

Canadian Troops Use Cannabis Camouflage

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Canadian troops on a NATO mission to combat Taliban militants in Afghanistan have resorted to camouflaging their vehicles with marijuana foliage.

The chief of the Canadian defense staff, Gen. Rick Hiller, told reporters in Ottawa there were actual forests of 10-foot-high marijuana plants that were almost impenetrable by heat-seeking technology and that Taliban fighters were using it as cover.

Hiller said some troops were using the Taliban's own jungle tactics of using the plants as cover by draping their personnel carriers with cannabis branches and leaves.

He said attempts to eliminate the forests by burning them with white phosphorus and diesel fuel weren't working, as the plants contain so much water, ABC News reported.

He said even successful burning had unexpected consequences.

A couple of brown plants on the edges of some of those (forests) did catch on fire. But a section of soldiers that was downwind from that had some ill effects and decided that was probably not the right course of action, Hiller said.

About 2,300 Canadian troops are based in Kandahar province as part of the NATO mission.

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