

ADVISORY SERVICES Weekly Digest



24th May 2023

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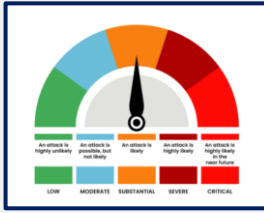
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Terrorism and Threats

PROTECT UK



The current threat level for the UK MAINLAND is 'SUBSTANTIAL', meaning a terror attack is 'likely'
The current threat level for Northern Ireland is 'SEVERE', meaning a terror attack is 'highly likely'
For further information see GOV.UK.

'Significant Risk' for France Ahead of Paris 2024 Olympics (LeMonde 20th May) ¹.

France has expressed concern over the increasing threat of terrorist attacks as the Paris 2024 Olympic games approach. On a visit to Washington DC last week French Interior Minister Gerald Darmanin warned of the 'reconstitution' of ISIS and declared it posed a significant risk to France in the run-up to the Olympics. Identifying the US withdrawal from Afghanistan and France's decreased involvement in Africa as contributing factors he emphasised their vulnerability stating:

"We have come to remind them that for Europeans, and for France, the primary risk is Sunni Islamist terrorism and that anti-terrorist collaboration between intelligence services is absolutely essential,"

21-Year-old Pleads Guilty to Plot to Kill Christian Preacher (Sky News 19th May)

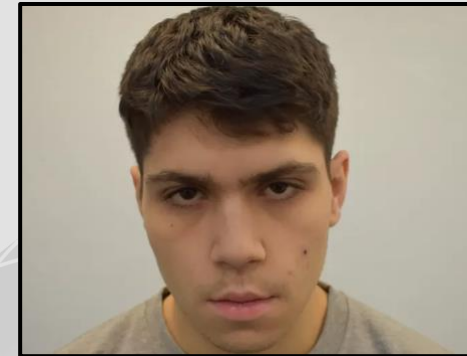
21-year-old Edward Little has pled guilty to planning to kill a Christian speaker, a camera crew and any nearby military personal during a speech at speaker's corner in London's Hyde Park last year. Little was arrested in a taxi in September 2022 enroute to London to purchase a firearm for GBP five thousand pounds. The 27-year-old practising Muslim already had a string of offences to his name and was described by a judge as having an 'absolutely shocking criminal record' that included robbery and drug dealing. Little at first pleaded not guilty refusing to answer questions when being interviewed by police. During the police interview he reacted violently when shown a You Tube video of the preacher who had caught his attention and was his intended target, attacking a police officer for which he received a further eight-month sentence. Little has been remanded in custody until his sentencing on 21st July 2023.

Teenager with Extreme Right-Wing Ideology Guilty of Terror Offences (BBC 16th May) ².

19-year-old, Luke Skelton from Newcastle was found guilty at Teesside Crown Court last week of planning a terrorist attack in the city in October 2022. The student was preparing to detonate a bomb, had surveilled potential targets (including a Newcastle police station) and was found in possession of 'recipes for explosives' and viable ingredients to make an improvised explosive device. Skelton was described as 'possessing extreme right-wing ideology' and had expressed intent to protect white girls from rape gangs, being quipped for a 'full on war' and wanting a 'chat' with a drag queen that was to involve a knife. Skelton had been previously referred to PREVENT but was disgruntled at being 'put on the right path' and was refusing to cooperate, he will be sentenced on 19th June 2023.

Headline 2:

Speaker's Corner, Hyde Park,
London (Sky News 2023)



Headline 3:

Luke Skelton (BBC 2023)

World News

Footage Sheds Doubt on Welsh Police Account of Collision That Led to Rioting (Independent 24th May) ^{3.}

South Wales police are investigating the emergence of CCTV footage appearing to show the two teenage boys (killed when the electric bike they were riding crashed) being chased by a police van minutes before the fatal collision that saw the 14-year-old and 15-year-old lose their lives in Ely Wales on Monday evening. Rumours surfaced about police involvement almost immediately after the crash and is believed to have sparked the riots that terrified local residents and police on Monday evening. 150 people, many of whom were children set fire to vehicles and threw missiles at police (including a door and fireworks) as tensions mounted. By Tuesday afternoon however footage had emerged appearing to show a police pursuit prior to the crash a short distance away and a few minutes before the collision disputing the police and crime commissioner's account of the incident. South Wales police continue to maintain the teenagers (who were not wearing helmets) were not being pursued immediately prior to the collision and officers arrived on scene after the fact. 15 police officers were injured in the over-night violence which continued into the early hours of Tuesday morning.

China Accuses US Semiconductor Manufacturer of Serious Security Risks (BBC News 22nd May) ^{4.}

The US' technological decoupling from China escalated this week after China accused semiconductors manufactured by US company Micron Technologies' of possessing "*significant security risks to our critical information infrastructure supply chain*". China has decided to ban the semiconductors citing the security risk its investigation exposed and the future looks equally bleak for other US semiconductor producing companies exporting to China. Qualcomm, Broadcom and Intel are all expected to have 'security risks' investigated by the Chinese with similar outcomes expected as Micron's share price fell, and its Chinese rivals' increased after the announcement. A Micron representative suggested the company was unconcerned by China's move however, adding that the impact will be quite limited due to the products they import and they will continue "to engage in discussions with Chinese authorities".

Montana Governor Bans Use of TikTok in US State Due to Security Risks (AlJazeera 18th May)

The US state of Montana became the first US state to ban the use of TikTok this week. Montana Governor Greg Gianforte issued the ban alleging a list of complaints against ByteDance who own the social-media app. Complaints include the company's management are 'beholden' to the Chinese government, TikTok can be used to influence Americans, it harms children's mental health and spies on journalists. The ban echoed FBI director Chris Wray's concerns from last year when he declared the app a risk to national security. TikTok denies the allegations maintaining they would never share US users' data with China and that it abides by US laws and regulations due to it being incorporated in both California and Delaware. Last year four ByteDance employees (two from China and two from the US) accessed user data to establish the identities of two journalists (from The Financial Times and BuzzFeed) in relation to leaked information from the company. The employees were fired, and Byte Dance readdressed its user data protection policies.



Headline 1:
Riots and Aftermath
(Wales Online 2023)



The 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

CYBER-SECURITY

META Faced with Euro 1.2 Billion Fine for EU Data Breaches (Independent 22nd May) ⁵.

META Platforms Inc has been hit with a record General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) fine of Euro 1.2 Billion for failing to protect EU user's data by transferring it to the US where it could potentially be used by intelligence agencies. A previous EU-US data transfer agreement referred to as the 'Privacy Shield' was stopped in 2020 due to surveillance concerns however META continued to transfer the data. META has called the fine "unjustified and unnecessary" and insisted complying with the ban would result in the suspension of META services in the EU. An EU ban on the tool used to transfer the data is expected to come into force this month. META must delete the previously transferred data before October this year when a new Trans-Atlantic Data Privacy Framework comes into effect.

MUSEUMS

Ruby Slipper Thief Indicted Five Years after Shoes Recovered in FBI Sting (Guardian 17th May)

Terry Martin has been charged with theft of a major artwork in relation to the robbery of one of four remaining pairs of Ruby Slippers worn by Judy Garland in the 1939 musical The Wizard of Oz. Martin is believed to have stolen the famous ruby slippers when they were on loan to a local museum in Garland's home-town of Grand Rapids, Minnesota in 2005. The shoes weren't recovered until an FBI sting operation in 2018 following a call to insurers by someone offering to assist in their recovery in 2017. The shoes were insured for USD one Million but are believed to be valued at USD 3.5 Million today. Martin is due to appear in court in early June.

Five Men Jailed for Historic German Museum Heist (AP News 16th May) ⁶.

A court in Germany has convicted five men for their involvement in the theft of a collection of 18th century jewellery from a museum in Germany in 2019. The robbery at The Green Vault Museum in Dresden is regarded by many as one of the top ten museum heists in history, where 21 pieces of jewellery valued at Euro 113.8 Million were taken in a brazen theft. The suspects were charged with aggravated arson together with dangerous bodily injury, theft with weapons, damage to property and intentional arson and received prison sentences ranging from four to six years for their parts in the heist. The gang started a fire outside the museum to cut the power supply and were caught, after making good their escape, within months. The majority of the stolen items were returned, however costs for damages during the break-in, the repair of returned damaged items and missing items (including four large diamonds) totalled EUR 89Million.



Headline: 2
The Jewell Room, Green Vault
Museum, Germany
(AP NEWS 2023)



Headline: 3
Dorothy's Ruby Slippers
(The Guardian 2023)



Activism Updates

ACTIVISM

Monday 24th April Onwards – Just Stop Oil

Location: Slow Marches in London from 24/4

Cause: New campaign by JSO following XR's The Big One

Details: [INFO](#)

From Saturday 29th April – Long Walk to Peace and Freedom

Location: Glasgow to Westminster

Cause: March to the capital from Scotland, 29 expressed intent to join march on Facebook

Details: [Facebook](#)

Saturday 27th May – Anti-Vax protest

Location: Pfizer HQ, Walton Oaks, Surrey @10:00

Cause: Protest against Pfizer's Vaccine programme

Details: [Telegram](#)

Saturday 27th May – Not My Bill

Location: Parliament Square, London @Midday

Cause: Public Order Bill protest

Details: [Info](#)

Saturday 27th May – Anti ULEZ Protest

Location: London Bridge @Midday

Cause: Protest against Pfizer's Vaccine programme

Details: [Telegram](#)

STRIKES

Unite the Union are calling on security staff at Heathrow Airport Terminal 5 and campus security officers to strike from 25th – 27th May. Disruption is expected.

WARNING: TIKTOK HOUSE BARGING TREND

Following the arrest of the Tiktok star thought responsible for a recent UK craze whereby youths barge into homes and vehicles without the owners' permission, please find some guidance on how to secure your home from such incidents.

Bacari-Bronze O'Garro from Hackney will appear in court today (Wednesday) charged with failing to comply with a community protection order. The order seeks to stop 'unreasonable, ongoing problems or nuisances which negatively affect the community's quality of life'. [7](#). [8](#). [9](#). [10](#).

1. Ensure front door is closed and locked always regardless of how close to the door you intend to be.
2. Make it regular practice to lock the front door when you are inside your home also.
 - Both these actions will also help prevent burglaries especially during summer months when people are likely to spend more time in the garden.
3. Apply the above to other access points such as back doors, gates and windows
4. Maintain awareness in the neighbourhood.
5. Report suspicious activity to police.



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.



Contact
Advisoryservices@wilsonjames.co.uk