

Extract from Press Office Log

January 31

Created:31/01/2007 by: [REDACTED] 0715

Contact

Background

SKY - Terror statement?

Lines To Take

sent statement

Status:Closed

Related to the following desks:

Newsdesk, Police

Created:31/01/2007 by: [REDACTED] 0800

Contact

Background

BBC: terror suspects - statement.

Lines To Take

A Home Office spokeswoman said: We can confirm that a major counter terrorism operation took place earlier today led by West Midlands Police. Eight arrests under the Terrorism Act have been made to date during this nationwide operation. The Home Secretary was fully briefed on the operation and is receiving regular updates as developments occur. Operational issues are a matter for the Chief Constable and should be referred to the police in the first instance.

This operation is a reminder of the real and serious nature of the terrorist threat we face.?

Status:Closed

Related to the following desks:

Newsdesk, Police

Created:31/01/2007 by: [REDACTED] 0809

Contact

Reuters

Background

Reuters: What are you saying about the terror op in Birmingham?

Lines To Take

A Home Office spokesman said:

We can confirm that a major counter terrorism operation took place earlier today led by West Midlands Police. Eight arrests under the Terrorism Act have been made to date during this nationwide operation. The Home Secretary was fully briefed on the operation and is receiving regular updates as developments occur.

Operational issues are a matter for the Chief Constable and should be referred to the police in the first instance.

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Status:Closed

Related to the following desks:
Newsdesk, Police

Created:31/01/2007 by: [REDACTED] 0810

Contact
[REDACTED] – CNN

Background
CNN: What are you saying on the terror operation? Will West Mids Police be saying anything?

Lines To Take
A Home Office spokesman said:

We can confirm that a major counter terrorism operation took place earlier today led by West Midlands Police. Eight arrests under the Terrorism Act have been made to date during this nationwide operation. The Home Secretary was fully briefed on the operation and is receiving regular updates as developments occur. Operational issues are a matter for the Chief Constable and should be referred to the police in the first instance.

This operation is a reminder of the real and serious nature of the terrorist threat we face.

Status:Closed

Related to the following desks:
Newsdesk, Police

Created:31/01/2007 by: [REDACTED] 0821

Contact
[REDACTED]

Background
[REDACTED]: Can I have the terror op statement?

Lines To Take
A Home Office spokeswoman said:

We can confirm that a major counter terrorism operation took place earlier today led by West Midlands Police. Eight arrests under the Terrorism Act have been made to date during this nationwide operation. The Home Secretary was fully briefed on the operation and is receiving regular updates as developments occur. Operational issues are a matter for the Chief Constable and should be referred to the police in the first instance.

?This operation is a reminder of the real and serious nature of the terrorist threat we face.

Status:Closed

Related to the following desks:
Newsdesk, Police

Created:31/01/2007 by: [REDACTED] 1015

Contact
AFP news agency
[REDACTED]

Background
AFP news agency – terror plots?

Lines To Take
A Home Office spokeswoman said:

"We can confirm that a major counter terrorism operation took place earlier today led by West Midlands Police. Eight arrests under the Terrorism Act have been made to date during this operation. The Home Secretary was fully briefed on the operation and is receiving regular updates as developments occur. Operational issues are a matter for the Chief Constable and should be referred to the police in the first instance.

"This operation is a reminder of the real and serious nature of the terrorist threat we face."

Status:Closed

Related to the following desks:
Newsdesk, Crime, International, Police

Created:31/01/2007 by: [REDACTED] 1033

Contact
[REDACTED]

Background
Politics.co.uk - what are we saying about the terror raids?

Lines To Take
A Home Office spokeswoman said:

"We can confirm that a major counter terrorism operation took place earlier today led by West Midlands Police. Eight arrests under the Terrorism Act have been made to date during this operation. The Home Secretary was fully briefed on the operation and is receiving regular updates as developments occur. Operational issues are a matter for the Chief Constable and should be referred to the police in the first instance.

"This operation is a reminder of the real and serious nature of the terrorist threat we face."

Status:Closed

Related to the following desks:
Newsdesk, Crime, International

Created:31/01/2007 by: [REDACTED] 1019

Contact
Reuters

Background
Reuters - Terror plot

Lines To Take
A Home Office spokeswoman said:

"We can confirm that a major counter terrorism operation took place earlier today led by West Midlands Police. Eight arrests under the Terrorism Act have been made to date during this operation. The Home Secretary was fully briefed on the operation and is receiving regular updates as developments occur. Operational issues are a matter for the Chief Constable and should be referred to the police in the first instance.

"This operation is a reminder of the real and serious nature of the terrorist threat we face."

Status:Closed

Related to the following desks:
Newsdesk, Crime, International, Police

Created:31/01/2007 by: [REDACTED] 1240

Contact
ITN
[REDACTED]

Background
ITN - is the Home Sec making a statement tomorrow on terrorism

Lines To Take
No

Status:Closed

Related to the following desks:
Newsdesk, Crime, International

Created:31/01/2007 by: [REDACTED] 10:03

Contact
[REDACTED]

Background
AP:

was a regional office of the Security Service involved in the TACT arrests today?

Lines To Take
Not offering any guidance.

The arrests are a matter for West Mids police.

Status:Closed

Related to the following desks:
Newsdesk, Police

Created:31/01/2007 by: [REDACTED] 1105

Contact
[REDACTED]

Background

AP: security issues - flesh out details about Birmingham raid. Where has these comments about kidnapping and torture come from?

Lines To Take

A Home Office spokeswoman said:

"We can confirm that a major counter terrorism operation took place earlier today led by West Midlands Police. Eight arrests under the Terrorism Act have been made to date during this operation. The Home Secretary was fully briefed on the operation and is receiving regular updates as developments occur. Operational issues are a matter for the Chief Constable and should be referred to the police in the first instance.

"This operation is a reminder of the real and serious nature of the terrorist threat we face."

Joint statement from the Home Secretary and the Attorney General:

"The Home Secretary and the Attorney General would remind the media not to do anything that would prejudice the current operation or any future trial."

Status:Closed

Related to the following desks:
Newsdesk, Police

Created:31/01/2007 by: [REDACTED] 1116

Contact
[REDACTED]

Background

Russia Today London Bureau: anything on terror?

Lines To Take

sent statements

Status:Closed

Related to the following desks:
Newsdesk, Police

Created:31/01/2007 by: [REDACTED] 1144

Contact

Associated Press
[REDACTED]

Background

Associated Press - Home Sec stament to the house on terrorist arrests today?

Lines To Take

On sky now.

Status:Closed

Related to the following desks:
Newsdesk, Crime

Created:31/01/2007 by: [REDACTED] 12:21

Contact

[REDACTED] BBC Radio

Background

Will the HS do a clip on terror raids for radio?

Lines To Take

No. Refer to the clip from SKY if needed.

Status:Closed

Related to the following

Created:31/01/2007 by: [REDACTED] 1249

Contact

ITN
[REDACTED]

Background

ITN - is the Home Sec making a statement tomorrow on terrorism

Lines To Take

No

Status:Closed

Related to the following desks:
Newsdesk, Crime, International

Created:31/01/2007 by: [REDACTED] 1252

Contact

[REDACTED]

Background

CNN: statement on terror op?

Lines To Take

A Home Office spokeswoman said:

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"This operation is a reminder of the real and serious nature of the terrorist threat we face."

Joint statement from the Home Secretary and the Attorney General:

"The Home Secretary and the Attorney General would remind the media not to do anything that would prejudice the current operation or any future trial."

Status:Closed

Related to the following desks:
Newsdesk, Police

Created:31/01/2007 by: [REDACTED] 1628

Contact
[REDACTED]

Background

Radio 1 - How long can a terror suspect be held for before applying for an extension?

Lines To Take
24 hours.

Status:Closed

Related to the following desks:
Newsdesk, Police

Created:31/01/2007 by: [REDACTED] 1629

Contact
[REDACTED]

Background

CBS News - can i have terror arrests figures please?

Lines To Take

UK Police Terrorism Arrest Statistics (Excluding N. Ireland)

11/9/2001 - 30/9/2006

104 Charged with Terrorism Act offences only

101 Charged with Terrorism Act offences and other criminal offences

182 Charged under other legislation eg. murder, grievous bodily harm, firearms, explosives offences, fraud, false documents, etc

72 Handed over to Immigration Authorities

21 On Police Bail awaiting charging decisions

12 Cautioned

1 Dealt with under youth offending procedures

10 dealt with under Mental Health legislation

1 Returned to Prison (subject to recall)

3 Transferred to PSNI custody

633 Released without charge

1 Remanded in Custody under US Extradition warrant

3 result of investigation awaits

Total = 1144

Status:Closed

Related to the following desks:
Newsdesk

Created:31/01/2007 by: [REDACTED] 1813

Contact
Los Angeles -
[REDACTED]

Background
Los Angeles. Home Office statement on alleged terror plot?

Lines To Take
The following statements have been issued by the Home Office today?

A Home Office spokeswoman said:

"We can confirm that a major counter terrorism operation took place earlier today led by West Midlands Police. Eight arrests under the Terrorism Act have been made to date during this operation. The Home Secretary was fully briefed on the operation and is receiving regular updates as developments occur. Operational issues are a matter for the Chief Constable and should be referred to the police in the first instance.

"This operation is a reminder of the real and serious nature of the terrorist threat we face."

Joint statement from the Home Secretary and the Attorney General:

"The Home Secretary and the Attorney General would remind the media not to do anything that would prejudice the current operation or any future trial."

Additional statement - Home Secretary John Reid said:

"The current operation and investigation is ongoing. I repeat my request to the media this morning not to release information or encourage speculation which could affect the operation, investigation or a future trial."

Status:Closed

Related to the following desks:
Newsdesk, Police

February 1

Created:01/02/2007 by: [REDACTED] 0815

Contact
[REDACTED]

Background
Sky News: Are you saying anything new on the terror plot / West Mids operation?

Lines To Take
No

Status:Closed

Related to the following desks:
Newsdesk, Police

Created:01/02/2007 by: [REDACTED] 0849

Contact
[REDACTED]

Background

SKY: terror chasing figs since July bombings - how many terror related arrests?
how many still in custody? how many charged or convicted?

Lines To Take

FIGURES - given in PQs

UK Police Terrorism Arrest Statistics (Excluding N. Ireland)

11/9/2001 - 30/9/2006

104 Charged with Terrorism Act offences only

101 Charged with Terrorism Act offences and other criminal offences

182 Charged under other legislation eg. murder, grievous bodily harm, firearms,
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3 result of investigation awaits

Total = 1144

Status:Closed

Related to the following desks:

Newsdesk, Police

Created:01/02/2007 by: [REDACTED] 1059

Contact

Background

Ch5 news: terror raids in Birmingham. Looking at criminal aspects - can we
interview someone about what it means to be in protective custody?

Lines To Take

try the police.

Status:Closed

Related to the following desks:

Newsdesk, Police

Created:01/02/2007 by: [REDACTED] 1131

Contact

Background

AP - Anger in Birmingham about the way the information has been given out.
Details been given out by security service sources within in MI5. What and how this
information has come from?

It looks like a set up event as many media were briefed.

Lines To Take

I have said that the Home Office, who are the department for MI5 have offered no information on this as it is an operational matter. I will go back to them and say we will not speculate about the source and refer to the HS comments from yesterday:

Joint statement from the Home Secretary and the Attorney General:

"The Home Secretary and the Attorney General would remind the media not to do anything that would prejudice the current operation or any future trial."

Additional statement - Home Secretary John Reid said:

"The current operation and investigation is ongoing. I repeat my request to the media this morning not to release information or encourage speculation which could affect the operation, investigation or a future trial."

UPDATED Lines to take (01/02/07):

9 men were arrested at a number of addresses in Birmingham on 31/01/07. Public safety remains the top priority for the Government and the Police Service. It is inappropriate to comment on an ongoing police operation. It is unhelpful for the media to speculate and we would remind the media not to do anything that would prejudice the current operation or any future trial.

Status:Closed

Related to the following desks:
Newsdesk, Police

Created:01/02/2007 by: [REDACTED] 1438

Contact

[REDACTED]

Background

Daily Mail. What's the law on incitement? Doing a side bar for terror op story about Islamic bookshop (books, DVDs, websites).

Lines To Take

Terrorism Act 2006 - DISSEMINATION OF TERRORIST PUBLICATIONS

A person commits an offence if he:

- ? Distributes or circulates a terrorist publication;
- ? Gives, sells or lends such a publication;
- ? Offers such a publication for sale or loan;
- ? Provides a service to others that enables them to obtain, read, listen to or look at such a publication, or to acquire it by means of a gift, sale or loan;
- ? Transmits the contents of such a publication electronically; or
- ? Has such a publication in his possession with a view to its becoming the subject of conduct falling within any of the above.

Racial and Religious Hatred

Under Part III of the Public Order Act 1986 it is a criminal offence to use threatening, abusive or insulting words or behaviour with intent or likelihood to stir

up racial hatred. This offence covers inflammatory comments made in public or in the media as well as the distribution of printed material.

Parliament has also passed the Racial and Religious Hatred Act (though it is not yet in force). This legislation was intended to close the loophole whereby racial groups (which the courts have deemed to include Jews and Sikhs) are afforded protection against incited hatred while religious groups (Christians and Muslims for example) are not. The Act contains specific protection for freedom of speech.

Status:Closed

Related to the following desks:
Newsdesk, International, Police
