

PN CBRN C Journal

**Issue 49: December 2013
& January 2014**

Intelligent preparation for CBRN terrorism

Published monthly by the Police National CBRN Centre

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Centre Updates

Transition to Recovery

The Police National CBRN Centre is currently working with the Government Decontamination Service (GDS), Public Health England (PHE) and the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG), to gain an understanding of the issues that are encountered during the transition from response to recovery, including decision making & contracting.

Historically, these activities cause delays and protract remediation activities. With an informed understating of the issues, GDS would work with stakeholders to improve knowledge, experience and processes in this area, potentially reducing the overall incident timeline, therefore increasing UK resilience.

We are currently scoping for commanders with previous experiences of handover to local authority or agencies that have produced any local guidance on this issue to come forward and share those experiences with us.

We ask that you contact Pete Burton at the Police National CBRN Centre . Pete.burton-cbrn@college.pnn.police.uk

GDS General and Emergency Telephone Numbers

Some of you may already be aware that the government is closing the use of all 0845 telephone numbers. This means GDS have had to change their general enquiries and emergency numbers to the new 0300 prefix.

The new numbers are –

General Enquiries – 0300 1000 315

24/7 Emergency – 0300 1000 316

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Operational Matters - Incidents Reported-

December 2013
& January 2014

NORTHERN IRELAND

PSNI	2
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NORTH WEST

Cheshire Constabulary	0
Cumbria Constabulary	0
Greater Manchester Police	1
Lancashire Constabulary	2
Merseyside Police	1

WALES

Dyfed-Powys Police	0
Gwent Police	0
North Wales Police	0
South Wales Police	0

WEST MIDLANDS

Staffordshire Police	0
Warwickshire Police	0
West Mercia Police	0
West Midlands Police	4

SOUTH WEST

Avon & Somerset Constabulary	0
Devon & Cornwall Police	0
Dorset Police	0
Gloucestershire Constabulary	0
Wiltshire Police	0

SCOTLAND

Police Scotland	3
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NORTH EAST

Cleveland Police	0
Durham Constabulary	0
Humberside Police	0
North Yorkshire Police	0
Northumbria Police	3
South Yorkshire Police	0
West Yorkshire Police	5

EAST MIDLANDS

Derbyshire Police	0
Leicestershire Constabulary	0
Lincolnshire Police	0
Northamptonshire Police	0
Nottinghamshire Police	0

EASTERN

Beds/Cambs/Herts Police Area	0
Essex Police	1
Norfolk Constabulary	0
Suffolk Constabulary	0

LONDON

City of London	29
Metropolitan Police Service	0

SOUTH EAST

Hampshire Constabulary	0
Kent Police	0
Surrey Police	1
Sussex Police	1
Thames Valley Police	2

Operational Matters

Incidents Reported to PN CBRN Operations Centre - December 2013 and January 2014

The list below is the number of incidents that have been reported to the PN CBRN Operations Centre. By publishing the number of incidents that have been reported, the Centre aims to provide Practitioners with a clearer image of CBRN incidents across the country. The Centre urges forces to continue to report incidents to the Operations Centre, regardless of whether advice is required or not, as it enables PN CBRN C to share the information, nationally disseminating good practice.

DECEMBER 2013—JANUARY 2014		DECEMBER 2013—JANUARY 2014		DECEMBER 2013—JANUARY 2014	
West Yorkshire Police x2	White Powder	Thames Valley Police	Chemical Fatality	MPS x2	Other (Drugs)
MPS x 11	White Powder	MPS	Chemical Fatality	Merseyside Police	Other (Drugs)
Essex Police	White Powder	Police Scotland	Chemical Fatality	West Yorkshire Police	Other
Northumbria Police x2	White Powder	Surrey Police	Chemical Fatality	Lancashire Police	Other
PSNI	White Powder	West Midlands Police	Chemical Fatality	MPS	Other
West Midlands Police	White Powder	Police Scotland	Chemical	West Yorkshire Police	Other (Drugs)
PSNI	White Powder	MPS x6	Chemical		
MPS	White Powder	West Yorkshire Police	Chemical		
Sussex Police	White Powder	Greater Manchester Police	Chemical		
Northumbria Police	Radiological	Thames Valley Police	Chemical		
MPS x2	Radiological	West Midlands Police x2	Chemical		
Police Scotland	Radiological	Lancashire Police	Chemical		
MPS x3	Biological				

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Operational Matters

Humberside Police CBRN SUP Light Response Boxes

Report from Humberside Police:

The Humberside Police CBRN unit, based within Special Operations Training, has been looking at some concerns raised by 1st Responders by the SOP Lights 15 and 16. One of the main concerns was the fact that officers would be entering the hot zone with no SUP set up to allow them to exit safely.

Humberside have implemented the following item in response to this issue:

The SUP Light Response Boxes had to be lightweight, robust and easily transportable so that the first officers collecting their live bags could quickly pick it up along with their kit and respond to an incident.

When deciding on the contents we tried

to look at the amount of items need to safely remove up to 10 officers from their QDPPE with the consideration that after this point we would be looking at the implantation of full SOPs and a full SUP.



Contents

- 1x Drum Stool
- 1x Policy document
- 1x QDPPE SUP crib sheet
- 25x Tuff cut scissors
- 3x Foil blankets
- 1x Blue roll
- 1x Tub of wipes
- 20x Bin bags
- 1x Blue & White police tape
- 1x Red & White police tape
- 1x Hand sprayer
- 1x Bleach
- 3x Water
- 2x Boxes gloves
- 4x Fullers earth
- 1x Floor matting



The Policy document not only contains a CBRN decision log, but also copies of SOPs 15 and 16 to

assist the first officer on scene in their role as initial Bronze Commander. Humberside police have trialled the boxes during their scenario based training, which involved a graduated response to a CBRN incident involving the use of SOPs 15 and 16, and a Constable acting as initial CBRN Bronze. The boxes were well received and the training enabled the unit to look at an issue involved in its first use.

A total of five live boxes have now been placed at strategic stores around the force area providing officers with the reassurance that if they attend a CBRN incident they can be deployed into the scene and will be able to exit from it in a safe manner.

Thanks to PC Nick Jones for this report.

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Exercises

National CBRN Exercise Programme

The Police National CBRN Centre has recently appointed a National CBRN Exercise Coordinator, Sergeant Stuart Beaumont, who is on secondment from the Civil Nuclear Constabulary. Joining Stuart on the Testing & Exercising team are Gerry Harvey-Howson from the Centre, and Jim Gardner (in April) from AWE (Atomic Weapons Establishment). In time the team will also gain members from Dstl (Defence Science and Technology Laboratory), Fire and Rescue Service, Health, Military and the ACPO TAM community, making a truly multi-agency team with a wide spectrum of skills, knowledge and experience.

The remit in the team is to support the Home Office National Exercising Programme by engaging with local Forces and Regional forums to provide advice, guidance and support to the delivery of local and regional CBRN related exercises. The team are aware that there is an awful lot of good work being carried out at ground level, but that often the positive learning from these events is not always captured and disseminated as well as could be. That is where the Testing & Exercising team will be able to assist. The team can assist with planning, briefing and de-briefing functions and will be able to capture best practice and interpret lessons learnt. The team then have the capability to feed any information into the National consciousness, through the governing body at the Home Office, into the National Exercising Programme to, in turn, support the operational front end delivery.

In order for the Testing & Exercising team to build a National picture of planned exercises, and to establish how the team can assist, it would be greatly appreciated if Forces and agencies can share details of any plans to run CBRN, or CBRN related exercises during the coming year, or indeed any that have recently been held within your force or agency. If you feel that there is anything that the Centre's Testing & Exercising team can do to support you in your planning, delivery or debriefing of these events we would encourage you to contact the team, sooner rather than later, to discuss the details further, in order that the team are able to manage your expectations and look to offer as much support as possible.

The team look forward to working with you, and providing a service to you all.

Testing & Exercising Team

✉ cbrn.exercises@college.pnn.police.uk

☎ 02476 516225 or 02476 825952

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Exercises

Humberside Police CBRN Refresher Training

Humberside Police have been running 3 and 4 day refresher training with day 4 being scenario training run at the LifeWise Centre in Rotherham.

The Centre is a realistic indoor road scene with buildings and vehicles that officers can operate around.

The scenario was aimed at looking at a graduated response to a CBRN incident, allowing officers to use SOPs 15 and 16 in a realistic situation.

After being welcomed to the site and given a safety brief at each session, an individual PC was selected to be first responder on scene. They were taken to the entrance to the street scene and given the following information:

“A call has been received from the driver of a bus parked near the court house. The driver states that a male has got into his vehicle carrying a bag and has gone to the rear seating area. Just before the driver was about to pull away he saw some smoke from near to the back seat area—there was then a strong chemical smell. The driver states that some of his passengers are complaining of burning throats and sore eyes. The FDO has identified you as being a CBRN officer and has asked you to attend.”

As per the SOPs, the officer became the initial Police Bronze Scene Commander and looked at the decisions he needed to make prior to other officers attending. The Scene Commander was tested by calls on their radio from Senior Officers, requiring the initial responder to make decisions on the incident. Over a period of time the initial responder was provided with other officers for him to brief and task with roles as per the SOPs.

As the scenario progressed the Scene Commander was given more information, and more officers, leading up to tasking officers to enter the hot zone to tray and save the life of a casualty on the bus.

The Scene Commander was asked to confirm or deny the presence of



CBRN materials and at this point was given DIM equipment to make this possible. As the officers were dealing with this they received further intelligence regarding another possible casualty in a park, requiring the Scene Commander to prioritise tasks within the hot zone and to rationalise their decision.

The first scenario ended at this point with officers being debriefed and refreshed.

Article continued overleaf 

Exercises

Continued from Previous Page:

The second scenario followed on from the first intelligence feed but took place later, after all the necessary CBRN resources were in attendance.

The officers were split into two teams and given the task of creating a clear route to the park, and to carry out a more detailed assessment of the bus.



On completion of the tasks the scenario finished and officers were debriefed. The whole session allowed officers to look at SOPs 15 and 16 within a scenario, and also tested the SUP light box and the new CBRN policy log books. It also allowed officers to practice clear route to target and scene assessment.

Thanks to PC Nick Jones, Humberside Police, for this report.

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Open Source Round-up

The articles that follow are, in some cases, greatly edited summaries of freely available open source material. Details of where to read the full article is given in each case. The views expressed are those taken from the originating source, not necessarily that of PN CBRN C. Any PN CBRN C comments in **RED** should be handled as **RESTRICTED**.

- ☛ Foiled Bomb Plot Suggests IRA Middle East Terror Links
- ☛ Bolton science teacher arrested by counter-terrorism officers over Syria links
- ☛ Devices from London attacks in Met's museum of terrorism used to train police
- ☛ Birmingham terrorist plot gang ordered to pay back £33,000
- ☛ Radioactive material thieves in Mexico likely unwitting
- ☛ Two arrested for alleged terror offence as police investigate suspected Syria links
- ☛ Oxford tent death investigated by chemical experts
- ☛ UK Government Decontamination Service (GDS) workshop helping to speed up incident recovery times
- ☛ Man found dead at Port Meadow in Oxford
- ☛ Al Shabaab trained terror suspect free of all controls on UK streets
- ☛ Horwich post box accused 'had Al-Qaida article and terrorists' explosives handbook'

Continue to More Open Source ☛

Foiled Bomb Plot Suggests IRA Middle East Terror Links

Source: <http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/taliban-ira-irish-republicans-northern-ireland-terrorists-526518>

Date: 1st December 2013

Irish dissidents are in possession of deadly infrared bomb technology that according to experts may show links between republican groups and the Taliban, and lays open an older story of the IRA's involvement with violence in the Middle East.

Recently, police in Armagh foiled a plan by dissidents in Cullyhanna to bring down a helicopter using a mortar remotely detonated by an infrared laser, reports the Independent on Sunday.

Officials have reacted with shock, claiming that weapons so sophisticated have never been found in the hands of terrorists in the region before. "This is a different level of terrorism. When it comes to the sophistication, when it comes to the technological detail, these are things that have never been seen in Northern Ireland," said MP Jim Shannon.

He said that the discovery confirmed links between contacts in Pakistan and Afghanistan and those who manufactured the bomb.

According to Colonel Richard Kemp, former commander of the British forces in Afghanistan, the discovery showed that "information exchange" may be taking place between dissidents and the Taliban. "We did see in the past cooperation between Islamist extremists in the Middle East and the Provisional IRA."

Patrick Mercer, MP, who served with the army in Northern Ireland, said that the technology could have been developed by a current or former serviceman.

"there are many Irishmen serving in all branches of the services. It's not unknown for loyalties to be split," he told the paper.

However a British government claimed that this technology was passed to Iraqi insurgents by the Iranian Revolutionary Guard.

However a British security source told the paper that the technology was initially developed by the IRA, and reached the Middle East through IRA collusion with Palestinian militant groups.

The source further alleged that the technology was leaked to the IRA by British security forces as part of a botched security operation and was used to kill a policewoman in 1992.

Whether the groups are using technology developed with Taliban help, or utilising skills they introduced to the Middle East themselves, experts are agreed that it marks a new phase of deadly intent by dissident groups, with 16 bomb attacks having been launched by the New IRA and other groups disillusioned with the peace process in Northern Ireland over recent weeks.

Professor Richard English, a terrorism expert at the University of St Andrews, said: "Given the capacity which seems to be emerging from the dissident republicans, it would be surprising if there were not more fatalities in the near future in Northern Ireland. The conditions are there for a sustained, occasionally very lethal, republican bombing campaign."

[Continue to More Open Source](#) 

Devices from London attacks in Met's museum of terrorism used to train police

Source: <http://www.standard.co.uk/news/london/devices-from-london-attacks-in-mets-museum-of-terrorism-used-to-train-police-8982427.html>

Date: 4th December 2013

Scotland Yard has gathered exhibits from inquiries into attacks on London dating back to the 19th century.

Items include a bomb timer used by the Fenians — the forerunners of the IRA — in attacks in the 1880s, to a street sign showing blast damage from the huge IRA truck bomb at Canary Wharf in 1996.

One of the original mortar rounds used in the IRA attack on Downing Street in 1991 is also on show. The round was made from a Guinness gas bottle canister taken from an Irish pub. One round exploded in the garden, prompting John Major, who was chairing a cabinet meeting on the Gulf War, famously to remark: "I think we'd better start again somewhere else."

There are reconstructions of the liquid bombs with which terrorists planned to murder thousands of people on 10 transatlantic aircraft in 2006.

The Evening Standard was given an exclusive tour of the exhibition, now in a room in Scotland Yard. It was assembled by Scotland Yard's Bomb Data Centre, part of the force's SO15 Counter Terrorism Command.

The team assembles fragments of bombs and gathers intelligence on explosive devices used in terror attacks in the UK, as well as some used abroad.

They range from incendiary devices created by animal rights activists, to items linked to the Angry Brigade, a small anarchist group based in Stoke Newington that was behind a series of bomb attacks between 1970 and 1972.

Police have omitted items from the 7/7 bombings of 2005 out of sensitivity to the families of victims. However, the exhibition includes a reconstruction of one of the rucksack bombs used in the failed 21/7 attacks on the Underground and a bus two weeks later.

Commander Richard Walton, chief of SO15, said the exhibits helped show the changing nature of the terror threat faced by the capital: "People these days tend to think Islamic terrorism is all that there has ever been, but these exhibits show that terrorism changes with different eras.

"We are currently living through a time of a potent threat from al Qaeda but hopefully it will be defeated."

Other exhibits include a recording of an IRA phone warning about the Bishopsgate truck bomb in 1993; the handwritten note from a senior Met officer handing control of the Iranian Embassy siege to the SAS; and the launchplate for the IRA mortar attack on Heathrow airport in 1994.

[Continue to More Open Source](#) 

Radioactive material thieves in Mexico likely unwitting

Source: <http://www.fiercehomelandsecurity.com/story/radioactive-material-thieves-mexico-likely-unwitting/2013-12-04>

Date: 4th December 2013

Whoever stole a truck carrying radioactive material in Mexico Dec. 2 probably did not know what was inside, said experts on terrorism and smuggling from the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism.

Gary Ackerman, the head of START's unconventional weapons research program, said in an interview that there was only a remote possibility that someone stole the truck in order to create a dirty bomb. Mexico has a high rate of vehicle theft and few of the kind of ideologically motivated groups that would want to obtain radioactive material.

Organized crime in Mexico generally revolves around the drug trade and is motivated by profit. The level of attention that comes with the theft of radioactive material would bring unnecessary risk, noted Michelle Jacome, a researcher at START.

The International Atomic Energy Agency warned the public Dec. 4 about the theft of the truck, which was transporting cobalt-60 from a hospital where it was used in medical treatments to a radioactive waste facility.

Radioactive material is a public health threat even if it never falls into the hands of someone with malicious intent.

In Goiania, Brazil, in 1987, two individuals in search of scrap removed a machine from an

abandoned and partly demolished radiotherapy clinic. The machine contained radioactive cesium-137.

They dismantled the machine, rupturing the capsule containing the cesium-137 and releasing it into the environment. They then sold the machine to a junkyard owner who noticed that the material inside glowed in the dark. Friends and relatives came to observe the material, some even smearing it on their skin.

The exposure caused four deaths, and at least 249 people were contaminated.

A similar episode, involving radioactive materials that was accidentally mixed into scrap metal, occurred in Ciudad Juárez, Mexico, in 1983.

Brandon Behlendorf, another START researcher, said that even if a terrorist group wanted to smuggle the cobalt-60 from the stolen truck into the United States, it would be extremely difficult.

The casing that contains the cobalt-60 appears to weigh about 5,000 pounds, he said. Ultralight aircraft, which criminals use to smuggle drugs across the southwestern border, can't carry a payload heavier than about 250 pounds, Behlendorf said. The casing is also far too large to fit into the small entrances and exits of cross-border tunnels.

That means it would likely have to be smuggled in a shipping container or commercial truck through an official port of entry, where [sensors](#) for radioactive materials would detect it.

The casing is made up almost entirely of shielding material--the cobalt-60 itself might comprise only 1 percent of the total container, Behlendorf said. Theoretically, someone could transfer it into a smaller container, but that would require sophisticated equipment and techniques.

Behlendorf cautioned against speculating about whether someone might use the material in a dirty bomb.

"We need to wait for more information to really start going down that pathway," he said.

UPDATE 12/5/2013 8:35 a.m.: The stolen radioactive material and truck have been found, the IAEA [announced](#) Dec. 5. The cobalt-60 had been removed from its protective shielding, but there is no sign yet that the area nearby was contaminated. The thieves have not been found, and Mexican hospitals are on alert to look for anyone with symptoms of radiation exposure. "Mexican authorities and the IAEA believe the general public is safe and will remain safe," the announcement says.

Continue to More Open Source 

Oxford tent death investigated by chemical experts

Source: <http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2013/dec/08/oxford-tent-death-investigated-chemical-expert>

Date: 8th December 2013

Police have called in specialist chemical teams after a man's body was found inside a tent in a field on the edge of Oxford.

The area around the tent, in a field in Port Meadow, Wolvercote, to the north of the city, was cordoned off after a walker who discovered the body reported a strong smell of chemicals at the scene.

Thames Valley police, who described the man's death as unexplained, cordoned off the scene and sent in a

biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) officers wearing protective suits. The force did not say what substances, if any, were found at the scene.

A police statement said officers were called at 12.25pm on Sunday. The man was declared dead at the scene, and his body "presented a strong odour of chemicals".

The statement said: "The area is being cordoned off as specially trained CBRN officers attend the scene to

investigations can take place. Thames Valley police, Oxfordshire fire and rescue service and South Central ambulance service are working together to progress access to allow investigations.

"Members of the public are advised to avoid the area contained within the cordon and a number of local footpaths have been closed, until such time as access restrictions are lifted."

Man found dead at Port Meadow in Oxford

Source: http://www.oxfordmail.co.uk/news/yourtown/oxford/10863321.Latest__Man_found_dead_at_Port_Meadow_in_Oxford/

Date: 8th December 2013

The body of a man has been found in a tent at Port Meadow in Oxford this afternoon.

Police are advising people to stay away from the popular beauty spot after the discovery by a member of the public at 12.25pm because of a strong odour of chemicals.

Thames Valley Police said the area is cordoned off as specially-trained Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) officers attend the scene to ensure its safety before further investigation can take place.

Thames Valley Police, Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service and South Central Ambulance Service (SCAS) are at the scene.

The cause of the man's death has not been revealed and he has not yet been identified.

Emergency services including police and ambulance staff have been gathering in Walton Well Road, Jericho.

Several police patrol cars are parked by the Walton Well Road rail bridge and members of the public are being told they are not allowed onto the meadow.

Other access points for the meadow, including Jubilee Gate, off Godstow Road, are also closed off and the Thames Valley Police helicopter has been flying over the site.

Thames Valley Police said tonight the death is being treated as unexplained but there are no suspicious circumstances at this time. Supt Steve Hockin said: "Early indications are that the chemical involved in the death of the man is hydrogen sulphide, but emergency services are working together to examine the scene and recover the body as safely as possible."

Sushila Dhall, chairman of Oxford Pedestrians Association, added: "I tried to get onto the meadow but I was turned away and was told there had been a toxic spillage."

"There were people in full-body suits and police are stopping people from going onto the meadow."

[Continue to More Open Source](#) 

Horwich post box accused 'had Al-Qaida article and terrorists' explosives handbook'

Source: <http://www.channel4.com/news/soldier-terrorism-british-nail-bomb-police-germany-salford>

Date: 17th December 2013

AN Al-Qaida magazine article and the Mujahidin Explosives Handbook were found on a computer pen drive discovered at the home of a man accused of planting a home-made bomb in a postbox.

There were also hundreds of pages of information about making explosives on the pen drive found in Iain Merrick's flat in Cheriton Gardens, Horwich, in October 2011.

Det Sgt Russell Stubbs, from the North West Counter Terrorism Unit, told a jury at Manchester Crown Court that the pen drive contained a folder titled "Dangerous".

He said : "There were various different files, many of which referred to explosives and bomb-making, that kind of thing."

These included an article containing a diagram and instructions on how to make a pipe bomb from a 2010 issue of the terrorist pulication "Inspire" and other documents, including The Anarchist's Cookbook and the Mujahidin Explosives Handbook, which detailed how to handle chemicals, the methods used to make explosives and how to avoid detection.

Benjamin Myers, defending, said: "It is not being suggested that he is some sort of Al-Qaida operative."

DS Stubbs detailed a series of scribbled notes found in 38-year-old Merrick's flat which appeared to refer to bomb making procedures and information about his neighbour Sylvia Taylor and her family and friends as well as Royal Mail employees he is alleged to have had a grudge against.

The prosecution claims that Merrick had a vendetta against Royal Mail workers, who he accused of delivering his post to his neighbour.

On April 15, 2011, a home-made bomb, containing matchstick heads and metal fragments was found by postman Ian Platt in a postbox in Winter Hey Lane, Horwich.

Six months later, schools received letters containing indecent images of children with the names and occupations of two Royal Mail employees on the back of them.

DS Stubbs told the court that analysis of a Blackberry mobile phone belonging to Merrick

showed he had a fascination for the Harry Potter actress Emma Watson, and had made internet searches for nude images of her.

A memory card in the phone also contained more than 3,400 images, the majority of which were pornographic, including some of children.

The jury also heard an account of the interview police held with Merrick on October 30, 2011, after he had been arrested on suspicion of distributing indecent images of children.

During the interview he complained he was receiving mail at his home addressed to other people and admitted that he had done research on the internet to find the home addresses of Royal Mail workers.

Merrick denies sending an explosive substance, 16 counts of making indecent images of children, one count of possessing indecent images of children and four counts of distributing indecent images of children.

The trial continues.

Continue to More Open Source 

Bolton science teacher arrested by counter-terrorism officers over Syria links

Source: <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/bolton-science-teacher-arrested-by-counterterrorism-officers-over-syria-links-9045061.html>

Date: 7th January 2014

A science teacher from a Bolton school who was highly regarded by his pupils has been arrested on suspicion of preparing for acts of terrorism in Syria.

Jamshed Javeed, who lives in Manchester and teaches at Sharples High School, was arrested by a regional counter-terrorism unit on 22 December, according to police.

Mr Javeed remains on bail until 5 March, pending further enquiries. The 29-year-old, who taught children aged between 11 and 16, has been suspected from his job while police investigate his intentions for travelling to the Middle East.

It is understood that Mr Javeed, who is from Levenshulme, had not travelled to Syria, but as alleged to have been preparing to do so.

As news spread of his arrest, students from Sharples High School took to social media to express surprise. One pupil wrote: "Mr Javeed is the nicest person, just because he wanted to go to Syria and is on bail doesn't mean he's a terrorist".

Parents were sent a letter from the school's headmistress. It said: "Mr Javeed, who is one of our science teachers, was arrested and is on bail, but not charged, as part of an investigation into concerns around possible travelling to Syria for reasons as yet unknown. I want to reassure you that there is no suggestion that Mr Javeed's alleged activities have involved anyone at the school or the school itself."

The arrest comes amid concern over a growing number of Britons feared to have left the UK to join the predominantly Islamic factions fighting the Syrian regime.

Security officials estimate that as many as 300 young Britons have travelled to the region since the start of the civil war, fuelling concern in security circles about the threat they pose when they return home.

A Greater Manchester Police spokesman said: "The investigation focuses on concerns over an individual travelling to Syria for purposes that are as yet unknown, but are believed to potentially involve terrorism. There is nothing to suggest that

any wider community in Manchester has been under threat."

The school's headteacher Rachel Quesnel told *The Bolton News*: "I have taken the decision, along with the chair of governors, to suspend the teacher in order that a full investigation can take place.

Meanwhile, Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg has disclosed that Britain has accepted around 1,500 asylum seekers from Syria in the past year. Some nine million Syrians are thought to have been displaced during the civil war which started in 2011. The United Nations has called on the international community to offer resettlement opportunities.

[Continue to More Open Source](#) 

Birmingham terrorist plot gang ordered to pay back £33,000

Source: <http://www.birminghammail.co.uk/news/midlands-news/birmingham-terrorist-plot-gang-ordered-6498844>

Date: 12th January 2014

Six Al Qaida terrorists who posed as charity collectors in Birmingham to fund a plot to unleash suicide bombers across the UK have been ordered to pay back over £33,000.

The cell planned to detonate up to eight rucksacks stuffed full of explosives in an attack designed to be more deadly than the 7-7 London tube bombings.

Inspired by an extremist magazine they also spoke of attaching blades to a truck and driving it towards crowds of people.

Ringleader Irfan Naseer, along with Irfan Khalid, Ashik Ali, Rahin Ahmed, Bahader Ali and Mujahid Hussain were all jailed for a total of 51 years for offences which included plotting a bombing campaign in the UK, attending terrorist training camps and fundraising for terrorism.

These would-be bombers tried to finance the massacre by donning high-vis vests and posing as street collectors for legitimate charities duping hundred of innocent fellow Muslims across Birmingham.

Last week Judge Mr Justice Henriques, sitting at Woolwich Crown Court, ordered the men to pay back £33,032.87—with the majority being paid to

Muslim Aid and the remainder to a Bordesley green madrasah the Madrasah-e-Ashraful Uloom.

The terrorists have three months to replay the cash which they had collected over 23 days in buckets and charity tins, or each will face further time in jail.

Some of the money was used to buy a car, while two thirds of the charity cash was lost by the gang's 'treasurer' in a stock market online trading account when he left his computer for just a few minutes to make a cup of tea.

The gang was eventually stopped from carrying out their terror campaign after bugs were planted in their cars and their Balsall Heath bomb-making factory – which relayed the detailed planning back to police.

They were caught bragging about the damage they would cause and criticised the 7/7 suicide attackers for failing to kill more because they had not put nails into their devices in 2005.

The group also spoke of mixing poison with hand cream and smearing it on car doors overnight to trigger a mass killing when people headed to work in the morning.

At their trial last April Mr Justice Henriques told the men: "Your plot had the blessing of Al Qaida and you intended to further the aims of Al Qaida."

Naseer and his closest accomplice Irfan Khalid had even recorded martyrdom videos in Pakistan, which have not been recovered but were intended to be released after any attack.

Police later described the investigation as the biggest since the transatlantic airlines bomb plot of 2006 and said that it had the potential to have caused more casualties than the London bombings of 2005.

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Two arrested for alleged terror offence as police investigate suspected Syria links

Source: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/terrorism-in-the-uk/10577753/Two-women-arrested-for-alleged-terror-offence-as-police-investigate-suspected-Syria-links.html>

Date: 16th January 2014

A British woman has been arrested for alleged terror offences amid fears she was trying to fly out of the UK to support jihadists in Syria.

The 26-year-old was one of two women arrested by counter-terrorism police after she was stopped at Heathrow airport with a "large quantity of cash".

The second woman, a 27-year-old, was arrested several hours later at an address in London.

The 26-year-old was held at 9.20am as she prepared to fly to Istanbul in Turkey.

Police are investigating whether her journey is linked to the Syrian conflict and whether she planned cross over the border herself to allegedly join jihadists or was taking money out to support others.

The second woman was arrested at a property in north west London just before 2.30pm and taken to a London police station.

Both women were held on suspicion of the commission, preparation and instigation of acts of terrorism under the Terrorism Act 2000.

They are both British but not part of the same family.

A Metropolitan Police spokeswoman said the arrests followed an intelligence led operation and were in response to any immediate threat or risk.

Detectives were searching two addresses in north and north-west London.

If the activities are confirmed to be linked to the Syria conflict it would be the first time British women have been publicly arrested in connection to it.

Last month, the Daily Telegraph disclosed that more than 300 Britons are believed to be fighting with jihadist groups in Syria.

Intelligence sources said that Britons make up the largest contingent out of about 1,000 Westerners fighting with Islamist groups against the regime of Bashar al – Assad.

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UK Government Decontamination Service (GDS) workshop helping to speed up incident recovery times

Source: <http://www.fera.defra.gov.uk/showNews.cfm?id=674>

Date:

In 2012 the GDS organised and ran a workshop with key players that would be involved should there be a chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear incident at a major transport hub. As a result of this workshop it was identified that what happens in the response phase can have a dramatic effect on recovery and how long this can take.

The GDS has now worked with the Police National CBRN Centre (PN CBRN C) to develop a workshop to engage, inform and educate the key people involved in responding to such incidents: Police Tactical Advisors.

The workshops, which provide information on GDS roles and responsibilities and explore how Tactical Advisors may assist in reducing recovery timelines, have been a great success. There is now scope to extend them to other organisations and services to engage and educate on how actions during response can have a positive effect on recovery.

Sgt. Pete Burton, PN CBRN C said: "This was an excellent opportunity for the UK Emergency Services to engage with GDS and share knowledge around the remediation of a CBRN scene."

Con. Andy Holsgrove, PN CBRN C added: "The workshops help strengthen the relationship between GDS and the Emergency Services and enhance both our capabilities."

For further information on the workshops or for anything about the work of GDS please contact either Annabel Townley or Katy Halls via email gds@gds.gsi.gov.uk or telephone 08458 501323

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Al Shabaab trained terror suspect free of all controls on UK streets

Source: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/terrorism-in-the-uk/10594930/Al-Shabaab-trained-terror-suspect-free-of-all-controls-on-UK-streets.html>

Date: 25th January 2014

A suspected Islamist fanatic trained by the Somali terror group Al-Shabaab and an alleged recruiter of jihadists has been freed of all controls on his activities.

The man, known only as CF, is also an associate of Mohammed Ahmed Mohamed who fled his terror controls last year and disappeared.

A second suspect who MI5 warned is a "long-term, committed and historically well-connected extremist" has also been released from all restrictions on his movements.

The men are among seven alleged fanatics who have been subject to terrorism prevention and investigation measures (Tpims), which replaced controls orders and were designed to restrict their activities.

A two – year time limit on the orders of each of them will have expired by Sunday and the Government is powerless to stop the restrictions being lifted.

It means they will be free to go wherever and meet whoever they wish but anonymity orders prevent the public from knowing who any of the men are.

CF is a British citizen of Somali descent who, in 2009, absconded from court bail and travelled to Somalia for alleged terror training, court papers show.

CF is a British citizen of Somali descent who, in 2009, absconded from court bail and travelled to Somalia for alleged terror training, court papers show.

He is said to have been trained by Al-Shabaab and fought alongside them over the next two years as well as providing advice on travelling to Somalia to others and attempting to recruit fighters in the UK.

Al-Shabaab is the al Qaeda-linked terror group that was behind the Westgate shopping centre atrocity in Kenya last year that left up to 70 innocent people, including six Britons, dead.

The missing British terror suspect Samantha Lewthwaite, dubbed the "white widow", has also been linked to the group.

CF was captured in 2011, returned to the UK and placed under a control order, which was replaced with a Tpm the following year.

At one stage, he was deemed such a risk that he was even banned from having an iPod amid fears he could store messages from extremists on it.

During a review of his controls in the High Court last year, the Security Service said there remained a high risk of him absconding and that the extremist network he was allegedly part of could help him disappear.

The controls were kept in place even though the court was also told that CF has started a university course and it was hoped restrictions would not frustrate his studies.

Another Tpm suspect, known as BF, is also now free of his controls despite concerns he continues to pose a threat to UK national security.

The High Court was told last summer that BF was a "long-term, committed and historically well-connected extremist and his close associates continue to be involved in ongoing extremist activities".

There are also concerns that he will be encouraged to

continue his alleged terror-related activities by his second wife, known only as V, who is said to hold extremist views herself.

BF is alleged to have travelled to Pakistan in 2008 for terrorism purposes and had planned to go there again the following year when he left a "farewell letter" for his family saying: "I will always remember you and my babies".

The concern is once he is free of restrictions he may now try to travel to Syria where he could connect with al-Qaeda, the court papers show.

"It that event, such a person would constitute a significant threat to the United Kingdom national security and be able to engage in terrorist training and fighting," the court was told.

A Home Office spokesman said: "TPIMs were introduced because Control Orders were not working and their powers were being struck down by the courts.

"They now provide some of the strongest possible protections that the courts will allow and the police and Security Service believe they have been effective in reducing the national security risk posed by a number of individuals.

"But TPIMs are just one weapon in the considerable armoury at the disposal of the police and Security Service to disrupt terrorist activity."