Landmines Threaten ROK Troops

South Korean troops stationed in Iraq are exposed to a serious threat due to tens of thousands of land mines buried underground near their base, an opposition party lawmaker said Monday.

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"Some fifty million of landmines, including metallic, nonmetallic and antitank mines, are laid underground of three Iraqi states including Irbil," Grand National Party lawmaker Hwang Jin-ha quoted a local landmine expert as saying. About 2,800 South Korean soldiers are deployed in the Kurdish-controlled town of Irbil. Rep. Hwang called on the government to conduct a mine-removing operation to minimize possible victims of mine explosion.

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