



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**

Working together for a safer London

Directorate of Public Affairs

OPERATION CREVICE

Timeline and facts and figures

Timeline

2001-2004

- Pakistani-born Mohammed Junaid Babar leaves his home in the USA, just days after 9/11 and travels to Pakistan to live

End of 2001

- Mohammed Junaid Babar has contact in Pakistan with Waheed Mahmood

November 2002

- Mohammed Junaid Babar travels to England to raise money to assist jihad in Afghanistan
- During his visit Babar meets Omar Khyam (who he knew as Ausman). He also meets other individuals, including Anthony Garcia (who he knew as Abdul Rahman)

Early 2003

- Mohammed Junaid Babar returns to Lahore in Pakistan to live
- Mohammed Junaid Babar visits Waheed Mahmood in Gujar Khan in Pakistan,
- Waheed Mahmood tells Mohammed Junaid Babar that instead of travelling to Pakistan or Afghanistan to fight, people should be conducting operations in the UK
- Anthony Garcia is in Gujar Khan around the same time
- In due course Salahuddin Amin (who Mohammed Junaid Babar knew as Khalid) arrives in Pakistan
- Omar Khyam travels from Islamabad where he was living to visit Mohammed Junaid Babar in Lahore

Spring 2003

- Mohammed Junaid Babar meets Omar Khyam and Waheed Mahmood in England.
- Later, a training camp is arranged in Malakand, Pakistan, and various arrangements made to finance the camp

June 2003

- Omar Khyam tells Mohammed Junaid Babar that he wants to carry out operations in the UK because of its support the US. Khyam refers to potential targets - pubs, nightclubs, or trains. Khyam talks about how detonators might be transported to the UK. Khyam asks Babar to obtain a quantity of aluminium powder - some of which is to be used at the Malkand training camp

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Second half of 2003

- Mohammed Junaid Babar, Omar Khyam, Anthony Garcia, Jawad Akbar and Mohammed Momin Khawaja go to a training camp in Malakand. To disguise this fact they take on the appearance of tourists visiting lakes and glaciers in the area of the camp. They take photographs of each other. The film is found by police after their arrests
- Material, including ammonium nitrate and aluminium powder is taken to the training camp where the group use it to experiment with explosives.

October/November 2003

- Anthony Garcia makes inquiries at agricultural merchants Bodle Brothers in Burgess Hill, Sussex, about buying nitrogen and ammonium nitrate fertiliser.
- There is an initial prospective purchase of 50kg of ammonium nitrate fertiliser then eventually delivery is taken of 600kg of ammonium nitrate fertiliser.
- Nov 10th - Anthony Garcia goes to Access Self Storage in Boston Road, Hanwell and books a storage unit with 100 sq ft capacity. Cost agreed at £207.45 per month.
- Nov 11th - A drop-sided lorry is hired from a company just outside Crawley. Anthony Garcia, Omar Khyam deliver the ammonium nitrate fertiliser to Access Storage in the lorry.

January 2004

- Mohammed Junaid Babar travels to England and subsequently meets Omar Khyam, Waheed Mahmood, Jawad Akbar and Anthony Garcia

February 2004

- Mohammed Junaid Babar returns to Pakistan.
- Police and Security Service covert surveillance operation. Listening devices put in the homes of Omar Khyam at Flat 4, 56 Hencroft Street, Slough and that of Jawad Akbar at 16 Colley House, Whitehall Road, Uxbridge. A similar device is put into Khyam's Suzuki Vitara

February 11-19 2004

- While under surveillance Omar Khyam visits internet cafes - two in Slough and one in Crawley where he contacts Mohammed Momin Khawaja in Canada via e-mail. It includes discussion on how to make a remotely operated detonation device.
- Omar Khyam buys substantial quantities of outdoor equipment, including clothing, torches, walking shoes.

February 20-22 2004

- 20th - Canadian Mohammad Momin Khawaja arrives at Heathrow Airport and is met by Omar Khyam.

Later that day on the listening device the three men are heard talking at Omar Khyam's flat in Hencroft Street about a remote controlled detonator with an increased range

- 20th - Staff at Access Storage become suspicious of the ammonium nitrate fertiliser being stored and contact police. Later police photograph the ammonium nitrate fertiliser in the unit and replace it with an inert substance without the defendants becoming aware.
- 21st - Mohammad Momin Khawaja, Omar Khyam, and Waheed Mahmood meet in Crawley.
- 22nd - Omar Khyam takes Mohammad Momin Khawaja to Heathrow Airport and he returns to Canada where he is kept under surveillance by the Canadian authorities.
- 22nd - Later that day Jawad Akbar and Omar Khyam are heard on the listening device discussing potential targets. Jawad Akbar refers to attacks upon the utilities - gas, water, electrical supplies, or a big nightclub in London.

February 23 to March 16 2004

- Omar Khyam continues to visit internet cafes in Slough and Crawley.
- Jawad Akbar is heard on the listening device talking at his home at Colley House about the importance of him not appearing religious.
- There are further discussions at Colley House about possible targets and the consequences of being arrested after an attack.
- March 10th - A female undercover police officer using the name "Amanda" takes up the position of receptionist at Access Self Storage.
- March 12th - Omar Khyam visits Access Self Storage and inspects the ammonium nitrate fertiliser.
- March 14th - Omar Khyam is heard on the listening device in the Suzuki Vitara praising those responsible for the Madrid bombing
- March 15th - Omar Khyam visits Access Self Storage, inspects the ammonium nitrate fertiliser and is captured on camera, apparently marking the bag containing the substance.

March 17-30 2004

- Terrorist planning moves into a final phase.
- 17th - Omar Khyam is heard on a listening device discussing plans to leave for Pakistan. Omar Khyam has previously indicated that he will travel to Pakistan before the attack takes place
- 19th - Omar Khyam and Waheed Mahmood are heard on a listening device talking in Khyam's Suzuki Vitara. Mahmood makes it clear that he wants to act sooner rather than later. He raises the possibility of attacking Bluewater shopping centre in Kent the following day (Saturday 20th).

Monday, March 29 2004

- Mohammad Momin Khawaja arrested at his home in Canada by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Tuesday, March 30 2004

- At approx 0600hrs a pre-planned, intelligence-led operation begins involving officers from MPS,

Thames Valley, Sussex, Surrey and Bedfordshire Police

Eight men arrested under the Terrorism Act 2000: Shujah-Ud-Din Mahmood Anthony Garcia, Jawad Akbar, Omar Khyam, Waheed Mahmood, Nabeel Hussain, plus two other men. (The two unnamed men are subsequently de-arrested under the Terrorism Act 2000, arrested under PACE in connection with alleged theft and deception offences and bailed pending further police inquiries. They are NFA'd by police in April 2005)

Police execute search warrants under the Terrorism Act 2000 at residential and business premises in Uxbridge, Ilford, Colindale in London and in Crawley, Slough, Luton, Horley and Reading.

Unbeknown to the eight suspects, at the time of their arrest, the half a tonne of ammonium nitrate fertiliser stored at Access Storage in Boston Road, Hanwell, West London, has been replaced with a similar amount of inert material.

In Canada, Mohammad Momin Khawaja is charged with terrorist-related offences

Wednesday, March 31 2004

- MPS makes the first in a series of court applications for warrants of further detention. These applications are granted by the court

April 2004

- Salahuddin Amin gives himself up to the Pakistani authorities who are believed to be looking for him

Tuesday, April 6 2004

- Shujah-Ud Din Mahmood is charged with conspiracy to cause an explosion with intent to injure or damage property contrary to Section 3(1)(a) of the Explosive Substances Act 1883. Remains in police custody.

Wednesday April 7 2004

- Shujah-Ud-Din Mahmood appears in custody at Bow Street Magistrates Court sitting as a youth court and is remanded in custody.

Thursday April 8 2004

- Anthony Garcia, Jawad Akbar, Omar Khyam, Waheed Mahmood, charged with conspiracy to cause an explosion likely to endanger life or injure property contrary to Section 3 (1) (a) of the Explosive Substances Act 1883. Remain in police custody.

- Anthony Garcia, Omar Khyam and Nabeel Hussain charged with possession of an article for purposes of terrorism contrary to Section 57(1) and (4) of the Terrorism Act 2000. Remain in police custody.

Saturday, April 10 2004

· Anthony Garcia, Jawad Akbar, Omar Khyam, Waheed Mahmood and Nabeel Hussain appear in custody at Belmarsh Magistrates Court and are remanded in custody.

Tuesday February 8 2005

· Police arrest Salahuddin Amin at Terminal 4 Heathrow Airport after he arrives on flight from Pakistan. He is arrested under the Terrorism Act 2000.

Thursday, February 10 2005

· MPS applies to a court and is granted a warrant of further detention for Salahuddin Amin. The extension granted until Saturday February 12 2005.

Saturday February 12 2005

· Salahuddin Amin is charged with conspiracy to cause an explosion likely to endanger life or injure property contrary to Section 3 (1) (a) of the Explosive Substances Act 1883. Remains in police custody.

Monday February 14 2005

· Salahuddin Amin appears in custody at Bow Street Magistrates Court and is remanded in custody.

Tuesday March 21 2006

Operation Crevice trial starts at the Central Criminal Court

Friday, March 16 2007

· Jury in the Operation Crevice trial retires to consider its verdict.

Monday, April 30 2007

Jury return verdicts in Operation Crevice trial

Facts and figures

- Largest ever counter terrorist operation in United Kingdom at the time
- Involved MPS, Thames Valley, Sussex, Surrey, Bedfordshire, Security Service
- More than 960 officers from the five police forces involved when arrests were made and search warrants executed on March 30 2004.
- Approx 50 scenes searched, including residential and business premises, vehicles

- 173 interviews conducted with 18 people arrested as part of the inquiry
- 24,000 hours of video material reviewed (includes CCTV, surveillance and material recovered in searches)
- 3,500 hours of audio material listened to and transcribed (surveillance material)
- 950 surveillance and observation post logs
- 33,894 man hours of surveillance logged
- 4,831 total allocated actions
- 7,935 exhibits
- 7,655 people have had involvement in the inquiry - witnesses, police, security service etc
- 5,267 documents recovered from searches or exhibits generated during subsequent enquiries
- 80 computers recovered and interrogated
- 12 million files (equal to 1.3 terrabytes or 1,363 gigabytes) recovered from the computers and interrogated
- Significant fingerprint/DNA identifications made linking suspects to packaging on aluminium powder
- 3,644 witness statements taken from 1,335 people
- International co-operation with FBI, Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Officers travelled to USA, Canada, Pakistan
- Longest terrorism trial held at the Central Criminal Court

[Back to Op Crevice home page](#)