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## PRESS RELEASE

### ITALIAN TROOPS SEEK OUT WEAPONS

During the night of the 6<sup>th</sup> of December, Italian Task Force *Dimonios* conducted Operation CLEAR AREA in the zone between Al Riffa`l and qal At-Sukkar. Units of the *Savoia Cavalry*, marines of *S.Marco Battalion* and *Lagunari* troops operated vehicle check points and conducted extensive searches.

The operation proffered many automatic weapons. Thanks to intelligence provided by the local people, a hidden depot containing a huge quantity of weapons, ammunition and explosives was discovered. The cache included:

- 151 Rocket Propelled Grenade launchers
- 53 PG-7 rockets
- 38 PG-9 rockets
- 1 PG-5 rocket
- 1 mortar bomb 82 mm
- 300 kilos of explosive

In addition, throughout the operation, 13 mortar bombs (82 mm), 6 mortar bombs (60 mm) and 6 munitions (37 mm) were confiscated.

**ENDS**

Images are available from Reuters or AFP. Also, the website [www.operations.mod.uk/telic](http://www.operations.mod.uk/telic) contains a library of images that you can download free of charge.