



British police charge 5 under terrorism laws

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[摘要] February 10, 2007,LONDON - Five men are due to appear in court on Friday charged under anti-terrorism laws after a series of police raids in the central English city of Birmingham last week, British police said.

[关键词] terrorism laws

February 10, 2007,LONDON - Five men are due to appear in court on Friday charged under anti-terrorism laws after a series of police raids in the central English city of Birmingham last week, British police said.

Detectives arrested nine men on January 31 in what a defense source said was an investigation into a suspected plot to kidnap and possibly kill a British Muslim soldier.

Three men have been released, while another man is still being held for questioning.

"Five men from Birmingham have been charged overnight with offences under the Terrorism Acts 2000 and 2006," police said in a joint statement with the Crown Prosecution Service. No immediate details of the charges were given. Police said they would hold a joint news conference with the prosecution service at 0900 GMT to give details of the charges against the men, aged 29, 30, 31, 36 and 43. The names and nationalities of the men have not been disclosed. Birmingham is Britain's second largest city and one of its most ethnically diverse, with a large Muslim population.

Britain has been on its second highest alert level since four British Muslims killed 52 people on London's transport system in July 2005 in Western Europe's first Islamist suicide bombings.

In London, police said a Muslim man was due to appear in court on Friday charged with encouraging terrorism.

Abu Izzadeen, 31, from east London, shot to prominence last year when he was seen by millions on television heckling British Home Secretary (interior minister) John Reid at a public meeting.

He was arrested on Thursday by officers from the Counter Terrorism Command.

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