

**Elementary**

***Today you are going to read about the terrorists' threat in Britain.***

Source: <http://www.simpleenglishnews.com/18044london.shtml>

**Police Are Searching for the London Car Bombers**

Police were able to stop two car bombs from going off in central London on Friday. The bombs would have gone off in the Haymarket area, one of the busiest parts of the city. An ambulance driver spotted a suspicious car outside of a nightclub late on Thursday evening and informed police about it. On Friday morning police were informed by workers at a parking garage about a second suspicious car which had been ticketed and towed there. Police are still hunting for the people who were behind the failed attack. The bombs would have been triggered by a mobile phone. If the bombs had gone off, they would have caused severe damage and loss of life.

**Glossary:**

Go off – felrobbani  
Spot – észrevenni  
Suspicious – gyanús  
Tow – elvontat  
Failed – megbukott  
Trigger – élesít, beindít  
Severe – komoly, súlyos  
Damage – kár  
Loss – veszteség

*Find synonyms in the text for the following words.*

1. can
2. explode
3. see
4. tell someone about something
5. look for
6. unsuccessful
7. serious

*Now answer the questions.*

1. Who are policemen searching for?
2. What could they stop last Friday?
3. Where did they find the bombs?
4. When did they find the bombs?
5. How did they get to know about the bombs?
6. How did the terrorists want to start the explosions?
7. What would have happened if the bombs had gone off?

**Intermediate**

***Today you are going to read about the terrorists' threat in Britain.***

Source: <http://news.independent.co.uk/uk/crime/article2725714.ece>

**The hunt for the London terrorists: Attempt may show change of tactics  
Did the attackers simply fail to make a bigger device, or is this al-Qa'ida's new way of igniting fear on the streets?**

The London car bombers could not have destroyed the Tiger Tiger club and killed people in it, experts said last night. The huge manhunt for the would-be mass murderers by police and security services was given new urgency by an attack on Glasgow airport yesterday and the fear of further incidents.

However, it emerged that the Haymarket gas and nail bomb was almost certainly not big enough to have brought down the building, as previously reported. It would have killed and maimed within 100 metres.

Security forces have two theories. The first is that a recent crackdown stopped the terrorists getting their hands on as powerful a bomb as they would have liked. The second is that al-Qa'ida - still the most likely suspect - has changed its tactics. Instead of striking at showpiece buildings it is choosing smaller, unpredictable targets that will cause fear and panic on ordinary streets. One may, of course, have led to the other.

Police are also believed to be urgently seeking three men who went missing while under anti-terror control orders. One of them, a 26-year-old former Tube driver of Algerian descent, is alleged to have talked about wanting to blow up a nightclub. All three were previously thought to have left the country.

A first bomb was found in a Mercedes outside the Tiger Tiger club in Haymarket just before 2am on Friday. An ambulance crew treating a man who had hurt his head saw vapours in the car and alerted the police. Bomb disposal officers risked their lives to defuse the lethal combination of petrol, gas and nails inside.

Police think that an explosion here might have been intended to draw panicking revellers out on to the streets, where they would have been joined by the emergency services. Then another, bigger bomb in a second Mercedes among them could have been triggered, causing hundreds of deaths.

A blue 280E model Mercedes was illegally parked in Cockspur Street, near Trafalgar Square, but was towed to a Park Lane car pound at 3.30am on Friday. The explosive device inside did not go off. If successful, the trap would have resembled the attack on backpackers in a Bali nightclub in 2002, when a suicide bomb led those escaping straight into the path of a van packed with explosives.

"The danger here is that we are entering the era of the car bomb," said an intelligence source. "In the past, al-Qa'ida-style terrorists have used high-explosive bombs aimed at symbolic, high-profile targets," he said, but that might have changed out of necessity. "It's easy to make a gas and nail car bomb without raising suspicion."

The plot has striking similarities with one that resulted in Dhiren Barot being jailed for life last November, for conspiring to park limousines packed with gas canisters underneath high-profile buildings, with the intention of later detonating them. Another member of the gang jailed in connection with that plot had a brother called Lamine Adam who allegedly spoke of attacking clubs. Adam was put under a control order with his younger brother Ibrahim, 20, and their friend Cerie Bullivant, 24. But all three disappeared.

It is now known that the bomb outside Tiger Tiger would have been set off by a call to a mobile phone in the car triggering a home-made incendiary detonator. This would have set light to petrol vapour, instantly exploding petrol cans in the car and the fuel tank. As the car burned very quickly the heat would have detonated gas cylinders containing compressed gas, causing a large explosion and scattering the nails.

Although deadly - the ambulance crew and any revellers on the pavement would have been killed - it would not have caused serious damage to the club or brought down the building.



The two cars were meant to have burned in the attacks, destroying all evidence. Instead they are now in the specialist Forensic Explosives Laboratory concealed in the countryside in Kent. That is where experts pored over the double-decker bus blown apart in the 7 July 2005 attacks in London.

In lab X47 teams of scientists are examining the two Mercedes, looking for evidence such as hair, skin, sweat or clothes fibres. Others are examining the chemical make-up of the bombs, which may lead them to a particular part of the country, even a specific supplier.

There could also be incriminating documents that were meant to be destroyed by fire. Police will take the mobile phone removed by the bomb disposal team and find out whether it had been bought or stolen. They will find the numbers it has called and received.

Although delighted at this high-quality forensic evidence, the police hope to capture clear images of the drivers and any passengers. The London car bombers chose to strike in one of the world's most heavily filmed areas. Yesterday there were reports that the police had captured a "crystal clear" image of a suspect leaving the vehicle outside the Haymarket club, but no pictures have yet been made public.

Experts were last night sifting through hours of material recorded by a network of 33 street CCTV cameras in the West End. Three more cameras are located in vans that tour the area, and Westminster council has an additional 30 cameras that can be moved around and operated through laptops. Detectives were also looking to trace the routes the cars took towards their destination, using 52 cameras that monitor every road entrance to central London.

This so-called "ring of steel" may tell police where the cars came from, enabling them to trace their starting points.

Whitehall sources said there had not been any specific intelligence and no one had claimed responsibility for the attempted bombings.

Intelligence sources say that two rather than one car bomb points to the existence of a cell of al-Qa'ida sympathisers. The unsophisticated devices suggest a "home-grown" cell of radical British Islamists rather than a cell infiltrated from abroad.

Deputy Assistant Commissioner Peter Clarke, head of Scotland Yard's counter-terrorism command, said yesterday's attack on Glasgow made it obvious that the public should be on their guard.

MI5 said last year it believed Islamist radicals were plotting at least 30 major terrorist attacks in Britain and it was tracking some 1,600 suspects.

*Find synonyms for these words in the text.*

1. not manage to do something
2. to (cause to) start burning or explode
3. to injure a person so severely that a part of their body will no longer work as it should:
4. an extremely good example of something, which deserves to be admired:
5. search:
6. to make a difficult or dangerous situation calmer by reducing or removing its cause, or to prevent a bomb from exploding:
7. deadly:
8. people who dance, drink, sing, etc. at a party or in public, especially in a noisy way:
9. attracting a lot of attention and interest from the public and newspapers, television, etc:
10. to make a close examination of all the parts of something in order to find something or to separate what is useful from what is not:

*Write true sentences with the following words.*

1. an attack on Glasgow airport
2. not big enough
3. smaller, unpredictable targets



4. Mercedes
5. mobile phone
6. Forensic Explosives Laboratory
7. "crystal clear"
8. street CCTV cameras
9. unsophisticated devices
10. major terrorist attacks

## Advanced

### ***Today you are going to read about the terrorists' threat in Britain.***

Source: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/terrorism/story/0,,2115996,00.html>

### **Police expand terror attack inquiries**

A fifth individual was today arrested in connection with the attempted car bombings in London and Glasgow as the investigation spread nationwide.

Houses were searched in Liverpool, Staffordshire and near Glasgow. The fifth arrest, of a 26-year-old man, was made this morning in Liverpool.

It followed the overnight arrest of a man and woman on the M6 motorway in Cheshire and the arrest of the two men who yesterday rammed a flaming Jeep Cherokee at Glasgow airport.

Peter Clarke, the head of the Scotland Yard counter-terrorism unit, said police were making rapid progress in the hunt for suspects.

"We are learning a great deal about the people involved in the attacks here in Glasgow and in the attempted attacks in central London. The links between them are becoming ever clearer," he said today.

"I'm confident, absolutely confident, that in the coming days and weeks we will be able to gain a thorough understanding of the methods used by the terrorists, the way in which they planned their attacks and the network to which they belong."

Assistant chief constable John Malcolm of Strathclyde police issued an appeal for information about sightings of the green Jeep Cherokee - registration L808 RDT - over the last days and weeks.

He said investigators also wanted the public to provide videos or photographs of the incident and its build-up.

The government yesterday raised the terror alert to its highest level, meaning an attack is considered imminent.

The prime minister, Gordon Brown, warned that while Britain would not yield to terrorism, it was subject to a "long-term and sustained" threat.

He told the BBC Sunday AM programme: "While I don't want to comment on the police investigation that is on-going, it is clear that we are dealing in general terms with people who are associated with al-Qaida.

"It wants to make its point, its propaganda effort, by inflicting maximum damage, irrespective of religion, on civilian life."

At 3.11pm yesterday, the Jeep Cherokee, wreathed in flames, was crashed into the doors of the main terminal building at Glasgow.

With the help of bystanders, the two men inside were overpowered and arrested. One, thought to be the driver, threw petrol over himself and set it alight.

The man is still in a "critical" condition at Paisley's Royal Alexandra hospital and under armed guard, police said today.

A controlled explosion was carried out at the hospital on a car, thought to be connected to the yesterday's incident.

Police are linking the Glasgow attack to the discovery of two car bombs in central London on Friday.



The home secretary, Jacqui Smith, who will make a statement to parliament tomorrow on the terror alert, said it was vital for the public to remain vigilant and report suspicious activity to the police.

A number of houses near Glasgow airport, in the village of Houston, were searched in connection with the attack.

Maya Logan, who also lives in the village, told the Press Association she had seen a man washing a 4x4-style Jeep.

She said she had seen it parked outside the property in recent weeks. The 29-year-old student said: "I can't remember the colour or the make, but it was a big 4x4 Jeep."

Another resident, Callum Graham, said his friend had seen two men of Asian appearance going into the house where Ms Logan had seen the Jeep.

"As far as I know, people had no dealings with them," he said. "We think they have only been there a few months."

Police officers have erected a tent outside the back of the house. Other officers brought in other items from a van parked outside the front.

Addresses in Newcastle-under-Lyme and Liverpool are also under investigation.

Glasgow airport reopened this morning but passengers were warned to expect some delays and cancellations.

Travellers are expected to face delays as security is stepped up in airports. The British Transport Police said it was increasing patrols on the rail network and stepping up random searches on vehicles approaching stations.

A spokeswoman said patrols had been increased at key mainline stations, stations which interchange at airports and on some train services.

Mr Brown urged the public to co-operate with police and said there had already been a "massive" public response on anti-terror hotlines. But he added: "It is very important that people carry on living their lives as normal.

"I think it is very important that the British people send a message to the terrorists that they will not be allowed to undermine our British way of life. But it is also important that the public are vigilant, that we take proper precautions."

*Find synonyms in the text for the following words.*

1. to hit or push something with force:
2. coming or likely to happen very soon:
3. to bend or break under pressure:
4. always being careful to notice things, especially possible danger:
5. to increase the size, amount or speed of a process that is intended to achieve something:

*What do these numbers refer to in the text?*

1. fifth
2. 26 – year –old
3. M6
4. L808 RDT
5. 3.11pm
6. two
7. 4x4-style
8. 29-year-old