

Paris killer Amédry Coulibaly acted 'under orders' email reveals

Investigation into January killings in Paris finds email sent to Amédry Coulibaly, the gunman who killed a policewoman and four in a Jewish supermarket, telling him to strike "alone"



Amédry Coulibaly killed four people in the attack at the Hyper Cacher store at Porte de Vincennes on the south eastern edge of Paris on January 9th Photo: AFP/Getty



Hanging out with Downton Abbey's Dan Stevens

YouTube prankster Ben Phillips found himself watching the Rugby World Cup with Dan Stevens and Harry Styles

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By Henry Samuel, Paris

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Amédry Coulibaly, the gunman who killed four people at a Jewish supermarket in Paris, received orders via email from an unknown sender, a probe into the January terrorist attacks has revealed.

Nine months after the attacks in the French capital that left 17 dead, it has emerged that investigators found evidence on Coulibaly's computer that he was acting on instructions.



A female police officer was killed by Coulibaly with an automatic weapon in Montrouge, Paris, shortly before he received the email Photo: Thomas Samson/AFP/Getty Images

The message, sent on January 8 at 5.21pm, hours after Coulibaly killed a policewoman in Montrouge, tells the self-proclaimed Islamist to "go for the easiest and surest" target.

It was deleted at 7pm.

The message also tells him to "work alone" and "do it again several times", but goes on mention trying to contact "zigoto".

Investigators suspect the term may be a pseudonym for the Kouachi brothers, who had already attacked the Charlie Hebdo offices the previous day, killing 12 people, and were on the run.

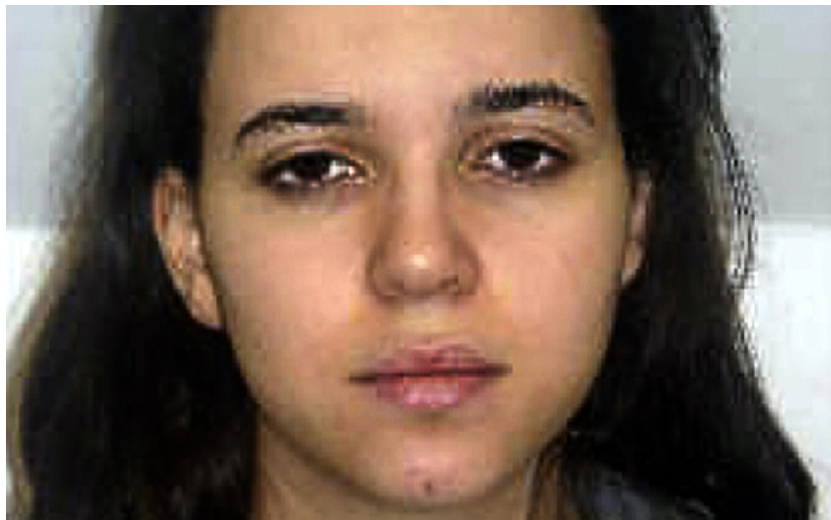
The unidentified sender makes no specific mention of a target, telling Coulibaly to strike “perhaps the grande ceinture” ringing Paris “if there’s a problem in the centre”.

Ultimately, Coulibaly chose the Hyper Cacher store at Porte de Vincennes on the south eastern edge of Paris on January 9. He was killed during a four-hour siege, before being gunned down when police stormed the store.

According to BFMTV the author of the email used a fake account that passed through a server in the US. Investigators believe the sender was based in Syria.

Paris prosecutors had previously mentioned the possibility he had received instructions from abroad, but offered no evidence of this.

In a posthumous video claiming responsibility for his murders and released after the attack, Coulibaly claimed to be a member of Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (Isil).

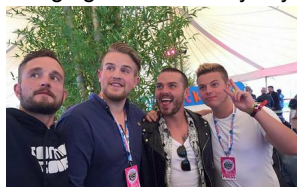


Hayat Boumeddiene fled to Turkey before the attack Photo: AFP

Hayat Boumeddiene, his partner, fled to Turkey in the days before the terror attacks.

The target of an international arrest warrant, she is believed to be in Syria.

Hanging out with Harry Styles



YouTube prankster Ben Phillips found himself watching the Rugby World Cup with Dan Stevens and Harry Styles