



British police officers secure a cordon in a residential street in north-west London where firearms officers shot a woman

UK on terror alert

London British police warned yesterday they were facing an "increased level of terrorist activity", the day after a knifeman was arrested near parliament and a woman was shot in a separate police raid.

Just weeks after the attack on the Houses of Parliament that left five people dead and scores injured, London is once again on high alert as Britain prepares for a snap election on June 8.

"Yesterday was an extraordinary day in

London," Deputy Assistant Commissioner Neil Basu said, after confirming six arrests overnight.

"I wanted to reassure the public that this increased level of terrorist activity is being matched by our action... We are making arrests on a near daily basis."

A 27-year-old man remains in custody after being arrested near parliament on suspicion of terrorism offences and possession of knives, in what police confirmed had been an ongoing investigation.

Just hours later, armed police raided a property in north London as part of an unrelated counter-terrorism investigation, firing CS gas as they entered and shooting a woman in her 20s.

Six people have been arrested as part of the probe, while the woman -- who is also suspected of involvement -- remains in a serious but stable condition in hospital.

"Due to these arrests that have been made yesterday, in both cases I believe we have contained the threats they posed," Basu said. (AFP)

Human DNA uncovered in caves without bones

Washington International scientists have uncovered prehistoric human DNA from caves without bones, an advance that could shed new light on human history and evolution.

The study published in the journal *Science* is based on 85 samples from sediments dating to the Pleistocene, a period that extended from 550,000 years ago until 14,000 year before the modern era.

The samples came from eight caves in Belgium, Croatia, France, Russia and Spain.

These archeological sites are already well known to have been occupied by long-lost



An archeologist sampling sediment for genetic analysis of Neanderthals and Denisovans, as well as by a variety of animals that are now extinct. "This work represents an enormous scientific breakthrough," said Antonio Rosas, scientist at Spain's Natural Science Museum in Madrid.

#PollToday



Bahrain's traffic management system is getting smarter day-by-day, with the latest addition being smart cameras to detect yellow box violation. So, what do you think? Will it be effective?

Yes No Cant Say



"North Korea has to decide they're ready to talk to us about the right agenda -- and the right agenda is not simply stopping where they are for a few more months or a few more years and then resuming things."

Rex Tillerson
US Secretary of State

Rest in sight

Secret Cell Found in Philippines Police Station



A dozen people have been found stuffed inside a closet-sized cell hidden behind a book shelf in a Philippine police station.

Bangladesh Islamists blow themselves up

Four suspected Islamist fighters blew themselves up at a hideout in Bangladesh, ending a 24-hour standoff, police said yesterday.

Watchdog warns on global media freedom

Global press freedom has hit a 13-year low, threatened by US President Donald Trump's media bashing and restrictions pursued by both democratic and authoritarian governments.

British soldier who killed Afghan fighter freed

A British soldier jailed for killing an injured Taliban fighter in Afghanistan was freed yesterday after his sentence was reduced from murder to manslaughter, his lawyer said.

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Seoul rejects US demand to pay for missile system

Seoul Seoul yesterday brushed aside US President Donald Trump's suggestion it should pay for a \$1 billion missile defence system the two allies are installing in South Korea to guard against threats from the North.

The first parts of the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) system have already been delivered to a former golf course in the South -- infuriating China

-- at a time of heightened tensions over Pyongyang's nuclear and missile programmes.

Top US officials have said THAAD will be operational "within days".

"I informed South Korea it would be appropriate if they paid. It's a billion-dollar system," Trump was quoted as saying by the Reuters news agency. "It's phenomenal, shoots missiles right out of the sky."

Macedonia parliament violence injures 100



Police face protesters gathered outside Macedonia's parliament

Skopje

Scores of people were injured as violence erupted in Macedonia's parliament after nationalist protesters stormed the building in anger over a vote for a new speaker, the interior ministry said yesterday.

The chaos in Skopje broke out on Thursday evening, with dozens of demonstrators -- including a group of masked men -- breaking a police cordon and entering parliament waving Macedonian flags, shouting and singing the national anthem.

Footage from the scene showed chairs being thrown as fistfights broke out in the parliamentary press room, while Zoran Zaev, leader of the opposition Social Democrats (SDSM), had blood running down his face and shirt.

One female SDSM deputy is seen yanked by the hair while other women climb down from a balcony in a bid to escape.

An interior ministry statement on said 102 people had been treated at city hospitals, including MPs and police officers.

Berlin terror cell nabbed after Italy arrests

Rome

Italian police said yesterday they had helped their German counterparts neutralise a Berlin-based Islamist terror cell with links to Christmas market attack suspect Anis Amri.

The dismantling of the 11-strong group was completed at the end of January after nearly two months of investigations triggered by two of them being picked up at the Italian port of Ancona on December 4, 2016, according to the

anti-terrorism wing of Italy's state police force.

Italian authorities believe Congolese national Lutumba Nkanga, 26, and Moroccan Soufiane Amri, 22, were planning to travel to Istanbul en route to joining Islamic State in Iraq or Syria.

Their departure was delayed by a Greek ferry strike and it was during the delay that they were subject to an identity check which revealed that Germany had banned Soufiane Amri from leaving the country.