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## Molenbeek in Paris, on the trail of terrorists of 13 November

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Three doors slamming in the night. It is 3:00 in the morning, Thursday, November 12, in Brussels. The small district of Molenbeek still asleep. Renamed "Molenbeekistan" the town has provided one third of the 150 Brussels jihadists who joined Syria in recent years. Two cars, Clio and Seat, are parked in an alley. Three men got and exchange a packet. In the glow of the street lamps, a CCTV camera immortalizes the scene.

The quality of the images does not authorize any certainty, but investigators believe they have identified the three passengers. This is Abdeslam Salah, 26, a young neighborhood who dreams of Syria, and his brother Brahim, 31, who made a short visit early 2015. The third man, Mohamed Abrini, 30, has also briefly joined in the summer of 2015 the ranks of the organization Islamic state, where he lost a brother a year earlier. That night, the three friends only dream over Syria. They make their way to Paris. These images are the first traces of the convoy of ten men who are preparing to perpetrate the most deadly attacks that France has ever known.

The approximately 6000 minutes of the investigation into the events of November 13, which *Le Monde* has read, can trace with great precision the preparations and conduct of attacks. Above all, they show that the three commandos were coordinated in real time from Belgium.

We knew that teams Stade de France and cafés remained in contact during the evening of November 13. It turns out that the team of the terraces was itself in communication with a number located in Belgium at the time, while the Bataclan team corresponded with a second Belgian number. These two lines have "bounded" exactly the same places during the attacks, investigators believe that at least one man oversaw operations from Belgium. The suspect has not yet been identified.

### ■ Thursday, November 12, 5 pm 25: stop in Charleroi

At 4 h 30, the Clio and the Seat swoop down on the A54 towards Charleroi, the devastated capital of the Black Country. The journey takes less than an hour. The trio stopped off in arrivals renowned for its arms and drug shipments. He spent much of the day before heading back to 16 hours towards Paris.

A third vehicle, a Polo, has since joined the convoy. CCTV images of two service stations, where the killers are full and buy tuna sandwiches, identify the passengers of two cars. On board the Clio took up the brothers and Mohamed Abdeslam Abrini. Polo in the two killers of French Bataclan - Mostefai Ismail, 29, and Samy Amimour, 28 years old - and a Belgian 20 years, Bilal Hadfi a future suicide bombers from the Stade de France. The fourth passenger wearing a black cap and sunglasses is not formally identified: it could be Aggad Mohamed Fouad, 23, the third member of the team Bataclan.

### ■ Thursday 19 h 37: the convoy arrives in Paris

The three cars arrive in Paris early evening just minutes apart. Seat closes the ban to 19 h 37. Three bedrooms, booked the day before and the day before by Salah and Brahim Abdeslam, waiting for their occupants in Bobigny (Seine-Saint-Denis) and Alfortville (Val-de-Marne).

Responsible stewardship, the brothers rented three cars and made two round trips during the week between Belgium and France, along with Mohamed Abrini, to find a base. Freedom of movement which questions, knowing that the three men are known to the Belgian authorities as "radicalized" and "alleged" back from Syria. The exact role of Mohamed Abrini, which appears throughout the supply chain and is part of the convoy en route to Paris on November 12 before volatilize, has still not been elucidated. Is it returned to Belgium to coordinate remote attacks? He is currently wanted by police around the world.

To arrivals, the teams are divided by nationality of the three assailants Bataclan, all French, spend the night in two studios with twin beds at Appart City Alfortville, where they will deliver in the evening two pizzas salmon and a squeegee pizza, watering their meal Oasis. Teams from the Stade de France and café terraces - Belgian nationality for those who have been identified - share the pavilion Bobigny, close millstone of two floors, situated in the shadow of the city of the drinker. They will dine with a can of tuna and tailor make their explosive belts with a roll of Scotch found on site.

#### ■ Friday 19 h 40: terrorists leave the hotel

Friday, November 13, at 18 hours, a first car leaves the flag of Bobigny. This is the Clio, the car that will take two hours later three suicide bombers before the Stade de France. It rolls towards the airport of Roissy, where she is stationed between 18 h 20 h 20 and 19, at Terminal 2C. Meanwhile, the phone Hadfi Bilal, one of the future suicide bombers of Saint-Denis, are "terminal" too.

This stop, which intrigues investigators, was premeditated. In the Clio, the police found a piece of paper on which was scrawled: *"Republic Square; bd Saint-Martin / Stade de France; Charles de Gaulle Airport"*, as many destinations entered into the car's GPS. What was the purpose of this round trip in Roissy two hours before the attacks? Was it an accomplice to recover? The investigation has not helped to clarify this point.

The Clio then returns to the pavilion in Bobigny. At 19 h 40, it was the turn of the Polo to leave his hotel Alfortville towards the Bataclan with on board Samy Amimour, Mostefai Ismail and Mohamed Fouad-Aggad. This departure marks the beginning of coordinated attacks. In Bobigny, Salah Abdeslam starts at 20 h 29 towards Saint-Denis, where he must file the suicide bombers to the Stade de France. Ten minutes later, the Seat is heading towards the center of Paris. It was attended Place: Abdelhamid Abaaoud Brahim Abdeslam and a third unidentified man. It could be the one who blew himself up on November 18 during the assault in a RAID Saint-Denis apartment.

#### ■ Friday 21 h 20: first explosion in Saint-Denis

It's night's game at St. Denis. France meets Germany, the reigning world champion, in a friendly match. 70,000 people are expected at the Stade de France. The first spectators arrive around 19 hours to swallow a tartare or a sandwich in the nearby breweries until the doors opened.

Salah Abdeslam deposited his friend Bilal Hadfi and two men we only know that they arrived in early October in Europe by Greece with Syrian passports usurped. Their resemblance inclines investigators to think they could be brothers. This method of infiltration has already been recognized by the anti-terrorist services during the summer: a French jihadist - already commissioned by Abdelhamid Abaaoud - was arrested on his return from Syria with a Swedish passport.

Hollande installs presidential box alongside German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier. The match has just started. According to the testimony of a steward, a terrorist, Bilal Hadfi, then attempts to enter the stadium without a ticket. It is repressed. During this time, the young terrorist is constantly on the phone with Abdelhamid Abaaoud, which is en route Parisian terraces.

The meeting has started since about twenty minutes when the first shot rang out. Gate D, a suicide bomber blow himself up just before the snack wheat Heart. The blast killed a bus driver retired who accompanied a group of supporters came especially from Reims. Manuel Colaço Dias is the first victim of this macabre evening.

At that moment, the left rear of the France team, Patrice Evra, has the ball in the feet. It seems to stop playing, made a blind pass to defender looking toward the stands, clearly surprised by the power of the shot. In the audience are welcomed with *"Olé! What a firecracker bit noisier than others"*. The match continues.

Ten minutes later, a second explosion sounded. H door, a stranger in the colors of Bayern Munich, happened also in Europe by Greece with a false Syrian passport, triggered his belt. It miraculously kill anyone, but wounded several bystanders.

#### ■ 21 h 25: the attack begins terraces

The evening is particularly soft for mid-November. The terraces are crowded eastern Paris. Nonsmokers mingle with smoking on sidewalks in a cheerful hubbub. The first kamikaze Saint-Denis just explode. This is the moment chosen Abdelhamid Abaaoud Brahim Abdeslam and a third man to start their deadly equipped.

At 21 h 25, they stop their Seat before the terraces of Cambodia and Petit Carillon and strafe. Fourteen people were killed on the spot. The dreaded scenario for so many years by the intelligence services states: multiple simultaneous attacks similar to those that had been 166 deaths in 2008 in Mumbai, India, are underway in Paris.

While the second bomb just exploded near the Stade de France, the Seat resumes its way south and stops one block away. At the bottom of the rue de la Fontaine au Roi, the terraces of the Good Beer and Casa Nostra Pizzeria are full, too. The three men down car, shoot, kill, shouting *"Allahu akbar! And hit the road, leaving behind five new bodies and many wounded"*.

Four minutes later, the commandos down the street Charonne. The bistro La Belle Equipe, we celebrate the 35 years of Houda, the waitress from the Café des Anges. Two men get out of the Seat. They opened fire on cars that follow, and then aim the terraces. An amateur video confirms that the driver of the car, Abdelhamid Abaaoud - shod in sneakers orange - involved in the killing.

Described by several witnesses as "very calm", he would be "hard" on the ground injured. Twenty people died under the bullets, dozens were injured. More than 400 shots were fired at the three crime scenes.

#### ■ 21 h 41: Brahim Abdeslam explodes in a "cloud of feathers"

The commando of the Seat off again, up the street Charonne, and drops one of its occupants, Brahim Abdeslam, Voltaire Boulevard. The young man from the veranda of Comptoir Voltaire, a neighborhood brasserie. The destiny that bound him to his little brother Salah ends. CCTV bar immortalized the scene.

At 21 h 41, the eldest of the siblings enters the room. Ten seconds later, standing in the middle of the tables, he carries his left hand to his face, as if to conceal the camera, and the right hand in his jacket. The following images show a cloud of white smoke escape from his back, and the two lightning blast. Brahim Abdeslam is thrown forward and collapses on a table where two young men discuss a gaping hole in the back. The belt has malfunctioned. The terrorist exploded in a cloud of feathers, those of his anorak, without death.

A customer reported to investigators that the bomber "seemed to have consumed alcohol": "He did not seem well and looked inside the coffee blinked hard eye". Another had the reflex to look into his chair when he felt the blast of the explosion. In rising, he witnessed a surreal scene: the room is bathed in a "white feathers and a white brightness mingled smoke." Fifty-eight nuts impacts will be found on the windows of the terrace.

#### ■ 21 h 42: last SMS to Belgium

In the Oberkampf neighborhood is rock night, as is often the weekend. A concert of the *Eagles of Death Metal* sold out and brings together over 1500 people at the Bataclan. Only one date is scheduled in Paris. The US group arrives from Glasgow and left immediately for Tourcoing, Brussels, Cologne, Zurich. At 21 h 40, a black Polo parks in front of the room. Two minutes later, an SMS is sent from a Samsung phone immediately thrown into a garbage can: "We left, we begin."

The message recipient is in Belgium. This line opened on behalf of Salah Abdeslam, is active since 12 November 22 24 am, and will turn off immediately after receiving the text message. During its short existence, it has been exclusive relationship - twenty-five exchanges - with the Samsung found in the trash. Another Belgian number, who called in the evening Abdelhamid Abaaoud, issued exactly the same place, in Belgium, the SMS recipient. The investigators deduced that at least one man has coordinated attacks in real time from Belgium.

Reading the memory of Samsung found opposite the Bataclan brings new details about the preparation of terrorists. On 13 November, shortly after 14 hours, the owner has downloaded secure messaging Telegram. He then spent much of the afternoon to make dozens of research and detailed pictures of the room plans. It also recovers the program of the week and then performs a search "Eagles of Death Metal + White Miles Bataclan". DNA mixed Ishmael Mostefai and Mohamed Fouad-Aggad be found on the housing.

#### ■ 21 h 50, around the Stade de France: "I saw the head of a man"

In Saint-Denis, Stade de France, Jacqueline, 29, saleswoman casual soccer scarfs paused family at McDonald's, rue de la Coke. Alerted by the first two shots, she goes out into the street with his family. It is said that gas cylinders exploded. The news did not go fast. She lights a cigarette.

While the carnage of the terraces has been completed and that hostage taking is underway at the Bataclan, a third explosion occurred about ten meters: "We were blown, we flew. I fell on the front, and there was a horrible smoke, we saw nothing. Suddenly, I saw the ground before me, the head of a man. I thought he was my brother. I left in a daze. There were fragments of the body on all our clothes. "This head is that of Bilal Hadfi, who just trigger his weighted belt of TATP, an explosive powerful unstable.

#### ■ Between 21 h 50 and 22 hours, at the Bataclan "You we do that, it makes you that"

Minutes before the final explosion of the Stade de France, three men out of the Polo and shoot at the Bataclan. Three people fall under the bullets. Others took refuge inside the room, ignoring the nightmare that awaits them. Two terrorists join the pit and shoot again. A security guard opens an emergency exit to let out the spectators, but a third man awaits the bullets out and before joining his two accomplices in the room.

In the pit, spectators trapped lie on the ground, pretending to be dead. "He's hot, I kill him, you'll see, you!" "Launches an attacker methodically pulling in the crowd:" I said do not move! . "Some play with the hostages:" Go ahead, get up, those who want to go, go! "Launches one of them." Of course, all those who stood up have been shot, "said one survivor." The terrorists have resumed, and other hostages have risen. Again, they fired. They had fun, it made them laugh. "

After the first burst, the attackers pause. "It is where the singer? They are where the Yanks?, They ask. This is an American group, with the Americans you bomb, so we attacked the Americans and to you. "Miscellaneous About supposed to justify the killing are reported by survivors:" You will see it like the bombings in Iraq, we do what you do in Syria, listen to people screaming, it's what people living in Syria under the bombs, you kill our women, our brothers and our children, we did the same, we are here for you, we're not in Syria but it is here. You we do that, we do this to you".

#### ■ 22 hours: Commissioner C. arrives at Bataclan

The first police officers arrived on the scene, to 22 hours, were alerted by radio ten minutes earlier that a shooting was in progress at the Bataclan. They are two, one divisional commissioner and a brigadier, members of the Parisian night LAC, and are not equipped to deal with weapons of war. They enter the room through the main entrance, a single handgun in hand. Their involvement will end the massacre.

C. The Commissioner tells his first steps into the room: "We findings the presence of several dead

*bodies and distinctly perceive interspersed screams multiple detonations. In the entrance hall, the door suddenly opened opaque by many people rushing to effect us screaming. "*

■ **22 h 07: "I thought they were really stupid"**

About twenty meters on the left of the stage, the two police officers perceive one of the hostage-takers. These Sammy Ammour. They fire six times. *"The individual carrying the assault rifle uttered a groan before falling to the floor and raise his head slightly, said the Commissioner. At that moment, a loud explosion occurred at his level, leaving us thinking he had operated an explosive device. "* It is 22 07 h.

The head and leg Sammy Ammour are projected onto the stage. From the balcony of the first floor where they took position, his two accomplices fired on police, forcing him to retreat. A survivor who was upstairs remembers the reaction of terrorists at the time of death Ammour Sammy: *"I received a piece of flesh in my hair. It made them laugh. They said, "well, he blew himself up". It made them laugh, and I thought they were really stupid. "*

After the intervention of officers from the LAC, Ismail Mohamed Fouad and Mostefai-Aggad take refuge in a corridor shaped "L", closed by a door, taking with them a dozen spectators. *"They discussed both just meters from us, remembers a survivor. I think they were talking about us, "we'll keep them, it'll be fun". They seemed happy. Their faces marked satisfies me. "Another hostage recalls that" asking people what they heard behind the door. People said they heard moans, it made them laugh "*. The hostages will spend nearly two hours in this corridor of twelve meters with terrorists.

■ **00 h 18: the assault of the BIS**

At 22 h 15, the first team of the BIS arrived at the scene and identify the officials of the BAC. The elite men of the police headquarters *"nettoyent"* ground floor by controlling each survivor, they fear that they are "trapped". Half an hour later, the RAID arrives on site. The two columns of the BIS climb upstairs. Each toilet door open, dozens of huddled hostages current fare. Some go down false ceilings where they had taken refuge.

Around 23 h 15, the police arrived at the hall at the end of which the two terrorists were entrenched. Behind the door, a dozen hostages were placed against the doors and windows as a human shield. The terrorists are communicating with hostage telephone numbers for police negotiations.

The first contact is established at 23 h 27. A survivor reported the claims of the terrorists: *"I want you to remove your armies, I want a paper and a signed paper that proves it is 23 h 32, if in five minutes I have nothing to 23 h 37, I kill a hostage and I balance out the window. "A fifth contact is established at 00 h 18: This is actually a diversionary call that gives the start of the assault. It will last five minutes.*

Ramses protected behind a shield, the BIS column progresses towards the attackers cut the corridor behind the bend of the "L". Hostages are exfiltrated crawling on the ground. None will be killed. Ramses receives 27 impacts. Mortally wounded by two shots, the first terrorist, Mohamed Fouad-Aggad, triggered his explosive belt, blowing his accomplice Mostefai Ishmael riddled bolts. The taking of hostages Bataclan made 90 victims and several hundred wounded. The three simultaneous attacks that have overshadowed the France that night were 130 deaths.

**Read Thursday: Attacks on November 13: the mare and stalking (2 ° part)**