

Hunt for Britons linked to Norway killer

THE TELEGRAPH ONLINE

A hunt for possible British accomplices of the mass murderer Anders Behring Breivik is under way after it emerged that he began his deadly "crusade" after meeting other Right-wing extremists in London.

Before he carried out Norway's worst terrorist atrocity, Breivik typed out a chilling 1,500-page description of his plans, written entirely in English and datelined "London, 2011".

He signed the document "Andrew Berwick", an Anglicised version of his name, and described his "mentor" as an Englishman he identified as Richard.

Scotland Yard counter-terrorism officers are now trying to establish whether Breivik visited London in recent years and whether he was part of a wider network preparing to carry out similar attacks.

The 32-year-old boasted that he was just one of up to 80 "solo martyr cells" recruited throughout Western Europe

● *1,500-page manifesto littered with references to Gordon Brown, Tony Blair, Prince Charles and a number of British journalists*

● *Breivik, 32, held a secret meeting with extremists in Britain in 2002*

● *He claims up to 80 extremists across Europe are plotting similar solo attacks*

● *Breivik even thought about nuclear bomb as a tool of terrorism*

who were ready to follow his example of trying to overthrow governments tolerant of Islam.

He said he regarded himself as a successor to the medieval Knights Templar, and claimed to have been recruited at a meeting in London in April 2002, which was hosted by two English extremists and attended by eight people in total.

Any member of a political group that has allowed Muslims to migrate to their country is regarded as a "target" who deserves "the death penalty", according to his writings.

He also spoke of being in touch with the far-Right English Defence League and made repeated references to British politicians, including Gordon Brown and Tony Blair, who were blamed for making London a global hub of Islamic terrorism.

Breivik spent nine years planning Friday's atrocity, and spent three years writing his manifesto A European Declaration of Independence, which was emailed to 5,700 people. Breivik even harboured ambitions of acquiring a nuclear weapon to hold Western governments to ransom.



Bomb and terror suspect Anders Behring Breivik (left) leaves the courthouse in Oslo yesterday after the hearing to decide his further detention. Breivik will be held in solitary confinement for the first four weeks, with a ban on all communication with the outside world in a bid to aid a police investigation into his acts.

Syria to allow political parties

AFP, Damascus

Syria's government, under massive pressure to reform or quit, has adopted a draft law allowing for new political parties to operate alongside the ruling Baath party.

The decision was taken late on Sunday, the state-run news agency SANA reported, as security forces pressed on with their crackdown on dissent and launched a wave of arrests in Damascus.

The cabinet "adopted a draft law regarding political parties in Syria as part of a programme of reform aimed at enriching the political life," SANA said.

The current constitution stipulates that the Baath party, in power since 1963, is "the leader of state and society."

The draft law adopted by the government bans the creation of parties based on "religion, tribal affiliation, regional interests."

UN WAR CRIMES COURT Hadzic declines to enter plea

AFP, The Hague

Wartime Croatian Serb rebel leader Goran Hadzic yesterday appeared before a UN war crimes court judge but declined to enter a plea on charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Hadzic, 52, is the last fugitive among 161 indicted before the ICTY and is wanted on 14 charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity committed during the war in Croatia between 1991 and 1995.

According to the ICTY's rules, Hadzic asked to be granted a 30-day delay before the judge will again put the same question to him. If he doesn't plea, an automatic "not guilty" plea will be entered on his behalf.

PAK ETHNO-POLITICAL VIOLENCE Fresh Karachi clashes kill 44

REUTERS, Karachi

Fresh political and ethnic violence gripped Pakistan's commercial capital over the past three days, leaving up to 44 people dead and taking the death toll for July to 339, city police said Monday.

Most of the weekend's casualties were reported in the city's eastern Malir, Landhi and adjoining areas -- a multi-ethnic, lower middle class neighbourhood.

"We have identified the people and at least 200 police commandos will be dispatched to search and arrest these people," said Naeem Boroka, a senior police official in Karachi's eastern area.

Police said there was no clear reason for the latest bout of fighting. The city, home to more than 18 million people, has a long history of ethnic, religious and sectarian violence and local quarrels and political disputes can often explode into battles engulfing entire districts.

The areas affected are home to both Pashtuns and Muhajirs, the descendants of Urdu-speaking refugees who fled India to settle in Karachi in 1947 following the sub-continent's partition.

A recent report from the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan said 1,138 people were killed in Karachi in the first six months of 2011, of whom 490 were victims of political, ethnic and sectarian violence.

N KOREA NUKE TALKS US urges China's help

AFP, Shenzhen

China must pressure North Korea against taking further "provocative action", a senior US official said yesterday, after Pyongyang launched a deadly barrage against South Korea last year.

An aide to US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton made the comments during a quick stop in the southern Chinese city of Shenzhen.

The US side expressed concern that "North Korea might be contemplating further provocative action and the absolute need for China to weigh in on Pyongyang to discourage such action", the official said.

Clinton on Sunday invited the North's envoy US for "exploratory talks" later this week on restarting the negotiations.

HORN OF AFRICA FAMINE France warns of 'scandal of century'

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Says world has failed to ensure food security

BBC ONLINE

The world "failed to ensure food security", France's agriculture minister said yesterday at the UN food agency crisis talks on East Africa's drought.

"If we don't take the necessary measures, famine will be the scandal of this century," AFP news agency quotes Bruno Le Maire as saying in Rome.

More than 10m people are thought to be at risk of starvation and famine has been declared in two areas of Somalia.

Ahead of the summit, the World Bank pledged \$500m to help.

Some \$12m will be for immediate assistance to those worst hit by what the UN says is East Africa's worst drought in 60 years.

UN chief Ban Ki-moon has urged donor nations to supply an extra \$1.6bn in aid.

Earlier the Red Cross said it had delivered food to one of Somalia's worst-hit areas, which is controlled by Islamists.

Working through a local committee, the Red Cross delivered food for 24,000 people by lorry.

Somalia is thought to be worst-hit by the crisis, but Ethiopia and Kenya have also been affected.

The meeting of ministers from the G20 nations at the UN's Food and Agriculture Organisation headquarters in Rome was requested by France, the current chair of the G20 group of powerful economies.

"Our meeting is a question of life or death for tens of thousands of people," Le Maire said at the start of the meeting, AFP reports.

They accuse some countries - Italy, France, the Arab states and Germany - of contributing too little in proportion to their national wealth.

Vietnam names new president

AFP, Hanoi

Vietnam on Monday named a longtime rival of Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung as its new president, a largely symbolic post in the communist nation.

Truong Tan Sang, 62, was confirmed for the job by a vote of the one-party National Assembly, after he was formally nominated as the sole candidate over the weekend.

"He has been voted president," with more than 97 percent of 496 votes, said an official from the Assembly's press centre, asking not to be named.

Sang, the country's ninth president, will take on a post first held by revered founding father Ho Chi Minh.

NEWS IN brief

Suu Kyi holds talks with Myanmar govt

AFP, Yangon

Democracy icon Aung San Suu Kyi held her first talks with a minister in Myanmar's new government on Monday, in contacts that have raised hopes for an ongoing dialogue between the two sides.

Just days after the US called for "concrete" progress towards democracy, Suu Kyi -- who was released from house arrest after controversial November elections -- spent more than an hour with labour minister Aung Kyi.

"The meeting included matters of law and order and also the easing of tensions for the benefit of the people," he said, without giving concrete details of their discussion.

Suu Kyi herself added little, saying she was "expecting results that can benefit the country".

Pakistan won't accept India's regional hegemony



IANS, Islamabad

Pakistan would not accept the hegemony of any country in the region as it is 'by no means inferior to India', Foreign Minister Hina Rabbani Khar, who is scheduled to go to New Delhi today, has said.

"Pakistan's role in the region is by no means inferior to India," she told mediapersons at the Lahore Airport on her return from the ministerial meeting of the Asean regional forum Sunday.

US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's had said during her visit to India that New Delhi must play a more assertive role in Asia.

Pakistan's new foreign minister, who will hold talks with her Indian counterpart Wednesday, said the international community must extend cooperation to Pakistan in recognition of the country's role as a frontline ally in combating terror.

Australia signs asylum deal

BBC ONLINE

Australian and Malaysian officials signed a controversial deal intended to stem the flow of asylum seekers travelling to Australia by boat yesterday.

The deal allows Australia to send 800 asylum seekers to Malaysia. In return, Australia will take 4,000 refugees from Malaysia over the next four years.

Australian Prime Minister Julia Gillard said it would "smash the business model of people smugglers".

But some rights groups in both countries have objected to the agreement. Rights group Amnesty International has raised concerns that asylum seekers are routinely mistreated in Malaysia.



STRAUSS-KAHN SCANDAL Maid seeks jail for her abuser

AFP, New York

A Guinean woman who has accused former IMF chief Dominique Strauss-Kahn of trying to rape her in a New York hotel was on the offensive on Monday, saying she wanted him to go to jail.

"Because of him, they call me a prostitute," Nafissatou Diallo told Newsweek magazine in her first public interview since the alleged attack in May.

"I want him to go to jail." The woman has not been seen in public since the alleged attack.

Prosecute errant BSF members

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directives, but it needs to prosecute those who commit abuses so the soldiers will understand they can't act with impunity," she said in the news release "India: New killings, torture at Bangladeshi border."

The HRW said killings, torture, arbitrary detention and other abuses by the BSF continue along the border despite India's pledge to bring an end to such criminal activities.

India earlier announced that it would direct BSF members to show restraint and encourage them to use rubber bullets instead of lethal ammunition to stop border killings after the HRW last year published a report "Trigger Happy," a documentation of BSF's illegal activities along the border. The HRW welcomed the announcement.

The number of deaths in border shootings dropped substantially this year. However, at least 17

Bangladeshis were killed in BSF firing apart from other instances of severe abuse since January this year, said the HRW referring to a documentation of Odhikar, a Bangladeshi non-governmental organisation.

Shooting incidents at the border have decreased significantly but the BSF members continue to torture suspects, reports MASUM, a Kolkata-based non-governmental organisation conducting fact-finding missions in border areas.

Indian residents in the border areas are relieved to see a fall in shooting incidents but have complained about intimidation and torture by BSF members, said the HRW.

"The excessive use of force and the arbitrary beating of people along the border are unjustifiable. These abuses call into question India's stated commitments to the rule of law," Ganguly said.

The BSF is mandated to

Indian president declares assets

PTI, New Delhi

President Pratibha Patil yesterday made public the details of her movable and immovable properties worth over Rs 2.49 crore.

Patil, who completed four years in office yesterday, posted on her website the details of immovable properties worth Rs 83.83 lakh and movable assets worth Rs 1.66 crore.

The President has a house in Amravati district of Maharashtra worth Rs 39.60 lakh and a 3.82 hectares farm house worth Rs 9.82 lakh. She has inherited 3.57 hectares agricultural land worth Rs 7.81 lakh from her father in Jalgaon and another land worth Rs 20 lakh in Dhule district.

Patil had purchased two agricultural plots of 1.19 hectares and 1.49 hectares in Jalgaon district in 1997-98 worth Rs 3.64 lakh and Rs 2.90 lakh respectively.

For immovable properties, the President has primarily relied on traditional modes of investment like fixed deposits, PPF, gold and bonds of infrastructure companies.

The President's move comes after an appeal from the Central Information Commission to decide on making her assets public. Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Sing has already declared his assets.



Pratibha Patil

Manmohan had knowledge

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has badly shaken Singh's government. "They (the police) know they have no case," said Raja in a statement through his lawyer Sushil Kumar, adding India's then finance minister P Chidambaram and Singh were aware of all of the ex-minister's actions.

Raja is suspected of rigging rules for the sale of second-generation (2G) mobile phone licences to favour certain firms in exchange for bribes and is charged with abuse of power, cheating, forgery and criminal misconduct.

"I am making it clear I did what I did on legal advice and my understanding of law," Raja said, challenging the prime minister to "deny" that he had knowledge of all the decisions involving the licence sales. Raja, arrested on

February 2, argued all his actions had been in accordance with accepted government policy.

"If the policy pursued by me was wrong, then all former telecom ministers since 1993 should also be in jail with me," said Raja's counsel as he read out a statement in the sweltering courtroom where the air conditioning had failed.

The main opposition Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) demanded the resignations of Singh and Chidambaram, who is now India's home minister, saying Raja's court statements showed the top leadership of the government was aware of all the 2G transactions.

The so-called "2G scam" has led to intense pressure on Singh, who has also been tarnished by his alleged failure to prevent the scan-

dal, and cast a shadow over India's fast-growing telecom sector.

The fraud lost the country up to \$40 billion in revenues, according to the national auditor. Prosecutors at the trial, which began in April, focused on losses identified by the police of around \$6.7 billion.

Raja sold the licences on a first-come-first-served basis, as did previous telecom ministers, but he is alleged to have twisted criteria to favour certain companies which then sold on large stakes to foreign firms at higher prices.

The other accused include executives of Indian joint ventures of Norwegian telecoms firm Telenor and the United Arab Emirates' Etisalat. All have denied any wrongdoing.

Breivik claims

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Police have now revised down the island killings from 86 to 68 but increased the bomb death toll by one to eight.

CLOSED DOORS Breivik was remanded in custody for eight weeks. Oslo police asked for Breivik to be held in full isolation for the first four weeks.

Judge Kim Heger agreed, saying Breivik could not receive letters or have visitors except for his lawyer.

Judge Heger said police must be able to proceed with the investigation into Breivik's claims without the accused being able to interfere.

Breivik had earlier said he had acted alone.

Prosecutor Christian Hatlo said police could not rule out that someone else was involved and confirmed an investigation was under way into Breivik's claims that he had worked in a cell, or group, and that there were

two other cells.

The charges against Breivik include the destabilisation of vital functions of society, including government, and causing serious fear in the population.

The judge said that Breivik had admitted carrying out the attacks but had not pleaded guilty to the charges.

Hatlo said the accused was very calm at the hearing, appeared "unaffected" by the events, and was willing to explain his motives. He said Breivik was allowed to do this to a certain extent by the judge, but when he started reading from his manifesto he was stopped.

Hatlo also said that Breivik expected to spend the rest of his life behind bars. Two psychiatrists have been assigned to assess his mental health.

Judge Heger had earlier ruled that the hearing should be held behind closed doors amid security concerns and

fears that Breivik would use it to deliver a speech seeking to justify his actions.

Instead Judge Heger summarised Breivik's words in his post-hearing statement.

The judge said Breivik had argued that he was acting to save Norway and Europe from "Marxist and Muslim colonisation".

The gunman had said his operation was not aimed at killing as many people as possible but that he wanted to create the greatest loss possible to Norway's governing Labour Party, which he accused of failing the country on immigration.

Norway's secret service said authorities were alerted to Breivik's name in March when he bought an undisclosed product from a Polish chemical firm.

But its head, Janne Kristiansen, said there had not been enough evidence to investigate further.