

Britain's domestic terrorism threat

Since the 9/11 attacks on the U.S. over 1,120 people have been arrested in Britain under anti-terrorism laws, but only 38 have been convicted of terrorist offences. By 2008, annual spending on counter-terrorism and intelligence will reach £2 billion – double the amount spent prior to 9/11

Arrests made under Terrorism Act 2000 (to September 30, 2006): 1,127



Convicted: 38



MI5: UK Security Service agents are monitoring about 1,600 terrorist suspects involved in up to 30 plots. Up to 11 plots claimed to have been foiled

Secret Intelligence Service: Also known as *MI6*

GCHQ: Monitors all e-mails and phone traffic within Britain

SAS: Army anti-terrorism force

Police: 52 forces, Special Branch, and regional counter-terrorism units

CCTV: One camera for every 14 citizens – each photographed an average of 300 times a day

Recent high-profile terror plots

Jan 2003. Ricin poison plot: Eight arrested, one convicted of killing police officer, seven released. No ricin found

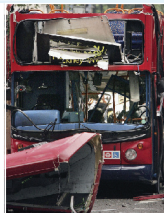
Feb. Missile plot: Army deployed to Heathrow Airport to deter possible attack using portable anti-aircraft missiles

Mar 2004. Bomb plot: Eight people arrested after 500kg of fertiliser found in west London. Currently on trial

Apr. Chemical plot: British and U.S. intelligence agents foil alleged chemical bomb plot believed aimed at London

Apr. Soccer plot: Ten arrested over alleged plot to bomb Old Trafford stadium. All released, no charges laid

Late 2004: Security services disrupt alleged plot to fly hijacked planes into London skyscraper. No arrests



Jul 7, 2005. London suicide attack: Four British Muslims kill 52 people and wound 740 others on transport system

Jul 21: Attempt to repeat London carnage

fails. 44 people arrested. Six men currently on trial at Woolwich Crown Court, two trials involving 11 other people to take place later this year

Aug 2006. Liquid explosive plot: Plan to blow up transatlantic airliners foiled. 24 arrested, 17 charged with terrorism offences awaiting trial

Jan 2007. Operation Gamble: Nine men arrested and accused of planning to kidnap a British soldier. Five charged with terrorism offences, three released