



Weekly Security & Risk Report

05th October 2022



MAST Intelligence

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The Security and Risk Report Series focuses on

- Operational risks in areas of instability which could affect the safety of commercial and private vessels and personnel ashore and at sea.
- In-country reporting on key countries where civil conflicts are directly impacting on maritime operations; and
- Reporting and analysis of incidents of terrorism, piracy and other related criminal activity.

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Issue 352

Issue 352 of the series reviews, analyses and threat assesses the conflict-affected coastal states of Somalia and Yemen, as well as security issues facing the UK, London and the global security and risk picture.

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UK Security News

The fatal shooting of a man in a crowded west Belfast social club where a number of people were watching football was a reckless and disgraceful attack, police have said. Sean Fox, 49, was shot a number of times in the Donegal Celtic Sports and Social Club on the afternoon Sunday 2nd October, BBC News reported.

British military recruits referred to anti-terror Prevent scheme over far-right ideology

The Express newspaper reported on October 3rd reported that far right extremists are targeting new military recruits after a rise in those being reported to anti-terrorist programme, Prevent. The Express said that a Freedom of Information request to the Ministry of Defence had revealed that 40 military personnel had been reported to the programme since 2019.

British police fear weapons from Ukraine war could reach the UK and terrorists

The Independent reported on October 4th that UK police are working closely with other forces and agencies to ensure that weapons being used in the war in Ukraine do not make their way across the continent and English Channel. There are concerns that weapons could find their way into the hands of organised criminal gangs and terrorists. Matt Twist, Metropolitan Police Assistant Commissioner, said: "Whatever the outcome of this awful conflict, it is clear that over the medium term there will be huge amounts of weapons and ammunition in the region, which will take some time to stabilise and normalise when the phase of outright war ends.

"We will work very closely across policing and with security partners, particularly the National Crime Agency to ensure that weapons from this or any other conflict zone do not find their way to the UK."

Cash stolen in Clydebank armed robbery

Police Scotland detectives are appealing for information following an armed robbery in Clydebank on October 1st. A man entered a shop unit within the Clydebank Shopping Centre armed with a knife and threatened staff before making off with cash. Detective Constable Catriona MacQueen of Clydebank Police Station said: "Nobody was injured during this incident but it was a frightening experience for the staff members involved."

High Wycombe man charged with breaching terrorist notification requirements

A man arrested in June 2022 has been charged with offences connected to breaching terrorist notification requirements, the Bucks Free Press said on September 29th. Iftikar Ali was charged with four breaches of a Part 4 Terrorist Notification Order, they reported, as part of an investigation by Counter Terrorism Police South East.

Terror threat remains 'very real' and 'harder to stop'

Matt Twist, Metropolitan Police Deputy Assistant Commissioner, has told the International Security Expo at London's Olympia, that at any time in the UK there are over 800 live counter-terrorism investigations underway. He told the conference that 32 terror attacks had been prevented in the last five years. He said that the current threat is primarily from "self-initiated" terrorists. "The most likely methods of attack remain low sophistication – using knives or vehicles," he said. "However we have to remain alert for more complex methods and plots."

Trial for pair accused of 'plot' to destroy 5G mast

Two suspected far-right extremists will face trial in Spring 2023 over alleged plans to destroy a 5G mast. Darren Reynolds and Christine Grayson face a number of other charges. The pair were arrested after an intelligence-led operation by Counter Terrorism Policing North East, the Express and Star said on September 30th.

For further information, [please click here.](#)

UK Security News

A man has been left devastated after a Rolex watch he was selling to raise money for medical treatment was stolen, BBC News said on October 4th. A man and woman arranged to come and see it in his Fareham home. But he was threatened with a knife and the pair left with the watch.

Greggs worker 'petrified' by knifeman who grabbed her by hair and held weapon to her throat

Bradford Crown Court has heard how a Greggs worker was held at knifepoint during an armed robbery and feared she was going to die. The staff member was in the shop when Daniel Wills approached her, grabbed her hair and held a kitchen knife to her throat. He forced her to open a till and stole £200, the court was told. Wills was followed from the shop by a woman and the police tracked him down to an abandoned building, the court heard. At the time of the robbery, he was spending £200 a day on drugs, Yorkshire Live said on October 1st.

Armed robber from Borehamwood wanted by police

Hertfordshire Police are looking for a convicted armed robbery who has breached the terms of his licence, the Borehamwood & Elstree Times said on September 30th. Kirk Holdrick, 40, was jailed for life in 2005 after being found guilty of conspiracy to commit armed robbery and being in possession of a loaded firearm in Potters Bar. He sentencing also took into account armed robberies at a jewellers in Essex and a security vehicle in Bushey. While on remand in 2004, he escaped from Pentonville Prison in London.

Man Charged Over Leeds Armed Robbery Series

West Yorkshire Police said on September 30th that a 36-year-old man was to appear in court charged with a series of armed robberies in Leeds. Marlon Stewart was accused of a number of offences, including robberies at two retailers, the One Stop store and Premier store. He was charged with 13 offences including robbery, attempted robbery and possession of an imitation firearm, the police said.

Police hunt motorcyclists after £6,000 e-bike stolen in terrifying robbery
Oldham police are looking for two men after a man

was brutally attacked and robbed of his £6,000 e-bike, the Manchester Evening News said on September 29th. Two men on a motorcycle attacked the victim, kicking, punching and stamping on him before making off. Police have released CCTV footage of the attack in an attempt to jog people's memories of the incident on August 1st.

London News

Video shows terrifying moment pistol is aimed at shopkeeper's head

The Evening Standard reported on October 3rd that a shopkeeper had a firearm pointed at his head during an armed robbery at the Maconomix electronics shop on the Isle of Dogs on September 27th. Two hooded men entered the premises and aimed a weapon at the worker, demanding he put mobile phones and other items into a bag. One member of the robbery gang remained outside on a bicycle, reportedly keeping watch. The shopkeeper threw a ledger at the thieves as they escaped with the stolen items.

Minster's laptop stolen from Whitehall's Red Lion pub

On October 1st, the Evening Standard reported that Stuart Andrew, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Sport, had his bag stolen from the Red Lion pub near Parliament. At the time of the theft, the bag contained Mr Andrew's personal laptop, his work laptop provided by the government and house keys. The work laptop was reported stolen and wiped remotely. Mr Andrew was working as a housing minister for Boris Johnson's government at the time of the theft. A woman from Catford is accused of theft but denies the charges.

For further information, [please click here.](#)

Global Security News

Western officials and intelligence analysts are concerned that Russian mercenaries could be more active in Africa's Sahel following a coup in Burkina Faso on September 29th, The Guardian said. Many observers expect new leader, Ibrahim Traoré, to invite Moscow to assist the country in its fight against Islamic extremists.

Ukraine: Latest updates

BBC News reported on October 4th that despite Moscow's 'referendums' to annex regions in Ukraine and claim them as Russian territory, the Ukrainian armed forces continue to retake territory. In Kherson, Russian-appointed officials confirmed the Ukrainian advance but said that their own forces were 'digging in'. In the east of the country, Ukrainian forces are pushing into Luhansk region. Vladimir Saldo, the Russian-installed leader in the Kherson region, admitted that Ukrainian forces had broken through near Dudchany, a town on the Dnipro river about 30km (20 miles) south of the previous front line. The river is called Dnieper by Russians. "There are settlements that are occupied by Ukrainian forces," Mr Saldo said. Some Russian reports say the Ukrainians have now taken Dudchany. Sky News said on October 4th that the gains made by Ukraine in the south are the biggest breakthrough since the beginning of the invasion.

The UK Ministry of Defence said on October 4th that Russia's effort to conscript 120,000 new soldiers falls foul of the country's own laws, since the new conscripts cannot legally be deployed outside of Russia. The MoD said that these recruits were separate to September's partial mobilisation order. The new round of conscription is due to start a month later than planned. "The late start to the cycle is an indication of growing pressures on Russia's ability to train and equip a large number of new conscripted personnel," the MoD said.

Car bomb attacks leave nine dead in Somalia

Police in Somalia say at least nine people, including senior regional officials, have been killed in car bomb attacks that have been claimed by the Islamist group Al Shabaab. The explosions in the city of Beledweyne also injured several people and destroyed buildings. Correspondents say the attack was possibly in retaliation for the killing of a senior Al Shabaab member over the weekend, BBC News said on October 3rd.

South African police probe German tourist's killing

South African police are investigating the killing of a German tourist during an attempted carjacking in the eastern Mpumalanga province, BBC News said on October 4th. The victim was one of four German tourists who were waylaid on Monday evening while travelling towards a safari lodge at the Kruger National Park. The gang is said to have ordered the tourists to open the doors of their vehicle, but when the driver reportedly locked all the doors, one of the suspects shot him through the window, police said.

Man dies in Belgian police raid on suspected far-right extremists

Euronews reported on September 28th that one person died in an exchange of gunfire during a series of counter terrorism raids against suspected far-right extremists in Belgium. Around 10 separate operations were conducted in seven different areas, as part of an ongoing terrorism investigation. Prosecutors said that searches in the Antwerp region had uncovered a large number of weapons.

Industry and SIA News

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