroche insisted this isn't a sign insurgents are attempting a comeback.

“Even though we had an IED attack today doesn't mean the enemy came back as such,” he said. “It's essentially their weapon of choice ... It's how they try to hit us.”

The fertile region where grape and pomegranate orchards abound has long been regarded as a relatively peaceful oasis in an otherwise arid desert war zone.

The late Mullah Naqib, a revered warlord, Taliban enemy and leader of the Alokozai tribe which rules the region, had managed to keep insurgents bay and was considered an ally of President Hamid Karzai and coalition forces.

Insurgents, however, sought to capitalize on his death last fall and began moving into the area before they were quickly driven out by coalition troops.

Naqib's son Kareemullah Naqibi was named his father's successor, but the young man has had difficulty winning the support of village elders.

But Laroche maintains the strategic gateway to Kandahar city is not at risk of being overrun by insurgents.

“It's not fully secure but it's pretty good,” he said in a recent interview.

“With the police they have there at present time, I don't see it as a major concern ... I think this district is heading in the right direction.”

While insurgent attacks have typically slowed down during the winter months, Laroche said he didn't expect a lull this year.

“We haven't seen a lot of change between this summer and what we are living at the present time,” he said.

“We didn't expect also to have a difference.”

The Canadian Press World News Budget – Tuesday, Jan. 15, 2008

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Here are the budgeted stories as of 23:00 EST. The editor handling World news in Toronto can be reached at 416-507-2165.

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan _ A Canadian soldier has died and a second soldier has been injured after the armoured vehicle they were travelling in hit a roadside bomb early Tuesday in southern Afghanistan. Trooper Richard Renaud of Alma, Que., a member of the 12th Regiment blindé du Canada, became the 77th Canadian soldier killed in Afghanistan. 994 words. By Tobi Cohen. BC-Afghan-Cda-Death, 5th Writethru. Moved.

See also:

_ BC-Afghan-Cda-List. Moved.

_ BC-Afghan-Cda-Expanded-List. Moved Datafile only.

_ BC-NATO-Finding-Forces. Moved.

WASHINGTON _ Ready or not, Canadians driving into the United States will need to prove their citizenship by showing a birth certificate starting Jan. 31 if they don't have a passport. Business groups are bracing for border tieups. 400 words. By Beth Gorham. BC-US-Cda-Border, 1st Writethru. Moved.

WASHINGTON_ Mitt Romney triumphed Tuesday in Michigan's primary, a must-win that promises a tough, wide-open fight among Republicans in South Carolina this weekend. The victory puts Romney, who was born and raised in Michigan, firmly back in the presidential nomination battle after two disappointing losses. 867 words. By Beth Gorham. See Photos. BC-US-Michigan, 4th Writethru. Moved.

WASHINGTON _ Meat and milk from cloned animals are as safe as that from their counterparts bred the old-fashioned way, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration said Tuesday _ but sales won't begin right away. The decision removes the last big U.S. regulatory hurdle to marketing products from cloned livestock. A spokesman for Health Canada said there are ``currently no foods derived from cloned animals approved for sale in Canada." 950 words. By Laurant Neergaard. BC-Cloned-Meat, 2nd Writethru. Moved.

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip _ Israeli troops kill a son of Gaza's most powerful leader and 18 other Palestinians in the bloodiest day of fighting in the coastal strip since Hamas militants seized control last June. A Hamas sniper also kills a foreign volunteer on an Israeli communal farm. 800 words. By Ibrahim Barzak. See Photo. BC-Israel-Palestinians, 2nd Writethru. Moved.

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia _ U.S. President George W. Bush warns that surging oil prices threaten the U.S. economy and urges OPEC countries to boost their production. His plea draws little sympathy from oil-rich Saudi Arabia, which says production levels appear normal. 600 words. By Terence Hunt. See Photo. BC-Bush-Mideast, 1st Writethru. Moved.

See also:

BC–Bush–Mideast–Q&A. Moved Datafile.

BEIRUT, Lebanon _ A bomb hidden on a roadside hits a U.S. Embassy vehicle, killing at least three Lebanese bystanders and wounding five people, including the driver and an American at a nearby school. The blast, just before a farewell reception for the U.S. ambassador, is the first in years targeting U.S. diplomatic interests in Lebanon. 750 words. By Scheherezade Faramarzi and Zeina Karam. See Photo. BC–Lebanon–Explosion, 5th Writethru. Moved.

See also:

_ BC–Lebanon–Attacks–Glance. Moved Datafile only.

bc-CCN-ON-GOV-OBT

DATE: 2008.01.15

PUBLICATION: cpw

WORD COUNT: 223

^CORRECTION FROM SOURCE: Statement by the Minister of National Defence@<

January 15, 2008

A correction from source has been issued with respect to the news release issued today at 3:56 p.m. ET. The complete and corrected release follows.

OTTAWA, ONTARIO--(Marketwire – Jan. 15, 2008) – The Honourable Peter Gordon MacKay, Minister of National Defence and Minister of the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, issued the following statement today on the death of a Canadian soldier in Afghanistan:

"We mourn the death of Trooper Richard Renaud who died today in Afghanistan. We also extend our wishes for a prompt recovery to the soldier who was injured in the same incident. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their friends and families at this difficult time.

These soldiers were participating in a patrol in Arghandab District when the vehicle they were traveling in struck an Improvised Explosive Device.

I join with Canadians who stand proudly with our men and women of the Canadian Forces as they courageously risk their lives every day to bring peace and security to the people of Afghanistan. The sacrifices of these soldiers will not be forgotten and this event will not deter us from continuing to help Afghans rebuild their country."

Trooper Richard Renaud was a member of the 12e Regiment blindé du Canada, 5e Groupe-brigade mécanisée du Canada, based in Valcartier, Quebec.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

Information: 1-866-377-0811

After hours: 613-792-2973

www.forces.gc.ca

INDUSTRY: Government – International, Government – Local,

Government – National, Government – Security (law enforcement, homeland etc), Government – State

SUBJECT: OBT

NEWS RELEASE TRANSMITTED BY Marketwire

Update:ADDS soldier's name

DATE: 2008.01.15

KEYWORDS: DEFENCE INTERNATIONAL

PUBLICATION: bnw

WORD COUNT: 109

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan – A Canadian soldier has died and a second soldier has been injured after an armoured vehicle they were travelling in hit a suspected improvised explosive device early this morning in southern Afghanistan.

Trooper Richard Renaud, 26, of Alma Que., a member of the 12th Regiment of Blinde du Canada, Val Cartier, Que., was killed in the blast.

It occurred around 7:15 a.m., local time, in the Arghandab district, about 10 kilometres north of Kandahar city.

Four soldiers were on patrol riding in an armoured vehicle at the time of the incident.

One soldier received minor injuries and was later evacuated by land to a hospital at Kandahar Airfield.

This was the third IED strike against Canadian soldiers in as many days – those attacks resulted in only minor injuries.

(The Canadian Press)

--Twelfth NewsWatch--

DATE: 2008.01.15
KEYWORDS: ADVISORIES
PUBLICATION: bnw
WORD COUNT: 313

Another Canadian soldier has perished in Afghanistan.

Twenty-six-year-old Trooper Richard Renaud of Alma, Quebec was killed and a second soldier injured after an armoured vehicle they were travelling in hit a roadside bomb.

The second soldier has been evacuated by land to a hospital at Kandahar Airfield with minor injuries.

It was the third I-E-D strike against Canadian soldiers in as many days but military officials say the attacks don't appear to be co-ordinated. (12)

(NB-Fatal-Crash) (Audio:101)

A steady stream of people are ignoring snowy conditions to pay their respects to seven high school basketball players who died in Saturday's highway accident.

They perished along with the wife of their coach early Saturday morning when their van slammed into a transport truck near Bathurst.

The first of two public visitations was held this afternoon at the town's main arena, which will house the boys' funeral tomorrow.

A private funeral for Beth Lord is set for Thursday. (12)

(Child-Porn-Arrests) (Audio:94)

A former Toronto-area Scout leader, an Edmonton man with movies in his possession, and a Victoria resident whose home had a telescope overlooking a schoolyard.

They are among nine Canadian men arrested as alleged participants in an international child pornography ring that has resulted in more than 92 arrests in Europe.

It provided customized videos of sexual abuse to paying customers and the Mounties say close to 100 Canadian e-mail addresses were identified as part of the probe. (12)

(Richmond-Oval-Roof)

A ceremony is taking place marking the completion of the roof of the Olympic skating oval in Richmond, B-C.

Premier Gordon Campbell is among the dignitaries on hand to see the last section of the 2.6-hectare roof lifted into place.

The home for speed-skating events at the 2010 Olympics will seat eight-thousand people, and the building's

budgeted cost is 178 (m) million dollars. (12)

(School–Stabbing) (Audio:105)

Police in Brampton, Ontario have arrested a 16–year–old boy after another youth was stabbed today inside the suspect's high school.

The victim is the same age and police say he was not a student at the school.

The victim was stabbed four times in the neck and is in hospital with serious injuries. (12)

(Elks–Lotto–Fight)

Who gets what? And who gets left out in the cold?

A court may have to make that decision as members of an Elks service club in the Calgary region are locking horns over a 20 (m) million–dollar lottery win.

The Western Canada Lottery Corporation says 21 people who bought a ticket on the Super–7 jackpot last November 23rd are fighting over who the rightful winners are. (12)

(NewsWatch by Chris Mayberry)

--Fourteenth NewsWatch--

DATE: 2008.01.15
KEYWORDS: ADVISORIES
PUBLICATION: bnw
WORD COUNT: 343

A military probe into a deadly helicopter crash 18 months ago suggests the pilot was not qualified to be at the controls.

The draft report, obtained by The Canadian Press, also says inadequate training has left the skills of Canada's search-and-rescue pilots ``degraded."

The crew of seven was preparing to practise a nighttime hoist from a Nova Scotia fishing boat in July of 2006 when the chopper crashed nose-down into the ocean, killing three.

The report says the pilot had not fulfilled the requirements to retrain after a 90-day leave. (14)

(Afghan-Canada-Death) (Audio:113)

Prime Minister Stephen Harper says Trooper Richard Renaud made the ultimate sacrifice while working to bring security, democracy and self-reliance to Afghanistan.

The Alma, Quebec soldier became Canada's 77th military casualty of the war in Afghanistan.

Renaud and a soldier who suffered minor injuries were among four soldiers on patrol just north of Kandahar city today when their armoured vehicle hit a roadside bomb. (14)

(NB-Fatal-Crash) (Audio: 124)

Bathurst, New Brunswick residents are braving the snow to pay their respects to seven high school basketball players killed in a highway crash early Saturday morning.

Visitation for the boys is taking place today, ahead of tomorrow's mass funeral at the town's hockey arena.

The seven, and the wife of their coach, died when their team van slammed into an oncoming transport truck.

The funeral for Beth Lord will be held Thursday. (14)

(HEALTH-Bone-Death-Study)

Using certain osteoporosis drugs almost triples the risk of developing bone necrosis -- a condition that can lead to terrible pain and disfigurement.

That's the finding of a British Columbia-based study, the largest of its kind into the connection between bone necrosis and the widely prescribed drugs.

Millions of women around the world take the drugs to help prevent broken bones from osteoporosis.

Researchers say they need to contact their doctor if they experience severe, unusual pain. (14)

(Bridge Collapse–NTSB)

A design flaw helped bring down an Interstate bridge in downtown Minneapolis last year, killing 13 people.

A U–S National Transportation Safety Board investigation discovered a design flaw in the steel plates that tied steel beams together on the bridge.

The board's chairman says the plates should have been twice as thick as they were found to be. (14)

(ODDITY–Girl–Scout–Robbed)

Ten–year–old Girl Scout Nicole Grant was selling cookies in Savannah, Georgia on Sunday when another girl ordered cookies from her.

The 12–year–old then snatched Nicole's zip–top bag containing 28 dollars in sales money and fled on a bicycle.

But she didn't get far.

Police quickly found the young robber, who made the mistake of writing her name and address on a cookie order form just before the theft. (14)

(NewsWatch by Chris Mayberry)

--Sixteenth NewsWatch--

DATE: 2008.01.15
KEYWORDS: ADVISORIES
PUBLICATION: bnw
WORD COUNT: 290

The Toronto stock exchange has sustained one of its worst one-day losses in history.

More writedowns at U-S banking giant Citigroup and a stock sale at C-I-B-C plunged the T-S-X composite index by more than 380 points.

That's just off the 400-point drubbing sustained in late July.

Another drop in crude oil prices also contributed.

New York markets also sank on a dismal read on Christmas season retail sales. (16)

(Afghan-Cda-Death)

In Afghanistan, a bomb blast killed a Canadian soldier as insurgents step up attacks.

Trooper Richard Renaud died today when the vehicle he and three others were travelling on hit explosive devices planted by insurgents.

One other soldier was treated for a minor injury.

It's the third attack in as many days as violence escalates across Afghanistan. (16)

(NB-Fatal-Crash) (Audio:124)

In a Bathurst, New Brunswick building more accustomed to the happy cheers of junior hockey fans, an eerie silence took hold today, occasionally broken by tearful sobs.

Thousands of people filed by seven open coffins to say goodbye to seven teenage boys killed in a horrific highway crash.

The public wake for members of the Bathurst High School boys' basketball team continues tonight.

The seven teens and the coach's wife were killed when the team van crashed and hit a truck early Saturday. (16)

(Isotope-Fallout)

Natural Resources Minister Gary Lunn has been summoned by M-P's on a Commons committee to explain his threat to fire the head of the nuclear safety watchdog.

The Conservative government blamed Linda Keen after her commission refused to restart the aging nuclear reactor at Chalk River, Ontario.

The reactor, which produces more than half the world's supply of medical isotopes, was re-started after Parliament overruled the commission. (16)

(Lebanon—Explosion)

An attack on a U–S Embassy vehicle in Beirut, Lebanon has left at least three people dead, but no American personnel were killed.

The victims are identified as four residents of Beirut.

An embassy driver was injured.

Beirut has a history of attacks against the U–S since the turmoil of their civil war, including a 1983 suicide bombing at the U–S Embassy that killed at least 17 Americans. (16)

(Michigan Primary)

The U–S presidential race turns its attention to the state of Michigan today.

About 20 per cent of Michigan's eligible voters are expected to turn out for today's primary.

Republican rivals John McCain and Mitt Romney are locked in a tight race.

But the primary isn't generating much interest on the Democratic side, with Hillary Clinton being the only big name on the ballot. (16)

(NewsWatch by Chris Mayberry)

INDEX:Defence, International

DATE: 2008.01.15
KEYWORDS: DEFENCE INTERNATIONAL
PUBLICATION: bnw
WORD COUNT: 133

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan _ Canada's 77th soldier has died in Afghanistan after the vehicle he was riding in struck an improvised explosive device in southern Afghanistan today.

Twenty-six-year-old Trooper Richard Renaud of Alma Quebec, a member of the 12e Regiment blindé du Canada, was killed in the blast involving a Coyote light armoured vehicle.

Brigadier-General Guy Laroche says Renaud and three other soldiers were involved in a reconnaissance patrol in the Arghandab district.

One other soldier suffered minor injuries, was treated in hospital and has since been released.

This was the third I-E-D strike against Canadian soldiers in as many days. They happened in different places and Laroche says they don't appear to be co-ordinated.

Laroche said troops have been conducting regular patrols in Arghandab since beating back Taliban insurgents during an operation in late October.

The district is considered a strategic gateway into Kandahar city.

(The Canadian Press)

DH

INDEX:Defence, International

DATE: 2008.01.15
KEYWORDS: DEFENCE INTERNATIONAL
PUBLICATION: bnw
WORD COUNT: 103

QUEBEC – Colleagues of a Quebec soldier killed in the line of duty in Afghanistan on Tuesday say his contribution made a difference.

Trooper Richard Renaud, 26, originally of Alma, Que., was killed when an improvised explosive device struck a Coyote light armoured vehicle he was riding in.

Col. Eric Tremblay, who heads up the 5th Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group, said in statement that Renaud's work in Afghanistan was important and his death is not in vain.

Renaud, a member of the 12e Regiment blindé du Canada, joined the military in October 2004, was married and lived in the Quebec City area.

The military says Afghanistan was Renaud's first mission.

Renaud's death marks the 77th time a Canadian soldier has died in Afghanistan since 2002.

INDEX:Defence, International

DATE: 2008.01.15
KEYWORDS: DEFENCE INTERNATIONAL
PUBLICATION: bnw
WORD COUNT: 102

OTTAWA _ Prime Minister Stephen Harper has issued his condolences on the behalf of all Canadians on the death of Trooper Richard Renaud in Afghanistan.

In a release today, Harper also referred to the Canadian soldier who received minor injuries in the same roadside blast.

Harper says Renaud, from Alma, Quebec, made the ultimate sacrifice while working to bring security, democracy and self-reliance to Afghanistan.

At the same time, he says, Renault was protecting Canada's values and security.

Renaud and the injured soldier were among four soldiers on patrol in an area just north of Kandahar city when the armoured vehicle they were travelling in hit the bomb.

Trooper Renaud was the 77th soldier to die since the Afghanistan mission began in 2002.

DH

--Thirteenth NewsWatch--

DATE: 2008.01.15
KEYWORDS: ADVISORIES
PUBLICATION: bnw
WORD COUNT: 308

Twenty-six-year-old Trooper Richard Renaud of Alma, Quebec is Canada's 77th military casualty in Afghanistan.

He died when the vehicle he was riding in struck a roadside bomb in southern Afghanistan today.

Another soldier suffered minor injuries.

It was the third such attack in as many days but Brigadier-General Guy Laroche says they don't appear to be co-ordinated, as they were all in different locations.

Prime Minister Harper says Renaud made the ultimate sacrifice to help Afghanistan and to protect Canada's values and security. (13)

(NB-Fatal-Crash) (Audio: 114)

It was the final trip to a sports arena for seven teenage basketball players from Bathurst, New Brunswick.

Seven hearses wound through city streets on their way to the K-C Irving Regional Civic Centre for public visitations.

The seven, along with their coach's wife, died in a highway accident early Saturday morning.

Two visitations for the players are taking place today ahead of tomorrow's funeral at the arena for the players.

A private service for 51-year-old Beth Lord is being held Thursday. (13)

(Flaherty) (Audio:106)

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty is in Calgary meeting with business leaders and academics in the last of his pre-budget consultations.

He's discussing how the federal government can keep skilled workers in Canada.

Flaherty says to make sure the ``best and brightest" stay in the country, Canada needs a combination of corporate tax cuts and a strong immigration policy. (13)

(Lebanon-Explosion)

At least three Lebanese are dead after an American Embassy vehicle exploded in Beirut in what U-S Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice is calling a ``terrorist attack."

U-S and Lebanese officials say an American bystander and a local embassy employee were injured.

The blast took place just ahead of a farewell reception for the American ambassador at a hotel in central Beirut. (13)

(Cloned—Meat)

The U–S Food and Drug Administration says data shows that healthy adult cloned animals are virtually indistinguishable from their counterparts.

Its safety report concludes that meat and milk from cloned animals is as safe as that from their counterparts bred the old–fashioned way.

But for economic reasons, it will be years before many foods from cloned animals reach store shelves, as clones are far more expensive. (13)

(Passport—Delays)

Luggage? Check. Airline tickets? Check. Updated passport? Better get moving.

Passport Canada spokesman Jean–Sebastien Roy says the agency is swamped with its busiest period each year.

Mailed applications take up to six weeks to process while taking your application to a passport office can reduce the wait to just two weeks.

Roy says the agency is issuing between 20–thousand and 23–thousand passports daily. (13)

(NewsWatch by Chris Mayberry)

--Nineteenth NewsWatch--

DATE: 2008.01.15
KEYWORDS: ADVISORIES
PUBLICATION: bnw
WORD COUNT: 291

Not even a snowstorm and a long lineup could stop mourners from paying last respects to seven young basketball players in Bathurst, New Brunswick.

One woman said she walked seven-kilometres to the arena, where the seven lie in open coffins.

The players and a teacher, 51-year-old Beth Lord, died last weekend when their van slammed into an 18-wheeler.

A mass funeral service for the seven will be held Wednesday at the 35-hundred-seat arena, Bathurst's largest public building.

Lord will be buried Thursday. (19)

(Afghan-Cda-Death)

Prime Minister Harper is sending condolences to the family and friends of the latest Canadian soldier killed in Afghanistan.

Trooper Richard Renaud — a 26-year-old native of Alma, Quebec — was killed by a roadside bomb north of Kandahar City.

Harper is praising Renaud's "courage, commitment, and bravery," adding the thoughts and prayers of all Canadians are with his family. (19)

(Child Porn Arrests) (Audio: 168)

Nine Canadians have been arrested in what police say is an international child pornography ring covering 30 countries.

Among those arrested are a 40-year-old Edmonton man and a former Scout leader from Toronto's western outskirts.

Police say a child porn website based in Ukraine made custom videos to customers around the world.

So far, there are no signs of any Canadian children among the victims. (19)

(US-Cda-Border)

American officials say there will be some leeway for Canadians who are about to face new rules when entering the United States by road or boat.

Effective January 31st, they'll have to produce documents that prove their identity and citizenship.

However, U-S officials say anyone who doesn't produce a government-issued photo I-D plus a birth certificate or Canadian citizenship cards won't necessarily be turned away, at least for a while. (19)

(CRTC Ownership)

Friends of Canadian Broadcasting is welcoming the C-R-T-C's decision to limit concentration of media ownership.

From now on, any company or person can only own two of the three different types of outlets in a single market.

Those three types are radio, T-V, and newspaper.

Ian Morrison of Friends of Canadian Broadcasting welcomes the decision, saying it will limit ownership concentration while boosting diversity. (19)

(OBIT-Brad Renfro)

Actor Brad Renfro has been found dead in his Los Angeles home.

Although the cause of death is not known, Renfro, who was 25, saw his career go downhill because of his history of drug and alcohol abuse.

His movies included ``The Client" with Susan Sarandon and Tommy Lee Jones. (19)

(NewsWatch by Bill Marshall)

--Fifteenth NewsWatch--

DATE: 2008.01.15
KEYWORDS: ADVISORIES
PUBLICATION: bnw
WORD COUNT: 316

The painful process of saying goodbye is underway for residents of Bathurst, Brunswick.

A public wake for seven dead members of the Bathurst High School boys' basketball team was held this afternoon at a hockey arena, and will continue tonight.

Thousands braved blizzard-like conditions to pass by the seven open coffins.

The seven, along with their coach's wife, were killed in Saturday's horrific highway crash. (15)

(Afghan-Canada Death)

Defence Minister Peter MacKay has offered condolences to friends and family of Trooper Richard Renaud of Alma, Quebec, who died today in Afghanistan.

He also wished speedy recovery to the injured soldier who was hurt when their vehicle struck a roadside bomb.

Prime Minister Harper says Renaud, Canada's 77th military fatality in Afghanistan, made the ultimate sacrifice. (15)

(BIZ-Stock Markets) (Audio:128)

The Toronto stock market suffered one of its largest one-day losses today, plunging more than 380 points.

Financial stocks took a hit following more writedowns at American banking giant Citigroup and a major share sale by C-I-B-C.

And oil prices dropped further on fears a sharp U-S economic slowdown would cut demand for crude. (15)

(Chopper-Probe)

The pilot of a military helicopter that crashed 18 months ago, killing three crew members, had no business being at the controls.

That's the conclusion of a draft report of a military investigation into the deadly crash in July 2006.

The report, obtained by The Canadian Press, says Major Gordon Ireland hadn't fulfilled the requirements to retrain after a 90-day leave and was 'not qualified' to be at the controls.

It also says the skills of Canada's search-and-rescue pilots have 'degraded' due to inadequate training. (15)

(US-Cda-Border)

At month's end, there will be some flexibility in new security rules requiring Canadians driving or sailing to the U–S to produce identity and citizenship documents.

Kelly Klundt, spokeswoman for U–S Customs and Border Protection, says it takes certain locations up to six months to issue a birth certificate and U–S officials are aware of this.

She says people who don't have a government–issued photo I–D won't necessarily get turned away at the border, for a while. (15)

(Sex–Slaves)

In Toronto, police say many women now working in the local sex trade were enslaved in a recently uncovered human trafficking ring.

A detective says victims are controlled, isolated and exploited by predatory pimps.

The trafficking ring was uncovered last week after a young woman walked into a Toronto police station and told officers she was forced into sexual slavery.

Four people have been arrested. (15)

(NewsWatch by Chris Mayberry)

--Seventeenth NewsWatch--

DATE: 2008.01.15
KEYWORDS: ADVISORIES
PUBLICATION: bnw
WORD COUNT: 281

The major stock markets suffered sizeable losses today because of the American mortgage crisis and signs the U-S may be headed for a recession.

In New York, the Dow Jones lost 277 points to close at 12-thousand-501.

Toronto's S-and-P/T-S-X tumbled 382 points to end the day at 13-thousand-317.

In addition, fears of a possible U-S recession sent oil down \$2.30, to \$91.90 U-S a barrel. (17)

(NB Fatal Crash) (Audio: 129)

An eerie silence fills a hockey rink in Bathurst, New Brunswick, where the bodies of seven young basketball players lie in open coffins.

Thousands are waiting in the cold for up to two hours to pay last respects to the seven, who died along with their coach's wife last weekend when their van collided with a tractor-trailer.

The mourners include provincial Education Minister Kelly Lamrock, who says everyone is thinking about what the victims' families are going through.

The same hockey rink will be the site of a mass funeral tomorrow. (17)

(Afghan-Cda-Death)

Prime Minister Harper is offering condolences to the family of the latest Canadian soldier killed in Afghanistan.

Trooper Richard Renaud was killed by a roadside bomb north of Kandahar City.

Renaud -- who was 26, and from Alma, Quebec -- is the 77th Canadian soldier killed in Afghanistan since 2002.

Harper says Renaud ``made the ultimate sacrifice while working to bring security, democracy and self-reliance to the people of Afghanistan." (17)

(Child Porn Arrests)

Nine Canadians are under arrest in what police say is an international child pornography ring.

The Mounties say at least one of the nine is a former Scout leader arrested two weeks ago in Peel Region on Toronto's western outskirts.

Police say the operation involved more than 30 countries and identified about 25-hundred potential suspects,

including almost 100 in Canada. (17)

(Passport Delay)

Passport Canada warns if you mail in an application for a new passport today, you probably won't get the document until the end of February.

Officials say if you take your application to a passport office, you can cut the wait to about two weeks. (17)

(BIZ—Apple Movies)

Apple is going into the online movie rental business.

It has reached a deal with all six major movie studios to offer films over high-speed connections within a month after they're released on D—V—D.

Apple plans to charge three—dollars for older movies, and four—dollars for new releases. (17)

(NewsWatch by Bill Marshall)

The toll hits 78 as bomb kills soldier

IDNUMBER 200801160158
PUBLICATION: The Toronto Star
DATE: 2008.01.16
EDITION: Ont
SECTION: News
PAGE: A01
ILLUSTRATION: Trooper Richard Renaud, age 26;
BYLINE: Sean Gordon
SOURCE: Toronto Star
COPYRIGHT: © 2008 Torstar Corporation
WORD COUNT: 571

A Canadian soldier killed by a roadside bomb in Afghanistan yesterday leaves behind a pregnant wife and a 4-year-old stepson.

Quebec-based Trooper Richard Renaud, 26, was fatally wounded when a roadside bomb rocked the personnel carrier he was riding in near Kandahar city. He is the 78th Canadian killed in the war-torn country since 2002. The toll includes 77 soldiers and one diplomat.

Renaud was the ninth soldier from CFB Valcartier, near Quebec City, to die since last summer.

He hailed from Alma, a town in the Lac-St.-Jean region of north-central Quebec, and had been a member of the 12e Regiment blindé du Canada – an armoured regiment – since October 2004. It was his first regimental assignment.

Surviving members of Renaud's family declined comment when reached in Alma last night, but his relatives did issue a statement through the army.

"His loss creates a big void in our hearts. ... Richard loved what he was doing and we're extremely proud of him," the statement read. "He was a bon vivant ... he spoke to us with passion about his mission overseas."

It was the third time in as many days a Canadian armoured vehicle had struck a homemade bomb, known in military jargon as an improvised explosive device, or IED.

In the previous cases, the soldiers inside the vehicle suffered only light injuries.

The Coyote light vehicle carrying Renaud and three other soldiers was on a routine early morning reconnaissance patrol when it rolled over an IED in the Arghandab district 10 kilometres north of Kandahar city, where the Canadian contingent is based in southern Afghanistan.

Shrapnel tore through the vehicle, hitting Renaud and another soldier. The second man was airlifted to a military hospital and later discharged. Military officials didn't release his name.

A resident of Quebec City, Renaud left for Afghanistan last August on his first foreign mission, a Valcartier spokesperson said.

In Afghanistan, Canada's top-ranking military officer expressed sorrow at Renaud's passing.

"This is a very emotional time for the family and friends of Trooper Renaud and our thoughts are with them," said Brig.-Gen. Guy Laroche, the senior Canadian commander in Afghanistan. "Our brave men and women have a dangerous but important job to do. Our determination to carry out our mission is stronger than ever."

Laroche pointed out the three recent IED attacks occurred in different locations and there is no evidence to suggest they were co-ordinated. Monday's blast in the volatile Panjwahi district caused no injuries. But on Sunday, an explosion injured four Canadian soldiers in Zangabad, 35 kilometres southwest of Kandahar.

Roadside bombs have become the primary hazard for Canadian soldiers in Afghanistan, though Laroche was quick to stress that this week's attacks don't amount to a Taliban resurgence.

"Even though we had an IED attack today doesn't mean the enemy came back as such," he said. "It's essentially their weapon of choice. It's how they try to hit us."

Back in Canada, Prime Minister Stephen Harper sent his condolences to Renaud's family and friends and reaffirmed his commitment to the current mission.

"Trooper Renaud made the ultimate sacrifice while working to bring security, democracy and self-reliance to the people of Afghanistan, all the while protecting Canada's values and security," Harper said in a press statement.

"As we mourn the loss of Trooper Renaud, we think of his courage, commitment and bravery," Harper said. "He was part of coalition efforts that are creating the conditions for reconstruction and development to progress in a country ravaged by decades of conflict."

Meanwhile, funeral plans were announced for two other Quebec soldiers who were killed on Jan. 6.

Warrant Officer Hani Massouh, 41, and Cpl. Eric Labbe, 31, were killed when their armoured vehicle rolled over in wet, rugged terrain southwest of Kandahar city.

Labbe's funeral will be held in his native Rimouski today and Massouh's funeral will be held in Quebec City tomorrow.

With files from The Canadian Press and La Presse

Leaner Afghan role eyed; Manley expected to call for partial pullout and transformed mission in '09

IDNUMBER 200801160157
PUBLICATION: The Toronto Star
DATE: 2008.01.16
EDITION: Ont
SECTION: News
PAGE: A01
ILLUSTRATION: Cpl. simon duchesne national defence A poll shows 17 per cent of Canadians want troops to continue their Afghanistan combat role. In Quebec, 57 per cent want the mission to end right away. ;
BYLINE: Bruce Campion-Smith
SOURCE: Toronto Star
COPYRIGHT: © 2008 Torstar Corporation
WORD COUNT: 824

Canada should reduce its contingent of combat troops in Kandahar and focus on training Afghan police and army officers to eventually take over security duties in southern Afghanistan.

That's likely to be among the chief recommendations when a federal panel created to study the future of Canada's Afghan mission after February 2009 releases its long-awaited report early next week.

The federal panel, led by former Liberal deputy prime minister John Manley, is likely to endorse the transformation of the mission from combat to training that is already underway.

"I hear the recommendations will support the mission in Kandahar with a transformation of the approach to the mission which is already happening," said Alain Pellerin, of the Conference of Defence Associations, a lobby group active on defence issues.

A poll released last night suggests strong public unease with the current combat mission.

Forty-seven per cent of Canadians want our troops brought back from Afghanistan as soon as possible, according to a Strategic Counsel poll done for CTV News and The Globe and Mail. In Quebec, 57 per cent want the mission to end right away.

The poll showed that only 17 per cent of Canadians want troops to continue in their combat role and 31 per cent said Canadians should remain in Kandahar but turn over the combat role to another NATO country.

Last summer, the Canadian Forces boosted its mentoring teams to train the Afghan army and launched new efforts to help train the Afghan police.

"We're into phase two now of ... recalibrating the mission so you put more emphasis on training the Afghan army, training the security forces and I think that's what is happening now on the ground," said Pellerin, a retired colonel with close ties to the military who has visited the troops in Afghanistan.

The news comes as yet another Canadian soldier was killed in Afghanistan yesterday. Trooper Richard Renaud, 26, was killed and a fellow soldier injured when their vehicle hit a roadside bomb during a patrol

Leaner Afghan role eyed; Manley expected to call for partial pullout and transformed mission in '0988

north of Kandahar city.

With yesterday's attack, 77 Canadian soldiers and one diplomat – Glyn Berry – have been killed in Afghanistan since 2002.

Those deaths – along with the reluctance of NATO allies to dispatch troops to dangerous southern regions of Afghanistan – have fuelled public and political misgivings in Canada about the Kandahar mission.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper established the panel last October in a bid to develop a compromise for the future of the mission, once the current military commitment runs out in a year.

In addition to Manley, the Afghan panel includes: former Conservative federal cabinet minister Jake Epp; Paul Tellier, former clerk of the Privy Council; Derek Burney, a former Canadian ambassador to the United States; and Pamela Wallin, former Canadian consul general in New York City.

After listening to hundreds of individual Canadians and organizations, visiting NATO headquarters in Brussels and seeing military and development efforts firsthand in Afghanistan, the Manley panel is due to release its own vision for the future of Canadian aid workers, diplomats and soldiers, either Monday or Tuesday.

Pellerin envisages a scenario that puts Canada on course for a gradual withdrawal from Afghanistan, reducing its force initially to about 1,500 – down from more than 2,000 now – to focus on training.

But in addition to the trainers, combat support elements would also be left behind. That includes artillery and even the tanks that serve as vital backup to allied and Afghan troops in the field, as well as field engineers, who have built roads and bridges in the region, he said.

"I think more and more that is probably what the (Canadian Forces) leadership would want to see and reducing the number of troops in Kandahar," Pellerin said.

Gen. Rick Hillier, the chief of defence staff, has warned that preparing Afghan security forces to take over is a job that will go past February 2009. Even the Conservatives' throne speech noted the training won't be done by then, suggesting the objective should be achievable by 2011.

But Manley may suggest putting off decisions on Canada's mission until after the NATO leaders' summit in April in Bucharest, Romania, where Afghanistan and troop commitments are expected to dominate the agenda.

Harper is expected to be at the high-level conference to wring commitments of money and military assistance for Afghanistan, along with United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, Afghan President Hamid Karzai and European Union representatives.

Harper has pledged that Parliament will vote on any proposals to extend or change the current mission.

However, retired major-general Lewis MacKenzie worries that efforts to find a political compromise in Canada may distort the mission in Afghanistan.

"I've got a funny feeling that the priority is to find some sort of compromise that's acceptable and all sides can say they won a little bit, which is unfortunate because it's the one issue ... where doing the right thing should trump domestic politics," MacKenzie said.

While the Liberals have called for a move out of Kandahar, MacKenzie said it makes sense for troops to stay

Leaner Afghan role eyed; Manley expected to call for partial pullout and transformed mission in '09

put where they've built up a network of bases and now know the local Afghan leaders.

"I hope they won't suggest moving out of Kandahar," MacKenzie said.

Meanwhile, the Pentagon yesterday announced that 2,200 U.S. troops will be sent to serve under the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force in southern Afghanistan.

Another 1,000 Marines will expand the training of Afghan national security forces.

But Pellerin cautioned the Americans are not meant as a replacement for the Canadian troops.

With files from the Star's wire services

Routine patrol turns deadly for Que. soldier; Canadian troops blasted by third roadside bomb in three days

IDNUMBER 200801160010
PUBLICATION: Edmonton Journal
DATE: 2008.01.16
EDITION: Final
SECTION: News
PAGE: A4
ILLUSTRATION: Photo: Journal Stock / (Richard) Renaud;
KEYWORDS: WAR
DATELINE: KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan
BYLINE: Allison Lampert
SOURCE: Canwest News Service; Montreal Gazette, with files from Reuters and Canwest News Service
WORD COUNT: 566

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan – Trooper Richard Renaud from Alma, Que., was killed and a second Canadian soldier was injured when their armoured vehicle hit a roadside bomb Tuesday in Kandahar's Zhari district.

Renaud, 26, of the 12e Regiment blindé du Canada in Valcartier, Que., and three other soldiers were on a routine patrol in the Arghandab region, about 10 kilometres north of Kandahar City, when their Coyote reconnaissance vehicle struck the improvised explosive device.

"We go there often," said Brig.-Gen. Guy Laroche, commander of the Canadian troops in Afghanistan, of the road they were using. "It's something that we do on a regular basis."

In late October 2007, Canadian and Afghan soldiers chased insurgents out of the Arghandab region following the death of Mullah Naqib, a staunch enemy of the Taliban. His death — and the appointment of his son Karimullah Naqibi as leader — created a power vacuum that prompted a Taliban attack.

Laroche said he wasn't afraid that the enemy was coming back to the area.

The injured soldier was released from the Kandahar Air Field hospital a few hours after the incident and is said to be in good condition.

The latest Canadian death came as the United States confirmed it will send 3,200 marines to Afghanistan this spring to help NATO troops and Afghan security forces confront rising Taliban violence.

The U.S. troop expansion, which increases the number of U.S. forces deployed to Afghanistan by more than 10 per cent, follows months of U.S. efforts to persuade NATO allies to provide extra combat forces.

The Pentagon said 2,200 troops from the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit will be sent in March to serve under the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in southern Afghanistan, which is the heart of the Taliban resistance and where most of Canada's 2,500 troops are located.

Routine patrol turns deadly for Que. soldier; Canadian troops blasted by third roadside bomb in three days

About 1,000 marines from another battalion will deploy in April to expand the training of Afghan national security forces.

The move suggests the Bush administration does not expect other NATO nations will provide a large share of extra combat forces in southern Afghanistan, which are needed to help clear and retain territory taken from militants, analysts said.

"NATO's need is in the south at the moment, but what the U.S. has found is that most NATO countries are not willing to deploy forces to conduct combat operations where they're needed most," said Seth Jones, an Afghanistan expert at RAND Corp.

Valcartier's Garrison issued a statement offering its condolences.

"I can certify that his life was not given in vain, and that his contribution in Afghanistan made a difference," said Col. Eric Tremblay in a statement.

It was Renaud's first tour of duty. He was shortly to become a father for the first time.

He was living in the Quebec City region with his pregnant wife and her son. He also leaves behind a sister and his parents.

"His departure will create an immense void in our hearts," Renaud's family said in a statement Tuesday evening. "Richard did what he enjoyed and we're extremely proud of him."

The statement described Renaud as a man who embraced life and for whom serving on a mission "was his way of making a difference in the world."

Tuesday's attack on Canadian forces is the third incident in the last three days involving roadside bombs, which are responsible for most of the deaths of the 77 Canadian soldiers killed in Afghanistan since 2002. On Monday, a soldier was treated for minor injuries after his vehicle struck an IED in Kandahar's volatile Panjwahi district.

Canadian soldiers, who have set up a strong network on the ground in Zhari district, are now moving into Panjwahi, south of the Arghandab River. For 2008, the Canadian Forces plan to set up a stronger presence there, including building a district centre, a police headquarters and paving roads in the rural district.

Bomb takes another Quebec trooper latest victim of roadside explosives

SOURCETAG: 0801160388
PUBLICATION: The Winnipeg Sun
DATE: 2008.01.16
EDITION: Final
SECTION: News
PAGE: 7
ILLUSTRATION: photo by The Canadian Press Trooper Richard Renaud is the 77th Canadian to die since the Afghanistan mission began in 2002.
DATELINE: KANDAHAR, Afghanistan
WORD COUNT: 319

Trooper Richard Renaud died yesterday when explosive devices planted by insurgents hit Canadian troops in Afghanistan for the third time in as many days in an escalation of violence across the country.

While the first two explosions caused relatively minor injuries and vehicle damage, the latest blast killed Renaud, 26, originally of Alma, Que., of 12e Regiment blindé du Canada.

Renaud's death, in the Arghandab district about 10 kilometres north of Kandahar city, marks the 77th time a Canadian soldier has died in Afghanistan since 2002. It came exactly two years after Canadian diplomat Glyn Berry was killed in a suicide bombing near Kandahar on Jan. 15, 2006.

Most of Canada's combat deaths have been the result of improvised explosive devices, or IEDs — commonly known as roadside bombs.

"This is a very emotional time for the family and friends of Trooper Renaud and our thoughts are with them," said Brig.-Gen. Guy Laroche, the top Canadian commander in Afghanistan. "Our brave men and women have a dangerous but important job to do. Our determination to carry out our mission is stronger than ever."

Renaud and three other soldiers were conducting a reconnaissance patrol in a Coyote light armoured vehicle around 7:15 a.m. local time when the explosion occurred, Laroche said. A soldier who suffered minor injuries in the explosion was evacuated by land to hospital at Kandahar Airfield. The soldier has since been released.

'NOT BE FORGOTTEN'

"Trooper Renaud died for his country and for the right of the people of Afghanistan to have a peaceful future," Laroche said. "His sacrifice will not be forgotten."

Renaud was married and live in the Quebec City area. He left behind a wife who is pregnant with his first child. He also leaves behind a four-year-old stepson, along with his father, mother and sister.

"Richard left us doing something he loved. We will miss him dearly," his family said in a statement. "He always talked about his mission abroad with passion. For him it was a way to make a difference in our world."

Prime Minister Stephen Harper sent his condolences to Renaud's family and friends and affirmed his commitment to the current mission. **KEYWORDS=NATIONAL**

Frontpage Perv ring smashed Locals tied to world-wide child-porn busts

SOURCETAG 0801160376

PUBLICATION: The Winnipeg Sun

DATE: 2008.01.16

EDITION: Final

SECTION: News

PAGE: 1

ILLUSTRATION: 3 photos 1. photo by Jason Halstead, Sun Media A VERY SPECIAL POOCH Chester plays 'priceless' role in Paws with a Cause program 2. NATIVE POPULATION GROWS 36% Manitoba's First Nations leaders call for 'massive investment' 3. SOLDIER KILLED photo of RICHARD RENAUD Roadside bomb claims another Canadian

WORD COUNT: 0

Soldier leaves young family 3rd attack on Canucks in 3 days

SOURCETAG: 0801160675

PUBLICATION: The Toronto Sun

DATE: 2008.01.16

EDITION: Final

SECTION: News

PAGE: 10

ILLUSTRATION: photo Trooper Richard Renaud, 26, based in Valcartier, Que., is the 77th Canadian soldier to die in Afghanistan. The armoured vehicle he was riding in hit a roadside bomb yesterday.

BYLINE: SIDHARTHA BANERJEE AND TOBI COHEN, THE CANADIAN PRESS

WORD COUNT: 335

A Quebec soldier who was killed in Afghanistan yesterday leaves behind a wife, who is pregnant with his first child, and a 4-year-old stepson.

Trooper Richard Renaud, 26, of Alma, Que., was killed when the Coyote light armoured vehicle he was riding in hit an improvised explosive device. Another Canadian soldier was slightly injured. It was the third such attack on Canadians in as many days in an escalation of violence seen across the country.

Renaud's death, in the Arghandab district about 10 km north of Kandahar city, marks the 77th time a Canadian soldier has died in Afghanistan since their mission began in 2002. Most of Canada's combat deaths have been the result of improvised explosive devices or IEDs — commonly known as roadside bombs.

'WILL MISS HIM'

"Richard left us doing something he loved. We will miss him dearly," Renaud's family said in a statement.

Renaud, a member of the 12e Regiment blindé du Canada, joined the military in October 2004, was married and lived in the Quebec City area. His wife is pregnant with their first child. Renaud also leaves behind a 4-year-old stepson in addition to his father, mother and sister.

His family said he served in the military with pride and was enthusiastic about being in Afghanistan.

"He always talked about his mission abroad with passion," his family said. "For him it was a way to make a difference in our world."

MADE A DIFFERENCE

Meanwhile, Renaud's colleagues say his contribution made a difference.

Col. Eric Tremblay, who heads the 5th Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group, said Renaud's work in Afghanistan was important. "I can certify that his life was not given in vain, and that his contribution in Afghanistan made a difference," Tremblay said.

"The news of the loss of a brother in arms comes with a great deal of sorrow. The work accomplished by Trooper Renaud was certainly difficult," said Lt.-Col. Stephen Tremblay, Renaud's commanding officer.

In a statement, Prime Minister Stephen Harper sent his condolences to Renaud's family and affirmed his commitment to the mission.

Brig.-Gen. Guy Laroche, the Canadian commander in Afghanistan, noted the three IED attacks in recent days have happened in different places and do not appear to be co-ordinated.

Monday's blast in Panjwahi district resulted in property damage. But on Sunday, four Canadian soldiers were injured in Zangabad, southwest of Kandahar city, when their vehicle struck an IED. KEYWORDS=CANADA

77th soldier killed in mission Trooper leaves behind wife pregnant with couple's first child

SOURCETAG: 0801160317

PUBLICATION: The Ottawa Sun

DATE: 2008.01.16

EDITION: Final

SECTION: News

PAGE: 6

ILLUSTRATION: photo courtesy of Department of National Defence Quebec-based Trooper Richard Renaud, 26, was killed yesterday when the light armoured vehicle he was riding in struck a roadside bomb in southern Afghanistan.

BYLINE: SIDHARTHA BANERJEE, CP

COLUMN: Target: Terror

WORD COUNT: 322

A Quebec soldier who perished in Afghanistan yesterday is survived by a wife who is pregnant with his first child.

Trooper Richard Renaud, 26, originally of Alma, Que., was killed when the Coyote light armoured vehicle he was riding in hit an improvised explosive device.

"Richard left us doing something he loved. We will miss him dearly," Renaud's family said in a statement last night.

Renaud, a member of the 12e Regiment blindé du Canada, joined the military in October 2004, was married and lived in the Quebec City area.

His wife is pregnant with their first child and Renaud also leaves behind a four-year-old stepson in addition to his father, mother and sister.

They say he served in the military with pride and was enthusiastic about being in Afghanistan.

"He always talked about his mission abroad with passion," his family said.

"For him it was a way to make a difference in our world."

Meanwhile, Renaud's colleagues say his contribution did make a difference.

Col. Eric Tremblay, who heads up the 5th Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group, said in statement Renaud's work in Afghanistan was important.

"I can certify that his life was not given in vain, and that his contribution in Afghanistan made a difference," Tremblay said.

SORROW

"The news of the loss of a brother in arms comes with a great deal of sorrow. The work accomplished by

Trooper Renaud was certainly difficult, and the nature of the tasks given to all Canadian soldiers sets them apart and is very gratifying," said Lt.-Col. Stephen Tremblay, Renaud's commanding officer.

Tremblay said he is aware of the dedication and pride with which members of his unit serve and says he finds some relief in the fact Renaud was serving his country with great honour when he died.

The military says Afghanistan was Renaud's first mission.

Renaud's death marks the 77th time a Canadian soldier has died in Afghanistan since the mission in the country began in 2002.

Another soldier was injured in yesterday's blast but has since been released.

The explosion took place during a reconnaissance patrol in the Arghandab district, about 10 km north of Kandahar, at about 7:15 a.m. local time.

Improvised explosive devices are responsible for most of the 77 deaths suffered by Canadian soldiers since the mission began. It appears Taliban insurgents have escalated attacks across the country in the past few days.

The Taliban also vowed yesterday to step up attacks against foreigners by targeting restaurants frequented by non-Afghans.

FUNERAL PLANS

Meanwhile, funeral plans were announced for two other Quebec soldiers who were killed Jan. 6.

Warrant Officer Hani Massouh, 41, and Cpl. Eric Labbe, 31, were killed when their armoured vehicle rolled over in wet, rugged terrain southwest of Kandahar.

Both were members of 2nd Battalion, Royal 22nd Regiment, known as the Van Doos, and based out of CFB Valcartier, Que.

Labbe's funeral will be held in his native Rimouski today.

Massouh's funeral will be held in Quebec City tomorrow. KEYWORDS=NATIONAL

Bomb blast kills Canadian The soldier's death comes as insurgents step up their violence.

SOURCETAG: 0801160464

PUBLICATION: The London Free Press

DATE: 2008.01.16

EDITION: Final

SECTION: News

PAGE: A5

ILLUSTRATION: 2 photos BLAST VICTIM: Canadian Trooper Richard Renaud, 26, of Alma Que., was killed yesterday in a roadside blast in Afghanistan when his Coyote armoured surveillance vehicle, similar to the one shown, hit an improvised explosive device (IED).

BYLINE: TOBI COHEN, CP

DATELINE: KANDAHAR, AFGHANISTAN

WORD COUNT: 276

Trooper Richard Renaud died yesterday when explosive devices planted by insurgents hit Canadian troops in Afghanistan for the third time in as many days in an escalation of violence seen across the country.

While the first two explosions had resulted in relatively minor injuries and vehicle damage to the Canadians, the latest blast killed Renaud, 26, of Alma, Que., of 12e Regiment blindé du Canada.

Renaud's death, in the Arghandab district about 10 kilometres north of Kandahar city, marks the 77th time a Canadian soldier has died in Afghanistan since their mission in the country began in 2002. Most of Canada's combat deaths have been the result of improvised explosive devices or IEDs — commonly known as roadside bombs.

"This is a very emotional time for the family and friends of Trooper Renaud and our thoughts are with them," said Brig.-Gen. Guy Laroche, the top Canadian commander in Afghanistan.

"Our brave men and women have a dangerous but important job to do. Our determination to carry out our mission is stronger than ever."

Renaud and three other soldiers were on a reconnaissance patrol in a Coyote light armoured vehicle around 7:15 a.m. local time when the explosion occurred, Laroche said.

A soldier who suffered minor injuries in the explosion was evacuated by land to hospital at Kandahar Airfield. The soldier has since been released.

"Trooper Renaud died for his country and for the right of the people of Afghanistan to have a peaceful future," Laroche said. "His sacrifice will not be forgotten."

In a statement, Prime Minister Stephen Harper said:

"Trooper Renaud made the ultimate sacrifice while working to bring security, democracy and self-reliance to the people of Afghanistan, all the while protecting Canada's values and security."

"As we mourn the loss of Trooper Renaud we think of his courage, commitment and bravery. He was part of

coalition efforts that are creating the conditions for reconstruction and development to progress in a country ravaged by decades of conflict." KEYWORDS=WORLD

THE AFGHAN MISSION: IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICES IEDs the No. 1 killers in war zones occupied by the West

PUBLICATION: GLOBE AND MAIL

IDN: 080170219

DATE: 2008.01.16

PAGE: A16 (ILLUS)

BYLINE: COLIN FREEZE

SECTION: International News

EDITION: Metro

DATELINE: KANDAHAR, AFGHANISTAN

WORDS: 948

WORD COUNT: 961

COLIN FREEZE KANDAHAR, AFGHANISTAN With yet another one of his men slain by an unseen enemy, Canada's top soldier in Afghanistan was forced to state the obvious in front of a microphone. "The insurgents are using IEDs and IEDs are the weapons of choice," Brigadier-General Guy Laroche matter-of-factly told reporters last night. There was little else to say.

With the week not yet half over, two of the general's convoys had escaped serious injury from two roadside bombings before a third attack claimed a life. Trooper Richard Renaud, 26, was in a Coyote, a light-armoured vehicle built for speed and reconnaissance, when a lethal bomb detonated yesterday morning.

Improvised explosive devices, IEDs, have become the No. 1 killers in the war zones occupied by the West, slaying dozens of Canadians in Afghanistan and hundreds of Americans in Iraq.

"Every time someone goes out the door, they are facing that threat," said Major Max Messier, the Canadian officer in charge of counter-IED measures in Afghanistan.

The military is trying everything it can think of to contain the threat. This fall, \$30-million worth of armoured trucks, 16 in total, arrived for the Canadian troops fitted with technologies to detect and neutralize IEDs before they go off. They also came with built-in shielding mechanisms to keep the vehicles intact in the event of a blast.

In these new vehicles, and in some older armoured troop carriers and Leopard tanks, heavy metal plates, metal detectors, radio-signal jammers, extendable long digging arms and superfluous parts designed to be exploded all work in concert to try to save the lives of soldiers.

Ottawa is tendering a \$30,000 contract to test handheld vapour scanners that detect trace amounts of explosives on people and in vehicles.

Gen. Laroche has also announced plans to pave up to 10 kilometres of Kandahar roads, hoping that by hardening up the roads, and softening up the hearts of Afghans with some paid construction jobs, it will limit the Taliban's ability to place IEDs.

The Canadian efforts pale beside programs in the United States, where officials have called for a "mini-Manhattan Project" against IEDs. Billions are being spent, including some research money destined for

seeming science-fiction projects: New robot dogs that sniff out explosives, aerial blimps that can spot insurgents from above, high-tech laser beams that can zap IEDs from a safe distance.

Those who seek to inspire terror in the hearts of allied soldiers are keenly aware of the uneven economics of asymmetric war. "The Americans know that an explosion to hit a U.S. convoy on a road does not cost us even \$100," the Taliban ally, Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, told a local newspaper last March.

The faded warrior was among the 1980s-era mujahedeen leaders whose troops shot down Soviet helicopter gunships with shoulder-launched missiles. The Russians did the math, concluded they were going broke, and went home.

Since that withdrawal, jihadists have espoused a patient, bleed-'em-till-they're-broke military strategy. Al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden has frequently said he will keep "bleeding America to the point of bankruptcy." Yet the terrorist logic espoused by Mr. Hekmatyar and his ilk "only works if the local people let him place bombs where he wants to place them," said Fred Kagan, a former instructor at West Point.

Mr. Kagan, now a scholar at the American Enterprise Institute, said that while there's nothing wrong with multimillion-dollar solutions to \$100 bombs, science has its limits. "It's the usual technological spiral, you build a better mousetrap, they build a better mouse." Generals in Afghanistan should look to Iraq, where a so-called troops "surge" has dramatically decreased the number and efficiency of IED attacks for the first time in years. The troops surge has made many civilians start to feel safe again, he said, and ordinary people have come to realize they have everything to lose if insurgents infiltrate their neighbourhoods. "It's not the technological solutions that have made the IED attacks go down," he said.

There may be no easy way to win hearts and minds. Yet what doesn't help is when an army captures, then loses, then fights to recapture the same pieces of ground, something Canadian Forces have been criticized for in Afghanistan. "At a certain point people say, 'To hell with you,' " Mr. Kagan said.

The Canadian Forces don't release statistics about how many bombs they intercept, but officials say it is a regular and growing occurrence.

Major Messier, the counter-IED expert, simply says Canadian-led forces are making strides in the villages and countryside. "The locals are talking, they are reporting the stuff they see," he said.

***** By the numbers Improvised explosive devices are the epitome of asymmetrical warfare, in which a disadvantaged enemy uses limited means to extract great losses from a powerful adversary.

\$100 Average cost of a rudimentary Afghan IED, according to warlord Gulbuddin Hekmatyar.

\$26-million Cost of 16 IED detection and disposal vehicles recently purchased by Canada, including parts and maintenance \$29,130 Value of a contract to begin preliminary testing of hand-held explosive-detection scanners tendered by the government of Canada \$200,000 Cost per unit of a so-called Warlock Duke anti-IED signal jammer that can be mounted on vehicles, purchased by the U.S. last year \$4.7-billion Amount the Pentagon is requesting for its JIEDDO research program, formed to assist U.S. forces in the defeat of IEDs \$23.2-billion Forecast value of global counter-IED procurement, services, and upgrade contracts between 2008 and 2012, according to Washington-based Homeland Security Research Corp.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS:

GEOGRAPHIC NAME: Afghanistan; Canada

SUBJECT TERM: strife; foreign policy; defence; equipment; deaths; bombs; improvised explosive devices;

THE AFGHAN MISSION: IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICES IEDs the No. 1 killers in war zones 52 occupie

statistics; table

PERSONAL NAME: Guy Laroche; Richard Renaud

ORGANIZATION NAME: Armed Forces; Taliban

THE AFGHAN MISSION: CANADIAN SOLDIER KILLED ON PATROL Military targets roadside bombs

PUBLICATION: GLOBE AND MAIL

IDN: 080170218

DATE: 2008.01.16

PAGE: A1

BYLINE: COLIN FREEZE

SECTION: International News

EDITION: Metro

DATELINE: Kandahar AFGHANISTAN

WORDS: 630

WORD COUNT: 558

COLIN FREEZE KANDAHAR Another Canadian Forces soldier was killed by a roadside bomb yesterday, the latest in a spate of attacks this week, as the military steps up efforts to counter the increasing threat from improvised explosive devices.

Trooper Richard Renaud, a 26-year-old from Alma, Que., was killed during an early morning reconnaissance patrol in the restive Arghandab region, a valley north of Kandahar that has been a source of concern for NATO since a local chief allied with the government died of a heart attack late last year.

It is the third known improvised explosive device (IED) attack against Canadian military vehicles patrolling the Kandahar area in the past three days. The previous two attacks did not result in any fatalities.

"His sacrifice will not be forgotten," Brigadier-General Guy Laroche told reporters in Kandahar last night. Trooper Renaud was from the 12e Regiment blindé du Canada, in Valcartier, Que.

Trooper Renaud was a member of his armoured regiment's reconnaissance squadron.

The death comes as the military is scrambling to deal with the threat from IEDs, which have accounted for the vast majority of 77 soldiers killed in Afghanistan. Last fall, it brought in 16 armoured trucks fitted with the latest technologies to detect and neutralize IEDs.

More experimental solutions are being considered, like handheld scanners which detect trace amounts of explosives on suspected bomb makers and in vehicles. And the Canadian military has recently announced an ambitious plan to pave 10 kilometres of road in the province, making it harder for the Taliban to plant bombs.

Despite the rash of bombings, Gen. Laroche played down suggestions that the Taliban were stepping up their attacks. "I wouldn't say that," he said. He pointed out the three bombs were spread out over a large geographic area around Kandahar's environs, a dispersal he suggested meant there was no centrally organized campaign.

He said that insurgents in southern Afghanistan have been keeping close to the same "tempo" of attacks as they had been in the summer, without the customary winter lull in hostilities.

Trooper Renaud was in a light-armoured Coyote, a vehicle designed for speed and surveillance, about 10 kilometres north of the city.

Another soldier was injured by the blast, but promptly released from hospital. Two other passengers were unhurt.

Coyotes have been hit in deadly attacks before. Master Corporal Allan Stewart and Trooper Patrick Pentland were killed last April as their Coyote struck an IED.

Two months later, in June, their friend Trooper Darryl Caswell died as his Coyote hit a mine.

Because the Canadian Forces don't reveal statistics on IEDs, it's difficult to say how frequently they occur, how many soldiers are seriously injured by the blasts or how many bombs are intercepted before they go off.

By all accounts, IEDs are a constant threat and possibly a growing one, if this week's events are any indication.

On Sunday, soldiers were driving 35 kilometres southwest of Kandahar city, working to clear mines. Their vehicle hit an IED. All four soldiers were sent to hospital but were soon released.

On Monday, in the same general area, one soldier was injured by an IED but was released immediately from hospital.

In addition to continued bombings of military targets, insurgents have also been hitting "soft" targets, including policemen and foreigners.

Ten police officers were killed last weekend as the Taliban stormed a checkpoint before dawn in the Maywand district, north of Kandahar.

On the same day, a suicide bomber killed another police officer in that area.

The Taliban have also stepped up operations in Kabul, killing eight people this week at a luxury hotel frequented by Westerners.

The Associated Press is reporting that the Taliban have announced it plans to hit restaurants in the capital.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS:

GEOGRAPHIC NAME: Afghanistan; Canada

SUBJECT TERM: strife; foreign policy; defence; deaths; bombs; improvised explosive devices

PERSONAL NAME: Richard Renaud; Guy Laroche

ORGANIZATION NAME: Armed Forces; Taliban

THE AFGHAN MISSION: TROOPER RICHARD RENAUD

Young soldier took on challenging missions

As a member of a reconnaissance squadron, 26-year-old went on scouting assignments beyond the relative safety of Kandahar airfield

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IDN: 080170217

DATE: 2008.01.16

PAGE: A16 (ILLUS)

BYLINE: TU THANH HA AND RHEAL SEGUIN

SECTION: International News

SOURCE: STAFF CP

EDITION: Metro

DATELINE: MONTREAL, ALMA, QUE.

WORDS: 582

WORD COUNT: 509

TU THANH HA AND RHEAL SEGUIN Additional reporting by Ingrid Peritz in Montreal with a report from Canadian Press MONTREAL, ALMA, QUE.

He was new to his regiment, a young man on his first overseas mission who was expecting his first child.

Nevertheless, when Trooper Richard Renaud left for Afghanistan, he was taking on one of the more challenging tasks among the 2,500 Canadian troops stationed in the country's volatile south.

Trooper Renaud, who died yesterday morning when a makeshift mine struck his Coyote vehicle, was a member of his armoured regiment's reconnaissance squadron.

His unit, 12e Regiment blindé du Canada, is the armoured wing of the land forces at CFB Valcartier, Que.

As a Coyote driver, Trooper Renaud was on a squadron that repeatedly went on scouting missions "outside the wire," beyond the relative safety of the Kandahar airfield.

The reconnaissance squadron acts as the eyes and ears of the Canadian military, probing hostile areas in their lightly armoured vehicles.

Trooper Renaud died while the squadron was on patrol north of Kandahar city.

The 26-year-old grew up in Alma, a small industrial town 220 kilometres north of Quebec City.

He was recently married and his wife is expecting a child, according to Alma residents close to the family. He also leaves behind a four-year-old stepson, along with his father, mother and sister.

His mother, Johanne Tremblay, was reported to be devastated by the loss of her only son. "Richard left us doing something he loved.

We will miss him dearly," Trooper Renaud's family said in a statement last night.

Ms. Tremblay works as a cook in a well known local tavern founded by former Montreal Canadiens hockey star Mario Tremblay (no relation).

The mood there was grim last night.

"We are about 40 employees here and a number of them have a member of their family in the army. We never think it will happen to us and the next thing you know someone close to us loses a family member.

It's hard on the families," said one waitress.

Military personnel from nearby CFB Bagotville met with the soldier's grieving parents yesterday. "Of course it's never easy to get news like this," said Lieutenant Alexandre Munoz, who spoke to Trooper Renaud's parents. "It's time for them to absorb the news and to let them breathe." Trooper Renaud enrolled in October of 2004. At the time, it had been three years since the Canadian military had been in Afghanistan and seven Canadian soldiers had died, but it would be another year before the army redeployed to the more dangerous areas around Kandahar where it would engage in direct combat with the Taliban.

Trooper Renaud was the 77th Canadian soldier to die in Afghanistan.

"I can certify that his life was not given in vain, and that his contribution in Afghanistan made a difference," Colonel Eric Tremblay, head of the 5th Mechanized Brigade, the parent unit of Trooper Renaud's regiment, said in a statement.

"Trooper Renaud made the ultimate sacrifice while working to bring security, democracy and self-reliance to the people of Afghanistan, all the while protecting Canada's values and security," Prime Minister Stephen Harper said in a statement. "As we mourn the loss of Trooper Renaud we think of his courage, commitment and bravery." His death came on the same day that visitations were held in Rimouski, Que., for another fallen Valcartier soldier, Corporal Eric Labbe, of the Royal 22nd Regiment, who died two weeks ago in a vehicle accident that also killed Warrant Officer Hani Massouh.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS:

GEOGRAPHIC NAME: Afghanistan; Canada

SUBJECT TERM: strife; foreign policy; defence; deaths; biography

PERSONAL NAME: Richard Renaud

ORGANIZATION NAME: Armed Forces; Taliban

Canadian soldier killed in blast

SOURCETAG 0801160591
PUBLICATION: The Edmonton Sun
DATE: 2008.01.16
EDITION: Final
SECTION: News
PAGE: 28
ILLUSTRATION: photo of RICHARD RENAUD 77th casualty
BYLINE: CP
DATELINE: KANDAHAR, Afghanistan
WORD COUNT: 133

Trooper Richard Renaud died yesterday when explosive devices planted by insurgents hit Canadian troops in Afghanistan for the third time in as many days in an escalation of violence across the country.

While the first two explosions caused relatively minor injuries and vehicle damage, the latest blast killed Renaud, 26, originally of Alma, Que., of 12e Regiment blindé du Canada.

Renaud's death, in the Arghandab district about 10 km north of Kandahar city, marks the 77th time a Canadian soldier has died in Afghanistan since 2002. It came exactly two years after Canadian diplomat Glyn Berry was killed in a suicide bombing near Kandahar on Jan. 15, 2006.

Most of Canada's combat deaths have been the result of improvised explosive devices, or IEDs – commonly known as roadside bombs.

A soldier who suffered minor injuries in the blast was evacuated to hospital at Kandahar Airfield.

The soldier has since been released. KEYWORDS=CANADA

Canadian soldier killed Armoured vehicle carrying Quebec trooper on patrol hit roadside bomb

SOURCETAG: 0801160798

PUBLICATION: The Calgary Sun

DATE: 2008.01.16

EDITION: Final

SECTION: News

PAGE: 10

ILLUSTRATION: photo of RICHARD RENAUD Killed by roadside bomb

BYLINE: SIDHARTHA BANERJEE, CP

WORD COUNT: 335

A soldier killed in Afghanistan yesterday leaves behind a wife pregnant with his first child.

Trooper Richard Renaud, 26, originally of Alma, Que., was killed when the Coyote light-armoured vehicle he was riding in hit an improvised explosive device.

"Richard left us doing something he loved. We will miss him dearly," Renaud's family said in a statement last night.

Renaud is the 77th Canadian soldier to die in Afghanistan since the mission began in 2002.

Renaud and three other soldiers were conducting a reconnaissance patrol about 7:15 a.m. when the explosion occurred.

A soldier who suffered minor injuries was evacuated by land to hospital at Kandahar Airfield and later released.

"This is a very emotional time for the family and friends of Trooper Renaud and our thoughts are with them," said Brig.-Gen. Guy Laroche, the Canadian commander in Afghanistan.

"Our brave men and women have a dangerous but important job to do. Our determination to carry out our mission is stronger than ever."

Renaud joined the military in October 2004.

His wife is pregnant with their first child and Renaud also leaves behind a four-year-old stepson in addition to his father, mother and sister.

They say he served in the military with pride and was enthusiastic about being in Afghanistan.

"He always talked about his mission abroad with passion," his family said. "For him it was a way to make a difference in our world."

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Stephen Harper sent his condolences to Renaud's family and friends and affirmed his commitment to the mission.

"Trooper Renaud made the ultimate sacrifice while working to bring security, democracy and self-reliance to the people of Afghanistan, all the while protecting Canada's values and security," Harper said.

"As we mourn the loss of Trooper Renaud we think of his courage, commitment and bravery. He was part of coalition efforts that are creating the conditions for reconstruction and development to progress in a country ravaged by decades of conflict."

Renaud's colleagues say he made a difference.

Col. Eric Tremblay, who heads up the 5th Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group, said: "I can certify that his life was not given in vain, and that his contribution in Afghanistan made a difference," Tremblay said.

"The news of the loss of a brother in arms comes with a great deal of sorrow. The work accomplished by Trooper Renaud was certainly difficult, and the nature of the tasks given to all Canadian soldiers sets them apart and is very gratifying," said Lt.-Col. Stephen Tremblay, Renaud's commanding officer.

Tremblay said he is aware of the dedication and pride with which members of his unit serve and says he finds some relief in the fact Renaud was serving his country with great honour when he died.

The military says Afghanistan was Renaud's first mission. KEYWORDS=NATIONAL

Canadian soldier killed by bomb in Afghanistan; Trooper Richard Renaud of Quebec on first tour of duty; second soldier injured

IDNUMBER	200801160030
PUBLICATION:	Vancouver Sun
DATE:	2008.01.16
EDITION:	Final
SECTION:	News
PAGE:	A9
KEYWORDS:	WAR; TERRORISM; FOREIGN AID; FOREIGN RELATIONS; AFGHANISTAN; CANADA; QUEBEC
DATELINE:	KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan
BYLINE:	Allison Lampert
SOURCE:	Canwest News Service
WORD COUNT:	343

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan — Trooper Richard Renaud from Alma, Que., was killed and a second Canadian soldier was injured when their armoured vehicle hit a roadside bomb Tuesday in Kandahar's Zhari district.

Renaud, 26, of the 12e Regiment blindé du Canada in Valcartier, Que., and three other soldiers were on a routine patrol in the Arghandab region, about 10 kilometres north of Kandahar City, when their Coyote reconnaissance vehicle struck the improvised explosive device.

"We go there often," Brig.-Gen. Guy Laroche, commander of the Canadian troops in Afghanistan, said of the road they were using. "It's something that we do on a regular basis."

In late October, Canadian and Afghan soldiers chased insurgents out of the Arghandab region following the death of Mullah Naqib, a staunch enemy of the Taliban. His death — and the appointment of his son Karimullah Naqibi as leader — created a power vacuum that prompted a Taliban attack.

The injured soldier was released from the Kandahar Air Field hospital a few hours after the incident and is said to be in good condition.

The latest Canadian death came as the U.S. confirmed it will send 3,200 Marines to Afghanistan this spring to help NATO troops and Afghan security forces confront rising Taliban violence.

It will increase the number of U.S. forces deployed to Afghanistan by more than 10 per cent, follows months of U.S. efforts to persuade NATO allies to provide extra combat forces.

The Pentagon said 2,200 troops from the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit will be sent in March to serve under the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in southern Afghanistan, the heart of the Taliban resistance and where most of Canada's 2,500 troops are located.

About 1,000 marines from another battalion will deploy in April to expand the training Afghan national security forces.

Canadian soldier killed by bomb in Afghanistan; Trooper Richard Renaud of Quebec on first tour of duty; second soldier injured

"NATO's need is in the south at the moment, but what the U.S. has found is that most NATO countries are not willing to deploy forces to conduct combat operations where they're needed most," Seth Jones, an Afghanistan expert at RAND Corp., said.

It was Renaud's first tour of duty. He was shortly to become a father for the first time.

He was living in the Quebec City region with his pregnant wife and her son. He also leaves behind a sister and his parents.

Bomb kills Canadian, injures another

IDNUMBER 200801160040
PUBLICATION: The Leader–Post (Regina)
DATE: 2008.01.16
EDITION: Final
SECTION: News
PAGE: B8
DATELINE: KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan
BYLINE: Allison Lampert
SOURCE: Montreal Gazette; With files from Reuters and Canwest NewsService
WORD COUNT: 423

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan — Trooper Richard Renaud from Alma, Que., was killed and a second Canadian soldier was injured when their armoured vehicle hit a roadside bomb Tuesday in Kandahar's Zhari district.

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Laroche said he wasn't afraid that the enemy was coming back to the area.

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The U.S. troop expansion, which increases the number of U.S. forces deployed to Afghanistan by more than 10 per cent, follows months of U.S. efforts to persuade NATO allies to provide extra combat forces.

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About 1,000 marines from another battalion will deploy in April to expand the training Afghan national security forces.

The move suggests the Bush administration does not expect other NATO nations will provide a large share of extra combat forces in southern Afghanistan, which are needed to help clear and retain territory taken from

militants, analysts said.

"NATO's need is in the south at the moment, but what the U.S. has found is that most NATO countries are not willing to deploy forces to conduct combat operations where they're needed most," said Seth Jones, an Afghanistan expert at RAND Corp.

"His departure will create an immense void in our hearts," Renaud's family said in a statement Tuesday evening. "Richard did what he enjoyed and we're extremely proud of him." The statement described Renaud as a man who embraced life and for whom serving on a mission "was his way of making a difference in the world."

Canadian killed by roadside bomb; U.S. to beef up presence in Afghanistan

IDNUMBER 200801160034
PUBLICATION: Times Colonist (Victoria)
DATE: 2008.01.16
EDITION: Final
SECTION: News
PAGE: A9
ILLUSTRATION: Photo: Canadian Forces / Trooper Richard Renaud was killed while on patrol. ;
DATELINE: KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan
BYLINE: Allison Lampert
SOURCE: Canwest News Service
WORD COUNT: 211

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan — Trooper Richard Renaud from Alma, Que., was killed and a second Canadian soldier was injured when their armoured vehicle hit a roadside bomb yesterday in Kandahar's Zhari district.

Renaud, 26, of the 12^{ème} Régiment blindé du Canada in Valcartier, Que., and three other soldiers were on a routine patrol in the Arghandab region, about 10 kilometres north of Kandahar City, when their Coyote reconnaissance vehicle struck the improvised explosive device.

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Laroche said he didn't fear that the enemy was coming back to the area.

The injured soldier was released a few hours from the Kandahar AirField hospital a few hours after the incident and is said to be in good condition.

The latest Canadian death came as the United States confirmed it will send 3,200 marines to Afghanistan this spring to help NATO troops and Afghan security forces confront rising Taliban violence.

Soldier killed in bomb blast; Trooper becomes 77th Canadian soldier to die in Afghanistan mission

IDNUMBER 200801160024
PUBLICATION: The Hamilton Spectator
DATE: 2008.01.16
EDITION: Final
SECTION: Canada/World
PAGE: A7
ILLUSTRATION: Photo: Trooper Richard Renaud, age 26;
DATELINE: Quebec City
SOURCE: Hamilton Spectator wire services
COPYRIGHT: © 2008 Torstar Corporation
WORD COUNT: 212

A Quebec soldier who perished in Afghanistan yesterday leaves behind a wife who is pregnant with his first child.

Trooper Richard Renaud, 26, originally of Alma, Que., was killed when the Coyote light armoured vehicle he was riding in hit an improvised explosive device.

In other developments yesterday, the Taliban vowed to step up attacks against foreigners, noting they will be targeting restaurants frequented by non-Afghans.

The warning came on the heels of Monday's devastating attack on the posh Serena Hotel in a secure area of the Afghan capital of Kabul in which eight people, including several foreigners, were killed.

Renaud, a member of the 12e Regiment blindé du Canada, joined the military in October 2004, lived in the Quebec City area with his wife and a four-year-old stepson. He is also survived by his father, mother and a sister.

The military says Afghanistan was Renaud's first mission.

His death marks the 77th time a Canadian soldier has died in Afghanistan since the mission in the country began in 2002.

Meanwhile, funeral plans were announced yesterday for two other Quebec soldiers who were killed on Jan. 6 when their armoured vehicle rolled over in wet, rugged terrain southwest of Kandahar city.

Warrant Officer Hani Massouh, 41, and Corporal Eric Labbe, 31, were both members of 2nd Battalion, Royal 22nd Regiment, known as the Van Doos and based out of CFB Valcartier, Que.

Labbe's funeral will be held in his native Rimouski on Wednesday. Massouh's funeral will be held in Quebec City on Thursday.

Canada urged to focus on training Afghan police, army

IDNUMBER 200801160003
PUBLICATION: The Hamilton Spectator
DATE: 2008.01.16
EDITION: Final
SECTION: Local
PAGE: A1
DATELINE: Ottawa
BYLINE: Bruce Campion-Smith
SOURCE: Toronto Star
COPYRIGHT: © 2008 Torstar Corporation
WORD COUNT: 291

Canada should reduce its contingent of combat troops in Kandahar and focus on training Afghan police and army officers to eventually take over security duties in Afghanistan.

That's expected to be among the chief recommendations when a federal panel created to study the future of Canada's Afghan mission after February 2009 releases its long-awaited report early next week.

The panel, led by former Liberal deputy prime minister John Manley, is likely to endorse the transformation of the mission from combat to training that is already under way.

"I hear the recommendations will support the mission in Kandahar with a transformation of the approach to the mission which is already happening," said Alain Pellerin, of the Conference of Defence Associations, a lobby group active on defence issues.

Last summer, the Canadian Forces boosted its mentoring teams to train the Afghan army and launched new efforts to help train the Afghan police.

The news comes as yet another Canadian soldier was killed in Afghanistan yesterday. Trooper Richard Renaud, 26, was killed and a fellow soldier injured when their vehicle hit a roadside bomb during a patrol north of Kandahar city.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper established the panel last October in a bid to develop a compromise for the future of the mission, once the current military commitment runs out in a year.

Pellerin envisages a scenario that puts Canada on course for a gradual withdrawal from Afghanistan, reducing its force initially to about 1,500 — down from more than 2,000 now — to focus on training.

General Rick Hillier, the chief of defence staff, has warned that preparing Afghan security forces to take over is a job that will go past February 2009.

But Manley may suggest putting off decisions on Canada's mission until after the NATO leaders' summit in April in Bucharest, Romania, where Afghanistan and troop commitments are expected to dominate the agenda.

RELATED STORY: A7

5 Minute Herald; Breaking news at calgaryherald.com

IDNUMBER 200801160081

PUBLICATION: Calgary Herald

DATE: 2008.01.16

EDITION: Final

SECTION: News

PAGE: B8

ILLUSTRATION: Colour Photo: Richard Renaud; Colour Photo: Jack Beaton ; Colour Photo: Fresh Gaza fighting threatens peace talks ; Colour Photo: Dibyangshu Sarkar, Agence France–Presse, Getty Images / Picture of the Day: Indian Hindus run with a decorated bull as it jumps over fire as part of Makar Sankranti (harvest festival) celebrations in Bangalore Tuesday. Makar Sankranti is marked by many events, including bull running. ; Colour Photo: Jim Flaherty ; Colour Photo: Jason Arnott ; Photo: (See hard copy for description). ; Colour Photo: Smurfs go co-ed, get movie on 50th anniversary ;

KEYWORDS: 0

BYLINE: Compiled by Heather Ryan

SOURCE: Calgary Herald

WORD COUNT: 944

Top Stories

Canadian Soldier Killed in Roadside Bombing

Trooper Richard Renaud from Alma, Que., was killed and a second Canadian soldier was injured when their armoured vehicle hit a roadside bomb Tuesday in Kandahar's Zhari district. Renaud, 26, and three other soldiers were on a routine patrol when their Coyote reconnaissance vehicle hit the improvised explosive device.

Page A1

Computers May Put Users Under the Microscope

Microsoft is developing Big Brother–style software capable of remotely monitoring a worker's productivity, physical well–being and competence.

Page A1

Aboriginal Population Booming Across Country

The aboriginal population in Alberta and across the country is booming, growing far faster than the rest of Canadian society thanks to a higher birth rate and more people identifying their native heritage, says Statistics Canada.

Page A1

News Sections — A and B

City & Region

Police Commission Will Review Complaints Policy

The city's police commission will publicly review its policy on how long the Calgary Police Service has to investigate complaints against its officers after a judge criticized a "secret" change to the rules. It stems from an case involving Const. Taufiq Shah and former chief Jack Beaton.

Page B1

Bylaw Officers Collar First Non-Licensed Felines

Bylaw officers have collared the first cats to run afoul of Calgary's new licensing bylaw, leaving the animals' owners howling mad.

Page B1

Canada

CMA Chief Touts Need for Private Medical Schools

Private medical schools may have to be considered to offset Canada's worsening doctor shortage and curb medical wait times that are costing billions of dollars, the head of the country's largest doctors' group said Tuesday.

Page A5

World

U.S. FDA Clears Way for Some Cloned Food

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration on Tuesday declared that meat and milk from cloned animals and their offspring is as safe as the natural version, clearing the way for the products to enter the food supply without special labelling.

Page A10

Japan Agrees to Free Two Anti-Whaling Activists

Japan has agreed to free two anti-whaling activists held captive after boarding a whaling vessel in Antarctic waters.

Page A15

Fresh Gaza Fighting Threatens Peace Talks

In a new threat to peace talks, 19 Gazans were killed and at least 45 wounded Tuesday during the worst fighting in many months between Israelis and Palestinians.

Page A16

Traffic

– Road closure: On 1st Street between 7th Avenue and 9th Avenue N.W. until Feb. 23.

- Lane closure: On Fairmount Drive at Farrell Road S.E. various short-term lane closures until Jan. 23.
- Lane closure: On westbound Crowchild Trail at 53rd Street N.W. road is reduced to one lane daily between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. until Friday, at about 3 p.m.
- Lane closure: On eastbound Crowchild Trail between Sarcee Trail and 53rd Street N.W. The left lane is closed daily between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. until Friday, at about 4 p.m.

Commuter Weather

6 A.M. Off to Work: Variably cloudy.

Temperature: –13 C

12 Noon Lunch: Variably cloudy.

Temperature: –6 C

5 P.M. Heading Home: Mainly cloudy.

Temperature: –2 C

Overnight: Cloudy. Low: –3 C

Thursday: Mainly sunny. High: 4 C Low: –7 C

Tuesday: High: –4.3 C Low: –8.8 C

Calgary Herald.com Online Features

News: Police suspect more sex slaves in Toronto.

News: Singing their sadness and sickness away.

Sports: Finding new Leafs GM may be difficult task.

Sports: Senators are no longer jealous of Leafs.

Quote of the Day

"I think the Pope's visit is not a good thing because science doesn't need religion"

Andrea Sterbini, a computer science professor and one of the signatories on a petition opposing a speech by Pope Benedict at La Sapienza university in Rome. See story, Page A2

Calgary Business -- D1

Markets

– TSX Composite 381.5 13316.78

– Dow Jones 277.04 12501.11

– Nasdaq 60.71 2417.59

– TSX Venture 48.74 2769.82

New Real Estate Boss Takes Out Crystal Ball

It was described as a Jekyll and Hyde year in 2007 for the local MLS residential real estate market. When the year was over, the average sale price of a single-family home in Calgary rose by \$72,000 in 2007 compared with 2006.

Page D1

Ottawa Pours Cold Water on Bank Consolidation

Federal Finance Minister Jim Flaherty has backed a decade-long ban against allowing big Canadian banks to consolidate, saying Tuesday that national financial institutions were "well capitalized" and strong enough to stand on their own.

Page D3

Editorial — A18

Better Late Than Not at All

Without wishing to sound churlish, it is worth questioning why it took the city so long to clue in to a way of at least making a dent in the homeless situation — the \$10.3 million purchase of condos for use as subsidized housing.

Page A18

Letter of the Day

If this letter makes one person read behind a headline that tells the story of another senseless death of a young man with so much potential, then writing this letter at this difficult time has been worthwhile.

Andria Teather, Page A19

Herald Hockey — E1

Former Oiler Has High Praise for Joseph's Skills

"He's very unorthodox," said Nashville's Jason Arnott, former teammate of Curtis Joseph. "You come down on him and you think you have him beat, but he comes out of nowhere and makes the save."

Page E1

Sports — E6

Justice to Probe Former Orioles' Steroid Comments

Two high-ranking members of Congress recommended Tuesday that the Justice Department investigate whether former Baltimore Orioles shortstop Miguel Tejada lied to a House committee in 2005 about using

steroids and other performance-enhancing drugs.

Page E6

Real Life — C5

Local Cookbook Author Serves Up Quick Dinners

Cookbook author and Food Television show host Sandi Richard knows a thing or two about hectic schedules — especially when her seven kids (now grown) were young.

"I called myself the Chicken Finger Queen back then," she says, because that's the only meal they'd all agree to eat. Not these days. Now, she focuses on getting healthy food on the table — fast.

Page C5

Calcium Pills May Boost Heart Attack Risk

Older women who take calcium supplements to maintain bone strength may have an increased risk of heart attack, researchers in New Zealand said Tuesday.

Page C7

Sudoku

World's Hottest Puzzle Craze

How to Play:

Complete this grid by placing the digits 1 to 9 exactly once, and only once, in each horizontal row and in each column. Also, each digit should only appear once in every 3x3 shaded or white mini-grid in the puzzle. Sudoku appears on the 5 Minute Herald page Monday to Friday and on the Saturday and Sunday puzzle pages.

Entertainment — C1

Smurfs Go Co-Ed, Get Movie on 50th Anniversary

Envisaged as secondary characters for a single cartoon album, the Smurfs will celebrate their 50th anniversary this year with a movie deal and an invasion of new female characters.

Page C1

Tonight's TV Picks:

– NUMB3RS: 8 p.m. on Global (Ch. 7)

It's An Odd World

Man Goes Out Window With Christmas Tree

A German man threw himself out of an apartment window along with a Christmas tree during a late-night

attempt to dispose of his festive decorations.

The man fell 6.7 metres after he lost his balance throwing the tree onto the street, police in the western city of Moenchengladbach said. The tree did not break the victim's fall. The man was taken to hospital in critical condition with severe head injuries after witnesses saw him fall.

Canadian soldier killed in roadside bombing

IDNUMBER 200801160003
PUBLICATION: Calgary Herald
DATE: 2008.01.16
EDITION: Final
SECTION: News
PAGE: A1 / FRONT
ILLUSTRATION: Colour Photo: Richard Renaud, 26, was killed by a roadsidebomb. ;
KEYWORDS: WAR
DATELINE: KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan
BYLINE: Allison Lampert
SOURCE: Canwest News Service; with files from Reuters
WORD COUNT: 483

Trooper Richard Renaud from Alma, Que., was killed and a second Canadian soldier was injured when their armoured vehicle hit a roadside bomb Tuesday in Kandahar's Zhari district.

Renaud, 26, of the 12th Regiment blindé du Canada in Valcartier, Que., and three other soldiers were on a routine patrol in the Arghandab region, about 10 kilometres north of Kandahar City, when their Coyote reconnaissance vehicle hit the improvised explosive device.

"We go there often," said Brig.-Gen. Guy Laroche, commander of the Canadian troops in Afghanistan, of the road they were using. "It's something that we do on a regular basis."

"His departure will create an immense void in our hearts," Renaud's family said in a statement.

"Richard did what he enjoyed and we're extremely proud of him," the statement said.

It described Renaud as a man who embraced life and for whom serving on a mission "was his way of making a difference in the world."

It was Renaud's first tour of duty. He was shortly to become a father for the first time.

He was living in the Quebec City region with his pregnant wife and her son.

He also leaves behind a sister and his parents.

The injured soldier was released from the Kandahar Air Field hospital a few hours after the incident and is said to be in good condition.

In late October 2007, Canadian and Afghan soldiers chased insurgents out of the Arghandab region following the death of Mullah Naqib, a staunch enemy of the Taliban. His death — and the appointment of his son Karimullah Naqibi as leader — created a power vacuum that prompted a Taliban attack.

Laroche said he wasn't afraid that the enemy was coming back to the area.

Tuesday's attack on Canadian forces is the third incident in the past three days involving roadside bombs, which are responsible for most of the deaths of the 77 Canadian soldiers killed in Afghanistan since 2002.

On Monday, a soldier was treated for minor injuries after his vehicle struck an IED in Kandahar's volatile Panjwaii district.

On Sunday, four soldiers were also injured when their vehicle struck a roadside bomb in the town of Zangabad, 35 kilometres southwest of Kandahar City in the Panjwaii district. They were working to clear mines from a dirt road in the rural area.

The soldiers were said to be in good condition, and two were released from hospital.

Canadian soldiers, who have set up a strong network on the ground in Zhari district, are now moving into Panjwaii, south of the Arghandab River. For 2008, the Canadian Forces plan to set up a stronger presence there, including building a district centre, a police headquarters and paving roads in the rural district.

"Panjwaii is our next focus," Laroche said in a recent interview with reporters. "So a lot of work still has to be done in Panjwaii and you know it's still a challenge."

Three Canadian troops have died since Dec. 30, when 27-year-old Gunner Jonathan Dion was killed after a roadside bomb detonated near his light-armoured vehicle west of Kandahar.

Cpl. Eric Labbe, 31, and 41-year-old Warrant Officer Hani Massouh died Jan. 6 when their light armoured vehicle rolled over in wet conditions. The two soldiers were travelling in the turret of a LAVIII with another pair of soldiers inside the vehicle to set up camp for the night.

All three soldiers were members of the Valcartier, Que.-based Royal 22nd Regiment, the Van Doo.

A Canadian diplomat has also been killed in the central Asian country.

Bomb blast kills soldier; Second Canadian injured on patrol

IDNUMBER 200801160075
PUBLICATION: The Windsor Star
DATE: 2008.01.16
EDITION: Final
SECTION: News
PAGE: C1 / FRONT
ILLUSTRATION: Colour Photo: Trooper Richard Renaud;
DATELINE: KANDAHAR
BYLINE: Allison Lampert
SOURCE: Canwest News Service
WORD COUNT: 383

KANDAHAR – Trooper Richard Renaud from Alma, Que., was killed and a second Canadian soldier was injured when their armoured vehicle hit a roadside bomb Tuesday in Kandahar's Zhari district.

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The wife of Trooper Renaud is pregnant.

"We go there often," Brig.-Gen. Guy Laroche, commander of the Canadian troops in Afghanistan, said of the road they were using. "It's something that we do on a regular basis."

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Laroche said he didn't fear that the enemy was coming back to the area.

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The latest Canadian death came as the United States confirmed it will send 3,200 Marines to Afghanistan this spring to help NATO troops and Afghan security forces confront rising Taliban violence.

The U.S. troop expansion, which increases the number of U.S. forces deployed to Afghanistan by more than 10 per cent, follows months of U.S. efforts to persuade NATO allies to provide extra combat forces.

The Pentagon said 2,200 troops from the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit will be sent in March to serve under the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force in southern Afghanistan, which is the heart of the Taliban resistance and where most of Canada's 2,500 troops are located.

About 1,000 marines from another battalion will deploy in April to expand the training Afghan national security forces.

The move suggests the Bush administration does not expect other NATO nations will provide a large share of extra combat forces in southern Afghanistan, which are needed to help clear and retain territory taken from militants, analysts said.

"NATO's need is in the south at the moment, but what the U.S. has found is that most NATO countries are not willing to deploy forces to conduct combat operations where they're needed most," said Seth Jones, an Afghanistan expert at RAND Corp.

Pentagon spokesman Geoff Morrell said that the deployment of the marines was a one-time mission for "very finite period of time" that would not eliminate the need for troops from NATO allies.

Soldier killed

IDNUMBER 200801160006
PUBLICATION: The Windsor Star
DATE: 2008.01.16
EDITION: Final
SECTION: News
PAGE: A1 / FRONT
SOURCE: Windsor Star
WORD COUNT: 75

Trooper Richard Renaud from Alma, Que., was killed and a second Canadian soldier was injured when their armoured vehicle hit a roadside bomb Tuesday in Afghanistan.

Renaud, 26, of the 12e Regiment blindé du Canada in Valcartier, Que., and three other soldiers were on a routine patrol in the Arghandab region, about 10 kilometres north of Kandahar City, when their Coyote reconnaissance vehicle struck the improvised explosive device. See C1.

Roadside bomb kills Quebec trooper

IDNUMBER 200801160067
PUBLICATION: The StarPhoenix (Saskatoon)
DATE: 2008.01.16
EDITION: Final
SECTION: World
PAGE: C12
ILLUSTRATION: Colour Photo: Renaud;
DATELINE: KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan
BYLINE: Allison Lampert
SOURCE: Canwest News Service; with Reuters files
WORD COUNT: 546

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan — Trooper Richard Renaud from Alma, Que., was killed and a second Canadian soldier was injured when their armoured vehicle hit a roadside bomb Tuesday in Kandahar's Zhari district.

Renaud, 26, of the 12eme Regiment blindé du Canada in Valcartier, Que., and three other soldiers were on a routine patrol in the Arghandab region, about 10 kilometres north of Kandahar City, when their Coyote reconnaissance vehicle struck the improvised explosive device.

"We go there often," Brig.-Gen. Guy Laroche, commander of the Canadian troops in Afghanistan, said of the road they were using. "It's something that we do on a regular basis."

In late October 2007, Canadian and Afghan soldiers chased insurgents out of the Arghandab region, following the death of Mullah Naqib, a staunch enemy of the Taliban. His death — and the appointment of his son Karimullah Naqibi as leader — created a power vacuum that prompted a Taliban attack.

Laroche said he didn't fear that the enemy was coming back to the area.

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About 1,000 marines from another battalion will deploy in April to expand the training Afghan national security forces.

The move suggests the Bush administration does not expect other NATO nations will provide a large share of extra combat forces in southern Afghanistan, which are needed to help clear and retain territory taken from

militants, analysts said.

The United States has about 27,000 troops in Afghanistan — the most since leading the 2001 invasion. About half serve in the 40,000-strong NATO-led force, while the rest conduct missions ranging from counter-terrorism to training Afghan troops.

Tuesday's attack on Canadian forces is the third incident in the last three days involving roadside bombs, which are responsible for the deaths of the majority of the 77 Canadian soldiers killed in Afghanistan since 2002. On Monday, a soldier was treated for minor injuries after his vehicle struck an IED in Kandahar's volatile Panjwaii district.

On Sunday, four soldiers were also injured when their vehicle struck a roadside bomb in the town of Zangabad, 35 kilometres southwest of Kandahar City in the Panjwaii district. They were working to clear mines from a dirt road.

The soldiers were said to be in good condition, and two were released from hospital.

Canadian soldiers, who have set up a strong network on the ground in Zhari district, are now moving into Panjwaii, south of the Arghandab River. For 2008, the Canadian Forces plan to set up a stronger presence there, including building a district centre, a police headquarters and paving roads in the rural district.

"Panjwaii is our next focus," Laroche said in a recent interview with reporters. "So a lot of work still has to be done in Panjwaii and you know it's still a challenge."

Roadside bomb kills soldier on patrol; One hurt in IED blast in area where troops routed insurgents in October

IDNUMBER 200801160014
PUBLICATION: The Ottawa Citizen
DATE: 2008.01.16
EDITION: Final
SECTION: News
PAGE: A3
ILLUSTRATION: Photo: Trooper Richard Renaud is the 77th Canadian soldier killed in Afghanistan since 2002. ;
DATELINE: KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan
BYLINE: Allison Lampert
SOURCE: The Montreal Gazette; with files from Reuters
WORD COUNT: 534

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan – Trooper Richard Renaud from Alma, Que., was killed and a second Canadian soldier was injured when their armoured vehicle hit a roadside bomb yesterday in Kandahar's Zhari district.

Trooper Renaud, 26, of the 12eme Régiment blindé du Canada in Valcartier, Que., and three other soldiers were on a routine patrol in the Arghandab region, about 10 kilometres north of Kandahar City, when their Coyote reconnaissance vehicle struck the improvised explosive device.

"We go there often," Brig.-Gen. Guy Laroche, commander of the Canadian troops in Afghanistan, said of the road they were using. "It's something that we do on a regular basis."

In late October 2007, Canadian and Afghan soldiers chased insurgents out of the Arghan-dab region, following the death of Mullah Naqib, a staunch enemy of the Taliban.

His death — and the appointment of his son, Karimullah Naqibi, as leader — created a power vacuum that prompted a Taliban attack.

Brig.-Gen. Laroche said he didn't fear that the enemy was coming back to the area.

The injured soldier was released a few hours later from the Kandahar Airfield hospital and is said to be in good condition.

The latest Canadian death came as the United States confirmed it will send 3,200 marines to Afghanistan this spring to help NATO troops and Afghan security forces confront rising Taliban violence.

The U.S. troop expansion, which increases the number of U.S. forces deployed to Afghanistan by more than 10 per cent, follows months of U.S. efforts to persuade NATO allies to provide extra combat forces.

The Pentagon said 2,200 troops from the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit will be sent in March to serve under the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in southern Afghanistan, which is the heart of the Taliban resistance and where most of Canada's 2,500 troops are located.

Roadside bomb kills soldier on patrol; One hurt in IED blast in area where troops routed insurgents21 October

About 1,000 marines from another battalion will deploy in April to expand the training of Afghan national security forces.

The move suggests the Bush administration does not expect other NATO nations will provide a large share of extra combat forces in southern Afghanistan, which are needed to help clear and retain territory taken from militants, analysts said.

"NATO's need is in the south at the moment, but what the U.S. has found is that most NATO countries are not willing to deploy forces to conduct combat operations where they're needed most," said Seth Jones, an Afghanistan expert at RAND Corp.

Yesterday's attack on Canadian forces is the third incident in the past three days involving roadside bombs, which are responsible for the deaths of the majority of the 77 Canadian soldiers killed in Afghanistan since 2002. On Monday, a soldier was treated for minor injuries after his vehicle struck an IED in Kandahar's volatile Panjwaii district.

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"Panjwaii is our next focus," Brig.-Gen. Laroche said in a recent interview with reporters. "So a lot of work still has to be done in Panjwaii and you know it's still a challenge."

Caption Only

IDNUMBER 200801160008
PUBLICATION: The Ottawa Citizen
DATE: 2008.01.16
EDITION: Early
SECTION: News
PAGE: A1 / FRONT
ILLUSTRATION: Colour Photo: Canadian Soldier Killed on Routine Patrol: Trooper Richard Renaud was killed and a second Canadian soldier injured during patrol in Afghanistan yesterday, A3 ;
SOURCE: The Ottawa Citizen

Caption Only

IDNUMBER 200801160123

PUBLICATION: National Post

DATE: 2008.01.16

EDITION: National

SECTION: Canada

PAGE: A4

ILLUSTRATION: Black & White Photo: Photo Courtesy Of Section ImagerieValcartier /
ROADSIDE BOMB FELLS SOLDIER: Trooper Richard Renaud from Alma, Que., was killed and a second Canadian soldier was injured when their armoured vehicle hit a roadside bomb yesterday in Kandahar's Zhari district. Trooper Renaud, 26, of the 12e Regiment blindé du Canada in Valcartier, Que., and three other soldiers were on a routine patrol in the Arghandab region, about 10 kilometres north of Kandahar City. ;

SOURCE: National Post

KEYWORDS: 0

IED claims 78th Canadian; Quebecer leaves pregnant wife. U.S. to boost troop presence by 3,200

IDNUMBER 200801160042
PUBLICATION: Montreal Gazette
DATE: 2008.01.16
EDITION: Final
SECTION: News
PAGE: A16
COLUMN: Allison Lampert
KEYWORDS: WAR
BYLINE: ALLISON LAMPERT, ALAN HUSTAK and JASON MAGDER of TheGazette contributed to this report
SOURCE: The Gazette
WORD COUNT: 310

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan – Trooper Richard Renaud from Alma was killed and a second Canadian soldier injured yesterday when their armoured vehicle hit a roadside bomb in Kandahar's Zhari district.

Renaud, 26, of the 12eme Régiment blindé du Canada in Valcartier, and three other soldiers were on a routine patrol in the Arghandab region, about 10 kilometres north of Kandahar City, when their Coyote reconnaissance vehicle struck the improvised explosive device.

"We go there often," Brig.-Gen. Guy Laroche, commander of the Canadian troops in Afghanistan, said of the road they were using.

It was Renaud's first tour of duty and he was shortly to become a father for the first time.

He was living in the Quebec City region with his pregnant wife and her son from a previous relationship. He also leaves behind a sister and his parents.

Renaud's family issued a brief statement last night.

"He was doing what he loved and we are very proud of him," the statement said. "He always talked about his mission with passion and he wanted to make a difference in the world."

His body is expected to be flown to Trenton, Ont., and then to Canadian Forces Base Valcartier on the weekend.

The injured soldier was released from the Kandahar AirField hospital a few hours after the incident and is said to be in good condition.

The latest Canadian death came as the United States confirmed it will send 3,200 marines to Afghanistan this spring to help NATO troops and Afghan security forces confront rising Taliban violence.

The expansion, which increases the number of U.S. forces deployed to Afghanistan by more than 10 per cent, follows months of U.S. efforts to persuade NATO allies to provide extra forces.

IED claims 78th Canadian; Quebecer leaves pregnant wife. U.S. to boost troop presence by 3,20086

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Tuesday's attack on Canadian forces is the third incident in the last three days involving roadside bombs, which are responsible for the deaths of the majority of the 77 Canadian soldiers and one diplomat killed in Afghanistan since 2002.

alampert@thegazette.canwest.com

Dead soldier's wife expecting

IDNUMBER 200801160005
PUBLICATION: Montreal Gazette
DATE: 2008.01.16
EDITION: Final
SECTION: News
PAGE: A1 / FRONT
ILLUSTRATION: Colour Photo: (Trooper Richard Renaud);
KEYWORDS: WORLD WAR I; COURT MARTIAL
SOURCE: The Gazette
WORD COUNT: 79

Trooper Richard Renaud of Alma was killed and a second Canadian soldier injured when their Coyote reconnaissance vehicle hit an improvised explosive device yesterday in Kandahar's Zhari district.

Renaud, 26, of the 12e Régiment blindé du Canada in Valcartier – whose wife is pregnant – and three other soldiers were on patrol about 10 kilometres north of Kandahar City when their vehicle struck the IED. The injured soldier has been released from hospital.

Story, Page A16

Canadian soldier dies in roadside blast Another injured in routine patrol 10 km north of Kandahar City

PUBLICATION: WINNIPEG FREE PRESS

DATE: 2008.01.16

PAGE: A1

SECTION: Canada Wire

WORD COUNT: 406

CNS Allison Lamperth KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan — Trooper Richard Renaud from Alma, Que., was killed and a second Canadian soldier was injured when their armoured vehicle hit a roadside bomb Tuesday in Kandahar's Zhari district.

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"It's something that we do on a regular basis." In late October 2007, Canadian and Afghan soldiers chased insurgents out of the Arghandab region, following the death of Mullah Naqib, a staunch enemy of the Taliban. His death — and the appointment of his son Karimullah Naqibi as leader — created a power vacuum that prompted a Taliban attack.

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— Canwest News Service