

Britain Charges Man with Plot to Attack U.S. Troops



London, July 22 (RHC)-- British authorities have charged an individual with planning to wage an attack on U.S. military officers stationed in Britain. A 24-year-old man, identified as Junead Khan, from the town of Luton north of London, stands accused of plotting to attack American service members in the UK, said the Crown Prosecution Service on Tuesday.

The man along with his uncle, 22-year-old Shazib Khan, are also charged with planning to travel to Syria to join the ISIL Takfiri terror group in its bid to topple the government of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, an effort actively backed by both the U.S. and the UK.

A police probe had produced sufficient evidence to charge the two with "the intention of committing acts of terrorism," said Deborah Walsh, deputy head of counter-terrorism for the Crown Prosecution Service.

During an initial court appearance at Westminster Magistrates' Court in central London on Tuesday, the two men spoke only briefly to confirm their names. Both were denied bail and remanded in custody.

The prosecutor told the court that Junead Khan had planned to use a car to run over a military serviceman and use a knife in his attack on U.S. military officers. The alleged scheme, which the U.S. Air Force said triggered American authorities to cancel the planned U.S. Independence Day celebrations earlier in the month at one of the nation's main overseas military bases, comes as British Prime Minister

David Cameron has vowed to intensify his government's efforts to combat the spread of the Takfiri ISIL ideology, describing it as "the struggle of our generation."

Over 700 Britons have traveled from the country to Syria or Iraq since the foreign-backed crisis began in Syria in 2011. Nearly half of those that have already joined the ISIL terrorist group in the Middle East are believed to have returned.

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