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PARIS ATTACKS

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# Two killed in Paris raid yet to be identified after dramatic shootout



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**November 19, 2015: French authorities have continued their raids throughout Saint Denis to track down the suspects of the Paris attacks.**

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French authorities are working to identify two bodies found in the apartment in Saint-Denis, north of Paris, stormed by police in a pre-dawn raid on Wednesday.

In a ferocious shootout, a woman detonated her suicide vest and a body was found riddled with bullets and was "not in a state that allows it to be identified," Paris prosecutor Francois Molins said.

"I am not able to give you a precise number and identity of those killed. There are at least two dead and verifications will likely take longer than expected" due to the state of the apartment building, he said.



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**Paris attacks "mastermind"**  
**Abdelhamid Abaaoud. (Photo:**  
**supplied)**

He said police fired up to 5000 rounds during the shootout.

Up to eight people are believed to have been taken into police custody but neither suspected Paris attacks mastermind Abdelhamid Abaaoud or alleged fugitive gunman Salah Abdeslam are among them, he said.

He said intelligence had led investigators to believe Abaaoud, a leading Islamic State extremist, could have been in the apartment.

Citing two intelligence sources, the [Washington Post](#) claims Abaaoud, who has fought for ISIL in Syria and is believed to have

financed and organised the attacks, was killed in the Saint-Denis raids but this has not been confirmed by authorities.

**November 18, 2015: Videos are being posted to social media of gunfire in Paris tonight, fuelling speculation a police operation is underway.**



**An injured police officer is carried away from the scene. Five officers**

**were injured in the raids, with a police dog killed. (9NEWS)**

Five police officers were injured in the raid and a police dog was killed.

Police allegedly found weapons, explosives, suicide vests and plans for another terrorist attack inside the home, Europe1 Radio reports.

"A new team of terrorists was neutralised and all indications are that given their arms, their organisational structure and their determination, the commando could have struck," Mr Molins said.

As police secured the area in the aftermath of the raid a number of officers smashed their way into a nearby church using battering rams and a crowbar.

It is unclear why the riot officers entered the 19th century St Denis de l'Estree church near where the siege took place.



**Police officers smash their way into the Denis de l'Estree church, near the site of the siege. (9NEWS)**

French President Francois Hollande, who was addressing a meeting of mayors in Paris when the raid ended, said the siege showed that France was "at war" with ISIL.

He said the terrorists aimed to divide the country but vowed that France would not give in to fear.

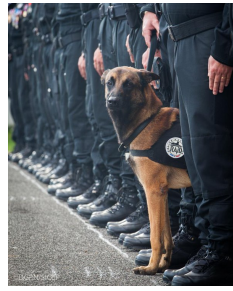
"France will remain a country of liberty and culture...France will never give in to fear," he said.

"No anti-Semitic or anti-Muslim act can be tolerated," he said.

<https://t.co/vb5IGjnwjU>

*View on Twitter*





**November 18, 2015: Several people are believed dead, including a female suicide bomber, after French police raided a Paris suburb.**

The president also pledged to strengthen law enforcement to deal with the threat and announced more police positions, more customs officers and no post closures within the army.

Mr Hollande said ISIL had targeted his nation because of its values and place in the world.

At least seven explosions were heard during the six-hour long operation, along with a large amount of gunfire as police carried out the early morning raid in a northern suburb of the country's capital.

A neighbour of the home raided this morning spoke to French broadcaster **BMFTV**

about waking up to sounds of the terrifying battle being waged in the apartment upstairs.

"I awoke to an explosion. After that I heard gun shots and there was lots of shooting. The terrorists were fighting at the police and the police were firing back," Sabine said.

"There were shots, explosions. We didn't know where to go. My son and I were in panic. There was dust falling from the ceiling because of the explosions. I kept shouting 'If you're from the police, please help me. I'm here with my baby'.

"But they kept shooting and shooting."



**November 18, 2015: Saint Denis**  
locals have posted more videos of  
the sound of gun shots in their  
neighbourhood early this morning.

**November 18, 2015: Police and**  
emergency services have flooded  
the streets of Saint Denis during a  
terror raid.

Abaaoud has been the  
subject of an international  
manhunt but was not  
suspected of even being in  
France.

Investigators believed the  
Belgian jihadi was hiding out  
in Syria after directing the  
Paris attacks in which three  
coordinated teams of up to  
nine gunmen and suicide  
bombers killed 132.

The eighth suspect, Salah

Abdeslam, is still at large with authorities believing he fled to Belgium immediately after Friday's attacks.

Seven attackers, including Salah's brother Brahim Abdesla, died during the Paris attacks - three around the national stadium, three inside the Bataclan concert venue and one at a restaurant nearby.

Shortly after the raids started dozens of residents took to social media to share videos capturing the sound of gunshots ringing out.

Multiple videos have been posted online where heavy gunfire exchanges can be heard.

One video posted just minutes after the shots were fired out shows a police officer hunched beside a car with an assault weapon and wearing a protective vest.



**A heavily-armed policeman stands guard near the scene of the raid.**  
(Jack Hawke, 9news.com.au)



**Police vans line the street following the deadly raids in Saint-Denis.** (Jack Hawke, 9news.com.au)



**A huge police and media presence remains in Saint-Denis.** (Jack Hawke, 9news.com.au)

## **Suspected Paris attackers and associates:**

- Abdelhamid Abaaoud – Suspected mastermind. A Belgian national who has fought for ISIL in Syria and is believed to have financed and organised the attacks.
- Salah Abdeslam, 26 – Carried out shootings alongside his suicide bomber brother Brahim, before fleeing. He was also in contact with suspected

attack mastermind  
Abaaoud. Raids in Brussels,  
where he lived his brothers,  
failed to find him.

- Brahim Abdeslam, 31 –  
suicide attacker who  
targeted Bataclan theatre,  
and the brother of Salah.
- Mohammed Abdeslam –  
Brother of Salah and  
Brahim, reportedly arrested  
in Belgium. He has publicly  
denied any involvement.
- Omar Ismail Mostefai, 29 –  
  
Paris-born suicide attacker  
who targeted Bataclan.  
Authorities believe he was  
radicalised in 2010 and  
spent some time in Syria. He  
had petty criminal  
convictions.
- Samy Amimour, 28 –  
French national involved in  
the Bataclan massacre, who  
returned to Europe from  
Syria without detection  
despite being wanted under  
an international warrant. He  
was charged with  
conspiracy to commit  
terrorism in October 2012,  
but violated his bail and  
went to Syria about a year

later.

- Ahmed Almuhamed, 25 – Possible identity of suicide attacker who targeted Stade de France. His Syrian passport was found near a bomber's remains, and he had entered Europe through Greece.

- Bilal Hadfi, 20 – suicide attacker who targeted Stade de France. A French national who had lived in Belgium and spent time in Syria.

- Unidentified third suicide attacker who targeted Stade de France.

- Unidentified suspect seen in car with Abdeslam brothers, who gunned down five people in front of A La Bonne Bierre bar.

- Three other gunmen killed during the attacks

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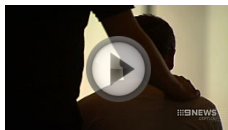
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