



Weekly Digest

Advisory Services Newsletter

9th February 2022

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Terrorism Update

The current threat level for the UK is 'SUBSTANTIAL', meaning a terror attack is 'likely'. For further information see [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk).

IS Leader Killed in Syria During US Raid (CNN 3rd February)

US President Joe Biden announced last week the **death** of **IS leader Abu Ibrahim al-Hashimi al-Qurayshi**, who was killed during a **US raid** in **Syria**. Aided by Syrian Democratic Forces the raid resulted in the deaths of 13 people believed to have been caused by Qurayshi detonating a 'huge explosion' killing himself and many members of his family. Qurayshi succeeded **IS founder** Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi who died in a raid in 2019. Qurayshi was described by The Commission for International Justice and Accountability as:

"One of the key architects of the Islamic State slave trade in Yazidi women and children." and " personally enslaved and raped captive women."

IS have not acknowledged the death or named a successor.¹

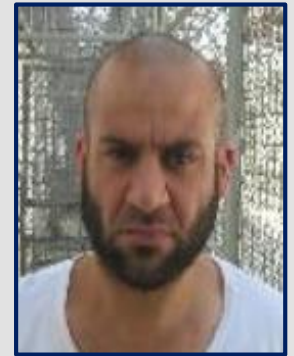
First Ever UK-Nigeria Security and Defence Partnership Takes Place (Gov.UK 3rd February)

The inaugural dialogue for the **UK-Nigeria Security and Defence Partnership** (formed in 2018) took place **last week** with the **aim** of improving work **tackling 'shared threats'** and **keeping 'both British and Nigerian people safe.'** Nigerian National Security adviser, Major General Babagana Monguno said the dialogue would cover terrorism, Islamic State West Africa (ISWA) and Boko Haram.

Armed Counter Terror Police Deployed on 'Vulnerable' Ferries (Guardian 31st January)

In a move to tighten security on **cross-channel ferries**, **Civil Nuclear Constabulary (CNC)** officers will be **deployed on-board** on a rotational basis to offer **extra protection** as concerns were raised over passengers not searched and the ferries themselves being unguarded. It has been stressed there was no heightened threat. A senior counter terror spokesperson commented:

"Ferries are the weak link when it comes to policing transport against terror attacks. Moving a handful of CNC officers to ferries makes sense and they will be a visible deterrent."



[Headline 1 – IS leader Killed in Syrian Raid \(CNN 4th February\)](#)



[Headline 3 – Counter Terror police deployed on Ferries \(Daily Mail 31st January 2022\)](#)

World news/COVID19

Sweden leads medal table in Winter Olympics (Inside the Games 9th February)

Sweden is **topping** the Winter Olympics **medal table** as the first week of the games gets underway in China. Sweden has won **four gold** medals so far with **China, The Netherlands** and **Germany** following closely behind with **three gold** medals a piece. Reports of an 'emerging issue' have been received after the medal ceremony for the team figure skating competition was postponed. An **investigation** was **launched** regarding the **Russian Olympic Committee** (who won the event) and **international doping authorities** concerning drug testing prior to the commencement of the games. **Team GB** have **yet to win a medal** at the games after snowboarding medal hopeful Charlotte Banks finished third in her quarter-final heat on Wednesday describing the race as her "worst of the season". ²

Insulate Britain Warns "We Are Just Getting Started" (Sky News 7th February)

Following the **jail terms** (of 24-32 days) **received** by another five members of **Insulate Britain** last week, the activist group released a **statement** on Monday **declaring** their **campaign had failed**. Undeterred by the failure, the group insisted **their next campaign** was **just getting started** revealing in a statement:

"Now we must accept that we have lost another year, so our next campaign of civil resistance against the betrayal of this country must be even more ambitious."

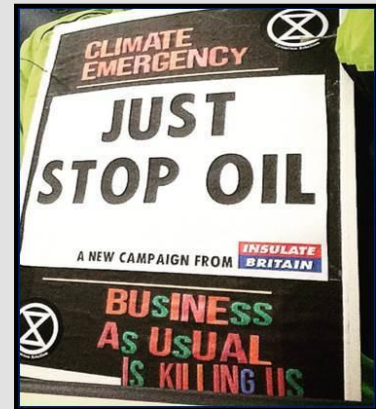
The group intend to restart their campaign in the Spring with protests expected from March. Together with the emergence of another fringe movement '**Just Stop Oil**' (founded by members from Insulate Britain) the UK can expect major disruption. Both groups are delivering a joint weekly zoom meeting to raise awareness and prepare for the new campaign.

Rupert Murdoch's News Corp Hack Linked to Chinese Government (Sky News 4th February)

News Corp announced last week the discovery of a **data hack** that **targeted staff working** for The UK Times and UK Sun, The Wall Street Journal and the New York Post. The hack is not believed to have targeted customer or financial data but after further investigation it is thought to **have links with China**.

David Wong from cybersecurity firm Mandiant investigating the hack stated the evidence suggests:

"A China nexus, and we believe they are likely involved in espionage activities to collect intelligence to benefit China's interests."



Headline 2 – Insulate Britain and Just Stop Oil (Just Stop Oil 2022)



Industry News

Last chance to vote for [City Security Magazine's article of the year](#) award featuring Wilson James' Communications Director **Cadence Woodland's** article on Behavioural Detection Awareness and Client Solutions Director **Marc Bannister's** article on the impact of COVID19 on the current terrorist threat. **Closing date 11th February.**

ENERGY

Shell Reports 'Momentous' Fourth Quarter Profits (Reuters 3rd February)

Shell CEO Ben van Beurden has branded 2021 'a momentous year for Shell' after the oil giant posted **4th quarter profits of USD 6.4 Billion**, largely due to the rise in oil and gas prices recently. This brings Shell's yearly profits to USD 19.3 Billion in 2021 compared to USD 4.85 Billion in 2020. The announcement has prompted **calls for a 'windfall tax'** from big energy companies to mitigate the rising energy costs for thousands of households across the UK.

(Yesterday (8th Feb) BP posted profits for 2021 of USD 12.8 Billion).³

MUSEUMS

Sir Patrick Vallance appointed Chair of Natural History Museum (Guardian 31st January)

Chief Scientific adviser **Sir Patrick Vallance** will become **the new Chair of the Natural History Museum** when current chair, Lord Stephen Green steps down in 2023. Of Vallance, Culture secretary Nadine Dorries said he was:

"An extraordinary, dedicated servant to the nation during the coronavirus pandemic", adding that he would bring a wealth of experience to "help the museum take its important work forward and inspire more people from all backgrounds to pursue an interest in natural history".

AEROSPACE AND DEFENCE

Agreement Reached between 5G US Providers and FAA (AppleInsider 28th January)

The US **Federal Aviation Authority (FAA)** and communication giants **AT&T and Verizon** have **reached an agreement** in their dispute over the use of **5G in close proximity to airports**. This was prompted by 13 major airlines (in January) re-emphasising the FAA's concerns and warnings of "catastrophic disruption" should the plans go ahead. The phone giants have agreed to immediate 'buffer zones' around affected runways and negotiations are underway to come up with a more long-term solution. The FAA had voiced concerns in 2021 about the potential to disrupt aircraft instruments if 5G was used too close to runways.



Headline 1. Shell Profits
(FreebieSupply 2022)



Headline 2. (Guardian 31st Jan 22)



Activism Updates

PROTESTS

Saturday 12th February – Kill the Bill

Location: Parliament, **London** @Midday

Cause: Protest against PCSC Bill and PM

Details: <https://twitter.com/search?q=%23JohnsonOut>

Saturday 12th February – Food Inequalities Rebellion

Location: Parliament Square, **London** @13:00,

Manchester, Newcastle, Nottingham and **Bristol** and other locations across the UK

Cause: Cut Energy Bills

Details: <https://twitter.com/FoodRebelsLDN>

Saturday 12th February – Freedom Rally + NHS 100K

Location: Peace Statue, **Brighton** @13:00

Cause: Freedom Rally

Details: <https://t.me/SaveOurRightsUKOfficial>

Sunday 13th February – Continuing Serco Group staff protest

Location: **Royal London Hospital** and other **Barts NHS Trusts**.
Whitechapel

Cause: Fighting against low pay & exploitation

2 weeks of strike action re Barts NHS Trust.

Extinction Rebellion joining protest.

Details: [Unite the Union \(2022\)](#)

Sunday 13th February – Cancer Research London Winter Run

Location: Trafalgar Square, **London**

Cause: Cancer Research Fundraiser

Details: <https://www.londonwinterrun.co.uk/>



(London Winter Run 2022)



[Unite the Union \(2022\)](#)



Protest Guidance

GENERAL ADVICE

- It is recommended you maintain a good awareness of your surroundings if in the vicinity of a demonstration or public gathering as some protests may escalate into violence.
- Anticipate localised travel disruption in the area of the demonstration.
- Allow additional time for journeys or arrange alternate routes to minimise potential delays.
- If in the area of a spontaneous protest, it is recommended to leave the area by the quickest means possible and seek a secure location.
- Continue to monitor media sources for updates and additions to the scheduled events.
- Consider the possibility of regular protests occurring throughout the summer as they are often not isolated events, with activists returning to the same locations time and again.

KEEPING STAFF INFORMED AND PREPARED

- Inform staff that routes to work may be impacted by protest groups.
- Keep staff updated and provide guidance on how to approach the site (e.g. consider dressing down, no identification on display on approach to site, organised travel from transport hubs).
- Morning Briefs to include lockdown measures and scenario discussion to aid confidence in SOPs.
- Escalation and Incident procedures to be brief. Allocated Team Leads to be communicated.
- Named First Aiders on site to be communicated to the rest of the team daily.

ACCESS CONTROL

- Secondary access points to be used, in order to keep main access areas clear.
- Perimeter Surveillance to be proactively undertaken.
- Reinforce security on approach to site.

PATROLS

- To identify suspicious activity in the area.
- Vary patrols by changing routes and frequency.
- Check all exterior perimeter fencing.

STAFF

- Consider increasing the number of staff on duty.
- Consider patrolling in pairs if appropriate.
- Staff access to the building may be prevented. Consideration should be given to working from another location.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND CYBER SECURITY

- Monitor social media platforms for chatter regarding protests in your vicinity.
- Further guidance to staff could be given regarding their personal cyber security to ensure no cyber-attacks via home working Wi-Fi.

Counter-Terrorism Guidance

THE FOLLOWING ADVICE IS FROM THE [NATIONAL COUNTER TERRORIST SECURITY OFFICE](#)

GENERAL ADVICE ACT (Action Counters Terrorism)

On identifying suspicious activity, individual, vehicle or suspect object, move away and call 999.

Or use the confidential hotline - **0800 789 321**

- **Provide updated and regular threat briefings**
- Maintain an effective **risk assessment**.
- Maintain training and engagement with **ACT app**.
- [Easing Lockdown Vigilance Campaign Toolkit](#)

SUSPICIOUS ITEMS

CONFIRM

- Has it been deliberately hidden
- Is it obviously suspicious
- Is it typical for this location

CLEAR

- Do not touch the item, stay away from the hazard
- Be out of sight of the item or behind hard cover
- Cordon off the area in advance of police arrival.

COMMUNICATE

- Inform your control room/supervisor
- **DO NOT USE MOBILE PHONES/RADIOS** within 15m

CONTROL

- Public should be stopped from entering the area
- Try to keep eyewitnesses on scene.

MARAUDING TERRORIST ATTACK

RUN

- Escape if you can
- Is there a safe route? Run, if not Hide
- Insist others leave with you,
- Leave belongings behind.
- Do not attempt to film the incident. Run.

HIDE

- If you can see the attacker, they may be able to see you. Bullets go through glass, brick, wood and metal. You must still hide, even if you are behind a locked door.
- Be aware of your exits
- Be quiet, silence your phone
- Lock/barricade yourself in
- Move away from the door

TELL

- Call the police
- Nature of the Incident - What is happening?
- Location - Suspects –Direction –Descriptions

BOMB THREAT

- Remain calm and talk to the caller
- Note the caller's number and record the call
- Write down the exact wording and time of call
 1. Where exactly is the bomb right now?
 2. When is it going to explode?
 3. What does it look like?
 4. What does the bomb contain?
 5. How will it be detonated?
 6. Who put the device in place?
 7. What is your name?
 8. What is your address?
 9. Do you represent a group or acting alone?
 10. Why have you placed the bomb?

Note the following

The caller's

Sex / Nationality / Age

What threat language was used

Well spoken / Irrational / Incoherent

Caller's voice

Calm / Excited / Accent – note if possible

Background sounds

Street noises/House noises



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