

Corps Relay is a regular bulletin designed to relay matters of high importance relating to Security, Crime, Terrorism and other related topics

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'Daesh' Inspired Terror Attacks continue.....

Dear Reader,

Welcome to this first *Corps Relay* issue of 2016!

Sadly, even during the recent festive season, and early days of 2016, we are witnessing further terror attacks perpetrated directly, or inspired by Daesh.

Daesh is an acronym for the Arabic phrase '*al-Dawla al-Islamiya al-Iraq al-Sham*' (Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant). Recent and notable terror attacks perpetrated in Europe and the USA by Daesh, or Daesh inspired groups or individuals for last month, and January 2016 include the following:

December 2015

2 December - Syed Rizwan Farook and Tashfeen Malik, a married couple, stormed a county health department's holiday banquet in San Bernardino, California, fatally shooting fourteen people and injuring 21 others while leaving a failed pipe bomb at the scene. Both perpetrators were shot and killed four hours later in a shootout with police. Malik pledged allegiance to Daesh on the day of the shooting, and the FBI is investigating the attack as an act of terrorism

5 December - A man with a knife stabbed three people at the Leytonstone tube station in east London, reportedly screaming '*this is for Syria*', before police used a stun gun on the attacker and detained him

January 2016

7 January – A man shouted "*Allahu Akbar!*" outside a police station in Goutte d'Or, near Montmartre, France, where police shot and killed him while a by-passer was shot. Reports say he was wielding a knife and fake suicide vest

7 January - 30-year-old Edward Archer allegedly fired 13 shots at a Philadelphia police officer's car, hitting the officer three times. The officer managed to wound Archer as he was fleeing. Archer allegedly said he committed the shooting "for ISIS", and may be linked to three other Islamic radicals

11 January - A 15-year old Turkish youth attacked a teacher from a Jewish school in Marseille with a machete

12 January - A suicide attack in Istanbul's historic Sultanahmet Square district killed eleven people, all foreigners. The attack, at 10:20 local time, near the Blue Mosque, an area popular among tourists, also injured fourteen. The attacker was Nabil Fadli, a Saudi Arabian national seeking political asylum in Turkey; he was a member of Daesh

14 January - Several explosions followed by gunfire occurred in central Jakarta with a Starbucks and a police station appearing to be the main targets. The attack involved 5 participants and was directed by Daesh

As well as these incidents, there are ongoing terror attacks in Egypt, Israel, Turkey, West Africa, and the Far East, perpetrated by a mixture of Daesh groups, and individuals, as well as those claiming allegiance to other extremist groups within the Sunni, Shia, and other movements.



Terror in Jakarta

Terror in Leytonstone

Armed Police in the UK – Do we have enough?

As countries around the world continue to grapple with the ongoing threat from terrorism, one question continues to be asked here in the United Kingdom: *Do we have enough armed police to cope with terrorism?*

Those of us who saw via the media, and other sources, the number of armed police and specialist armed response units that attended the major terror incidents scenes in France, for example, could not have failed to notice the sheer numbers of armed units available. The notion prevailing amongst many politicians and other commentators in the UK that we can somehow respond and contain such incidents in London with twelve or so Armed Response Vehicles (each with crews of three armed officers per vehicle) has been shown to be defunct, and has been recognised by HMG, and the Met Police, which sanctioned an urgent review of armed police numbers.

Recent BBC reports indicate that six hundred extra armed officers are to be trained, and patrols more than doubled to help counter the threat of a terrorist attack in London. That will bring the total number of armed officers in the capital to 2,800. Met Commissioner Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe has said: *"It will be an expensive option, but is vital to keeping us safe."*

The plan to increase the number of armed officers - which is already under way - will more than double the Met's number of armed response vehicles.

Some experts have commented that too much focus was being placed on London when the terror threat was in fact UK wide. That is certainly an important point given that the last attempted suicide bombing in the UK took place in the Giraffe restaurant in Exeter in 2008!



Nicky Reilly



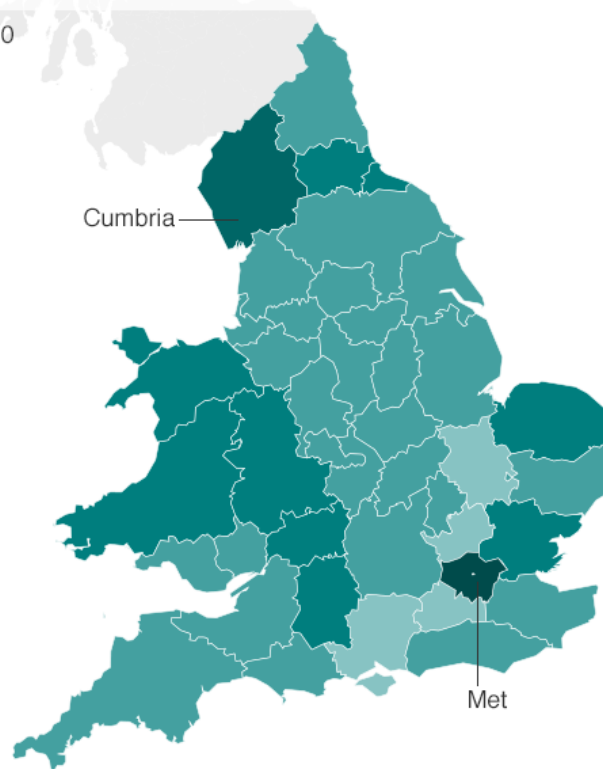
Met Police Armed Response Vehicles

The Exeter incident was a failed suicide bombing which took place in May 2008, at the Giraffe restaurant in Exeter. Nicky Reilly, a 22 year old Muslim convert from Plymouth, was convicted of launching a failed suicide attack. Reilly was the only person injured in the attack.

Armed officers in England and Wales

Number per police force area, per 100,000 population, 2012-13

- More than 20
- 15.0 – 19.9
- 10.0 – 14.9
- 5.0 – 9.9
- 0.0 – 4.9



Source: Home Office, ONS



Of the 130,000 officers in England and Wales, about 6,000 are trained to use guns. The number of armed officers across England and Wales previously fell by 1,000 from 2010 to 2014. The Home Office has made £34m available to improve police firearms capacity and help forces deal more quickly and effectively with a possible gun attack.

Future issues of *Corps Relay*, will continue to provide updates on this important element of policing and security here in the UK. In the meantime the terror threat level in the UK remains at severe, meaning an attack is "highly likely".

Remember! Everyone should always remain alert to the danger of terrorism and report any suspicious activity to the police on 999 or the anti-terrorist hotline: 0800 789 321

Report it!

You may end up saving a life or lives... and there is nothing more rewarding than that.....

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