

19th October 2022

Weekly Digest



**Advisory
Services
Newsletter**



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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).

China Hiring UK Ex-Forces Pilots to Help Develop Military Tactics (Independent 18th October) ¹

The UK's Ministry of Defence has issued a threat alert over concerns regarding the Chinese government's efforts to recruit 30+ ex and serving UK armed forces pilots "to help develop Chinese military air force tactics and capabilities." An MoD source claimed the scheme, targeted at a number of countries including the UK and was facilitated by third party head hunters, offering pilots a generous salary of approx. GBP 230,000. Of those pilots recruited none have experience operating the F-35 stealth multirole combat aircraft, the most advanced fighter jet in the British fleet, however some may be familiar with the Typhoon, Harrier, Jaguar and Tornado jet operating systems. An MoD spokesperson said:

"We are taking decisive steps to stop Chinese recruitment schemes attempting to headhunt serving and former UK Armed Forces pilots to train People's Liberation Army personnel in the People's Republic of China...we are reviewing the use of confidentiality contracts and non-disclosure agreements across Defence, while the new National Security Bill will create additional tools to tackle contemporary security challenges - including this one."

Mosque Used by Abubaker Deghayes Under Investigation by Charity Commission (The National 6th October)

The Charity Commission, the UK's Charity Watchdog, has launched an investigation into the Brighton Mosque associated with convicted terror suspect Abubaker Deghayes, sentenced to four years for inciting terrorism in April. The mosque was issued with a warning in May following Deghayes' (who was a mosque trustee) conviction. After concerns raised by the commission were not acted on, an inquiry was launched. The Commission stated:

"The Commission determined that the trustees knew or ought to have known the risk that this individual posed to the charity and set out the actions trustees should take to protect the charity and its beneficiaries from abuse...However, due to an ongoing dispute at the charity about control of its administration and management, there is an increased risk that appropriate actions will not be taken to protect the charity from further undue risk of harm."

75 Year-old Far-Right Extremist Jailed for Terror Plotting in Germany (Guardian 14th October)

A Septuagenarian retired teacher from Germany has been remanded in custody for being 'the ideological brains' behind a far-right terror group who plotted the kidnapping of a German Health Minister and the destruction of German power plants to deliberately create black outs across the country. Elizabeth R from Saxony was part of a group who sympathised with the anti-vaxx movement, COVID deniers and banned far-right group [Reichsbuergen](https://www.reichsbuergen.de). German terrorism expert Holger Schmidt explained to German media most groups who express these ideologies have no intention of carrying out attacks however

"with this group, investigators are taking their threats seriously particularly after they were found to have been in possession of heavy weapons and were trying to get hold of explosive material."

Four associates connected Elizabeth R were arrested in April of this year after the aforementioned weapons discovery.

World News

Disappearance of Iranian Rock Climber ‘Explained’ as She Resurfaces in Iran (Independent 19th October)

Concerns continue to be raised in Iran regarding their strict morality policy when a female Iranian climber disappeared from social media after competing in an event in South Korea at the weekend, without her hijab. The climber who normally competes with some form of hair covering, was believed to not have worn her hijab in an attempt to show solidarity to the women of Iran, currently refusing to wear coverings in protest at the death in custody of Masha Amini last month. After a brief disappearance from social media the athlete reappeared however, with an apology for the unintentional mistake and blamed a scheduling issue. Her explanation was met with scepticism raising more questions than answers as rumours circulated about her being detained at the Iranian embassy in Seoul. Rock climber Elnaz Rekabi was treated to a hero's welcome when she returned to Iran greeted by chanting crowds at Tehran's airport, before being whisked away to a unknown destination. Ms Rekabi was wearing a baseball cap on her head when she descended the plane in Iran.

Protestor Dragged by Chinese Embassy Staff onto Grounds and Assaulted (Independent 18th October) ².

A protestor, demonstrating outside the Chinese Embassy in Manchester, was dragged onto the grounds and assaulted before being 'rescued' by police on Sunday, multiple media sources are reporting. A Hong Kong pro-democracy demonstration was organised for outside the Chinese Embassy on Sunday 16th with 30-40 activists in attendance. The embassy staff initially asked the protestors to move the demo across the street. When they refused a number of men (some wearing protective vests and helmets) emerged from the embassy and removed their posters prompting a scuffle between them and the protestors. During the melee a protestor was dragged into the compound and assaulted before being rescued by police. Greater Manchester Police were monitoring the protest and officers were deployed when the tension escalated. GMP stated:



Headline 2

[Protestors injuries \(BBC 2022\)](#)

"Shortly before 4pm a small group of men came out of the building and a man was dragged into the Consulate grounds and assaulted...Due to our fears for the safety of the man, officers intervened and removed the victim from the Consulate grounds."

China's foreign ministry responded alleging the protestor entered the grounds illegally. James Cleverly, UK foreign secretary, has summoned the Chinese chargé d'affaires to explain the incident. The victim received minor injuries and remained in hospital overnight.

Three Tribesmen Sentenced to Death for Opposing Saudi's Neom Project (Daily Mail 10th October)

Saudi Arabia's mega-city, Neom, came under fire this week as a judge sentenced three tribesmen to death for refusing to vacate the land used for its construction. The Howeitat tribesmen, detained since 2020, are not the only ones to receive harsh punishment for protesting against the massive project which is expected to host the 2029 Asian Winter Games. The brother of one of the detainees was shot by Saudi forces in April for protesting and other family members of protestors have received decades long prison sentences for showing their support. The city, expected to be 33 times bigger than New York and covering 10,000 square miles will see phase one complete by 2030. Costs are unknown but will be covered by the Saudi's sovereign wealth fund and could take 50 years to finish fully.

Wilson James Health and Safety team have asked all WJ colleagues to view the attached QR link to their Behavioural Safety video and to register their details on completion.



Industry News

ACTIVISM

Day 19, JSO Action: Activists Talked Down from QE2 Bridge After Two days (LBC News 18th October) ³.

Climate activist group Just Stop Oil have entered their 19th day of action in the capital and have no intention of abating until next month say the protestors intent on causing disruption and delays in and around London. 25 JSO protesters attempted to block traffic outside the Science Museum on Wednesday morning at around 9.30am before being swiftly arrested and the road re-opened. On day 18, Tuesday, two activists were finally removed from atop the QE2 bridge at the Dartford Tunnel on the M25, after more than 24 hours at height and were arrested for conspiracy to commit public nuisance. The action caused the bridge to be closed for two days while negotiations took place with the activists. Their over-night stay caused seven mile queues and saw them suffer cold temperatures, winds and fireworks set off in the direction of the bridge, whilst at a height of 275ft.

Cost of Living Protests Erupt Across Europe With Strike Action Planned (Reuters 18th October) ^{4. 5}.

Discontent continues across the majority of Europe as citizens engage in strike action and demonstrations against the cost of living crisis. French trade unions are calling for nationwide strikes and continuing their action at fuel depots across the country. The strikes, on-going for weeks, have started to spread across other energy sectors such as the nuclear industry, disrupting ten nuclear plants in-country. Elsewhere, Germany currently has a three-day pilot strike, Hungarian teachers and students are demonstrating in support of teachers jailed for striking and cost of living protests continue in the Czech Republic and Belgium. Strikes are expected in the UK towards the end of the month. Liverpool Port workers are expected to strike for two weeks from 24th October and GXO.N drivers, who deliver 40% of beer supplies across the UK have also announced their intention to strike from 31st October to 4th November.

SUPPLY CHAINS

Cargo Crime Goods Re-emerging into Legitimate Supply Chains Say Experts (The i 8th October)

Sources from the National Vehicle Crime Intelligence Service (NavCIS) and the Transported Asset Protection Association (TAPA) have confirmed to the I newspaper the emergence a worrying trend in cargo crime where goods stolen “off the back of a lorry” find their way back into their legitimate supply chains. Some lorries can be carrying more than GBP1 million pounds worth of goods with criminals targeting items such as tinned tuna, baby milk powder, cheese, milk, liquor, washing powder, sanitary products and cosmetics. Supermarkets who buy and sell-on the goods unwittingly contribute to the GBP 700Million criminal enterprise that carries a 90% profit margin. Thorsten Neumann, president of TAPA blames complex supply chains allowing the easy reinsertion of the goods and masking their true origins:

“Our supply chain has become so complex that the criminals are using it against us, and nobody is in a position any more to track some products.”



Activism Updates

ACTIVISM

Thursday 20th October – Job Justice Demo

Location: MHRA, Canary Wharf @13:00

Cause: Anti-vaccine protest

Details: [Twitter](#)

Saturday 22nd – Re-join the EU march

Location: Park Lane, London @Midday

Cause: National re-join march

Details: [Twitter](#)

Sunday 23rd – Release Wansantha Mudalige

Location: Parliament Square, London @16:00-18:00

Cause: Solidarity with Wansantha Mudalige and people of Sri Lanka

Details: [Movement for People's Struggle](#)

Tuesday 24th October – The National Alliance UK protest

Location: Parliament, London @Midday

Cause: Petition to investigate the safety of COVID vaccines

Details: [Telegram](#)

DATES/EVENTS TO NOTE

It is likely some of the following list of notable dates or events will see some form of travel disruption. Please check for local updates.

OCTOBER

Just Stop Oil - Westminster Occupation

1st October – 10th November, currently day 19 (Wednesday).

Subscribe today to receive bespoke threat intelligence and alerts during the XR Campaign and profiles on threat actors involved in October's London activism.
advisoryservices@wilsonjames.co.uk

STRIKE ACTION

24th October – two weeks of action by Liverpool dock workers

31st October – 4th November GXO.N – Drivers

OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST:

Black History Month

1st – 30th October.



[National Re-join March](#)



PROTECT DUTY

KNOW YOUR THREAT/KNOW YOUR RESPONSE

KNOW YOUR THREAT

Know how to spot suspicious behaviour, engage regularly with [PROTECTUK](#) where you can keep up to date on the latest training and guidance.

KNOW YOUR RESPONSE

Provide updated and regular threat briefings. Maintain an effective risk assessment. Maintain training and engagement with **PROTECT UK**.

MARAUDING TERRORIST ATTACK

GUIDE

- Know your evacuation routes.
 - Ensure you familiarise yourself with alternative routes should paths become blocked.
- Be able to inform and guide people with clear instructions.

SHELTER

- Know your first aid plans and RVPs.
- Lock/barricade yourself in.
- Move away from the door.

COMMUNICATE

- Know who to tell - Ensure incident escalations are fully updated with correct contact details and shared appropriately.
- Location, Suspects, Directions, Descriptions.

SUSPICIOUS ITEMS

CONFIRM

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

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.

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

Please feel free to engage with Wilson James Advisory Services to further connect to the Protect Duty Program

Reach out to us by emailing Advisoryservices@wilsonjames.co.uk

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.

Ukrainian Donations Information

For those wishing to donate to the war effort in Ukraine or to support the Ukrainian refugees please see the following sites for advice and guidance on how best to do so.

Cash donations:

A cash donation means charities can help with whatever is needed, source things locally, and transport items quickly. It also means volunteers can concentrate on the response, rather than sorting and transporting donations.

[Red cross Donations](#)

[UNHCR Donations](#)

[UNICEF Donations](#)

Helping a Ukrainian friend or family member:

Please contact the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office:

email fcdo.correspondence@fcdo.gov.uk

calling: **020 7008 5000**

British nationals who need assistance:

Consular support is available through the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office 24-hour helpline:

+380 44 490 3660 (from Ukraine)

+44 (0) 1908 516666 (from the UK).

Pakistan Donations Information

**For those wishing to donate to the Pakistan Floods Appeal
please see the following sites for advice and guidance on how best to do so.**

Cash donations:

A cash donation means charities can help with whatever is needed, source things locally, and transport items quickly. It also means volunteers can concentrate on the response, rather than sorting and transporting donations.

[Disasters Emergency Committee Donations](#)

[RED CROSS Donations](#)



Contact
Advisoryservices@wilsonjames.co.uk