STARTING IN NEXT WEEK'S EVENING STANDARD
THE ASHES

The entire day's play from Australia – first reports, first pictures only in the Standard

Security alert as police lose a briefcase full of dummy bombs on train

A MAJOR security alert has been sparked after police lost a briefcase full of imitation bombs.

An officer left the case containing around 15 mock-up explosive devices on a train.

He was returning home after using the "bombs" in a presentation to security staff and police.

Among the items are believed to be mock-ups of the device that caused the Lockerbie air disaster in 1988 and of those used by the Animal Liberation Front.

One source said: "They are very realistic. If the briefcase went through an x-ray machine you would see fuses and what looks like explosives.

"This could cause a massive security panic and chaos if one of these was found on the Tube or someone smuggled one onto a plane." The incident is a major embarrassment to the City of London Police whose officer mislaid the case. The force's acting commissioner Mike Bowron ordered an immediate internal inquiry.

JUSTIN DAVENPORT
Crime Correspondent

The dummy "bombs" are used in police presentations to alert fellow officers or corporate security staff to what they should be looking out for during searches for explosives.

The case is also believed to contain mock devices in the form of video cassettes.

The City officer who lost the briefcase immediately alerted British Transport Police after realising he had apparently left it on the train. BTP officers halted the train and conducted a search but could not find the case

Police had been hoping that it would be handed in after the incident on 31 October but it is still missing.

A City of London spokesman said: "We can confirm that a briefcase belonging to the City of London Police was lost or stolen on 31 October.

"The briefcase contained training materials used to educate the public about terrorism awareness.

"An internal inquiry is being carried out to ascertain the full circumstances around the loss of the material.

"We take incidents of this nature very seriously. We have also carried out an urgent review into how officers handle such material.

"A number of changes have already been made to ensure we minimise the risk of such incidents in the future."

Police hope that whoever has the case will return it intact, complete with dummy devices.

They say this person can return it to a police station or call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 with information on the briefcase's whereabouts.

In April, artist Monica Saieva sparked a bomb alert which paralysed west London when she left a series of suspicious boxes with nails sticking out of them in the street.

The bomb squad, forensic science officers and ambulances were called out before police realised the items were a hoax. The operation is believed to have cost £100,000. Ms Saieva was arrested and charged with causing a public nuisance but escaped with a caution.

Universities told to weed out Islamic extremists

JOE MURPHY
Political Editor

URGENT action to protect young students from Islamic extremists is launched today.

Advice will be issued to all universities calling for steps to prevent terrorist supporters infiltrating their campuses.

The fear is some colleges are ill-prepared to deal with extremists who may spread messages of hate and even recruit potential bombers.

Bill Rammell, the Higher Education Minister running the operation, told the Standard that only a tiny minority of students were at risk — but it was still too high to ignore them.

"We are doing this because we judge there's evidence of a serious and real threat of violent extremism in the name of Islam in higher education," he said.

Today's unprecedented advice to vice-chancellors urges them to set up procedures so that staff and students can report incidents to the university authorities, who would liaise with police where necessary.

The advice sets out details of what extremist materials would be illegal under anti-terrorism laws and gives practical advice on how to act on suspicions, including the need to have translators for leaflets written in Arabic and the need for confidential relationships with police.

Seized in London, the torch that is really a gun

Lethal weapon: the MagLite torch gun

THIS is the torch converted into a gun seized by police on a London street.

The MagLite torch had been adapted to allow it to fire a .22 calibre bullet when a pin was pulled out.

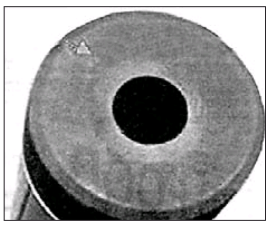
The one-shot weapon is sold in the United States but is illegal in this country. To get round the ban it had been smuggled in parts, then reassembled.

It was seized by police in Southwark in a crackdown on gun gangs after intelligence that one member of a south London gang had been linked to it. A police source said: "This is a lethal weapon and could very easily kill somebody.

"The gun could become the latest fashion to carry on the street just like kids and their latest toys."

The weapon's seizure comes amid mounting concern about gun crime and particularly about efforts to evade detection by gang members carrying guns.

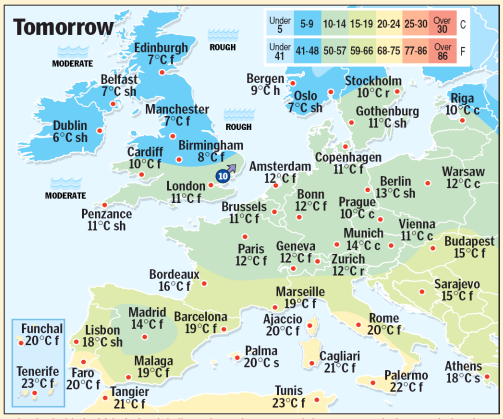
JUSTIN DAVENPORT


One-shot: the barrel of the gun

YOUR FREE COPY OF ES MAGAZINE
Please call the Helpline on freephone 08000 154154 if you did not get your free copy today

MAKE THE HEADLINES

Phone: Call the newsdesk on 020 7938 7161 E-mail: news@standard.co.uk Send us your pictures: yourpics@standard.co.uk



c-cloudy; dr-drizzle; f-fair; fg-fog; h-hail; m-mist; r-rain; s-sunny; sl-sleet; sn-snow; sh-showers; th-thunder

South-East: Tonight
Rain will clear overnight. Moderate south-westerly winds. Low 3-5C (37-41F).

Tomorrow
Generally dry with sunny spells. Light south-westerly winds. High 10-11C (50-52F).

Sunday
Generally dry and fine. Winds will be light. High 10-12C (50-54F).

UK Outlook
Tomorrow the South and East will be largely fine. It will be chilly on Sunday with rain in the West.

Five-day London forecast (Max temperatures)

Tomorrow	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
11° Fair	11° Fair	13° Showers	11° Cloudy	11° Rain

Worldwide Destinations

	C	F			C	F	
Amsterdam	16	61	cloudy	Madrid	13	55	drizzle
Athens	18	64	sunny	Melbourne	12	54	cloudy
Barcelona	21	70	fair	Moscow	0	32	snow
Budapest	16	61	sunny	Munich	11	52	sunny
Buenos Aires	20	68	rain	New York	16	61	cloudy
Cairo	23	73	fair	Nice	20	68	sunny
Cape Town	22	72	sunny	Oslo	6	43	rain
Crete	18	64	sunny	Paris	17	63	cloudy
Faro	18	64	cloudy	Rome	20	68	fair
Hong Kong	26	79	sunny	Stockholm	7	45	cloudy
Istanbul	14	57	sunny	Sydney	14	57	showers
Jerusalem	22	72	fair	Tokyo	15	59	sunny
Los Angeles	23	73	sunny	Venice	16	61	fair
Lisbon	15	59	sunny				
London	9	48	rain				

Midday yesterday reading

Weather News
Call 0905 1680+
7 Day National Forecast 742
7 Day World Forecast 743
UK Towns & Cities Forecast 744
Holiday Forecast 745
50p per minute at all times

Lights
Sunset and lighting-up times
4.09pm, rises 7.23am.
Moon rise
3.33am, sets 2.31pm.
High water
London Bridge 11.28am (6.2m), 11.57pm (6.5m).
Dover 8.42am (5.9m), 9.12pm (5.8m).

Air Quality
Nitrogen Dioxide
Yesterday 97 ppb
Forecast – Low.
Calculated on parts per billion. Less than 150 – Low, 150-299 – Moderate, 300+ – High
Fine Particles
Yesterday 31 ug/m3
Forecast – Low. Calculated on micrograms per cubic metre. Less than 50 – Low, 50-74 – Moderate, 75+ – High

ESMOTORS
Read David Williams today on Page 60

DISTRIBUTED BY NEWSPAPERDIRECT UNAUTHORIZED DUPLICATION IS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN
COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW