



**Newsletter: July 2016**

**International Council for Industrial Security & Safety Management**

## **Fall-Outs of Britain's Exit from EU: Security Implications**



**D.C. Nath, IPS (Retd.)  
(Former Special Director,  
Intelligence Bureau)  
Chief Patron, ICISSM**

This is an attempt at understanding the various facets of this historic event of Britain leaving the EU on June 24, 2016. The result of the voting in the Referendum was: 54 per cent in favour of leaving the EU with 49 per cent for staying back with the EU.

Being so close to the event, it is too early to make a firm assessment on this historic development. It is we believe, debatable whether the result of the Referendum is constitutionally binding on the State. Here, we take it as it has happened. It does not, however, matter because the British, seeing the growing urge for a re-Referendum has clearly ruled that out.

From what we have read in the press or seen on the internet, we make an attempt to bring to our learned readers how we have sized up the impact.

Politically, Britain has shrunk and will now become a one nation, one country. Scotland wants to remain with the EU. It will re-hold their Referendum for separating itself from Britain. The British premier had then passionately pleaded to the Scots to remain with Britain. He had been strongly propagating for dissociating Britain from the EU. This has happened. Cameron ought to feel happy. Instead, he decided to step down in October. That has set in the battle for succession. He has resigned the membership of the party also.

The North Irish people think that it would be good to form a United Ireland. Internal developments in Portugal and Spain have been adversely affected Europe's attention from the 'migrant' issue.

Obama who had visited London and pleaded with the Britishers in general and also with Cameroon, in particular, not to leave the EU, has digested the eventuality He now said UK has special relationship with US.

The EU wants the Britishers to leave EU early. Elder Britishers are happy that their identity, or rather minority culture, will be protected. The younger Britishers could not care less. They have been ambivalent. Economically, the British departure from the EU has multiple effects. Global economy has taken a hit. First and foremost, the British sterling has taken a 30 year plunge. Oil prices in the world have gone down. Gold price has gone down in India and in many other countries.

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We felt disappointed not to find any Editorial or an edit page analysis of the impact that we have attempted. There have been discursive comments only.

Well, Friends, in case any other impact crops up in your minds, please share that with us.

We are, however, certain that the political commentators must be busy in analysing the impact of the Brit exit on the overall geopolitical developments. The economists or economic advisors to the government will also be on the job.

Strangely, the infamous ISIS expressed happiness over the British exit from the EU. ISIS's happy reaction to the Brit exit from the EU suggests the security analysts will have to delve deeper into this aspect. Is this going to prove helpful to the terrorists? Our guess on this will be as good as yours.

As more world-wide reactions, especially on the financial field, are coming, we keep our fingers crossed, let there be no undesirable and controllable exposure in any field.

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## **Comparative Study of Huge Funds of Terror Outfits, Mostly Islamic**

According to the latest report in the Forbes Magazine, the terrorist organizations are all in the million/billion category, with the ISIS leading with 3 billion US dollar annually. This is raised primarily from the corporate world extortion and illegal trading in oil. Their goal is to firmly establish the Islamic Caliphate all over the world.

- **AL Qaeda's** annual turn-over is 150 million dollar. It receives money, may be "protection money" from some countries, abduction and drug trafficking.
- **Taliban**, working primarily in Afghanistan since 1996, has an annual income of 400 million dollar, mostly from drug trafficking. The other wing of the Taliban is engaged in organizing "jihad" against Christians and Israelis. Their annual income is 130 million dollar.
- **Laskar-e-Toiba** earns about 100 million dollar. The source is grants and other kinds of financial help from foreign governments.
- **Hamas of Palestine** boasts of one billion dollar. Extortion is its main source.
- **Hezbollah's** annual income is rated as 500 million dollar. It thrives on drug money. It aims at establishing an Islamic State in Lebanon.
- **Al Sabah**, born in 2006, earns about 70 million dollar. It basically works in Somalia, Kenya and Uganda. It aims at setting up radical Islamic State.
- **Boko Haram**, the main terrorist out-fit in Nigeria and around, covering Cameroon, has an annual income of 52 million dollar. Its objective is preventing Western culture from penetrating their countries. A break-away group of the original IRA (Irish Republican Army)'s annual income is 50 million.

The report concludes expressing the apprehension that the average income of all these terrorist groups is showing increasing growth rate to add to their coffer.

Well, though all this is from the latest Forbes Magazine report, it is possible that other believed-to-be-correct information that both the Saudi Arabia and the USA do also pump in money to their favorites and also supply other varied kinds of military help, make the situation more threatening to the rest of the civilized world.

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## Thoughts on Orlando Massacre: Indian Ramifications



Word is changing right in front of us. We are on threshold of new future of mankind - it perishes or survives! Right in the centre will be ISIS for all wrong reasons!

### **Remember Orlando Massacre!**

50 innocent people massacred and 53 wounded, some seriously, by a Muslim fanatic who had come from Afghanistan, the land of Al Qaeda and Taliban, swore absolute loyalty to the United States and her citizens when he begged upon his knees for the privilege of US citizenship.

Mr Obama called it a crime of terror and hate. Yes, "terror & hate", the perennial two attributes that zealots of Islam make it different from other religion of the World! The US President got it right. Two words that describe the world of Zealots' Islam so eloquently!

### **How to stop ISIS in India?**

"Orlando Outburst" must encourage Americans to favour Donald Trump. He will need to make great alliance with François Hollande of France, Vladimir Putin of Russia and Narendra Modi of India. With their known dislikes towards Islamic terrorism and proven track record and will to eliminate terrorism, the ISIS will stand good chances of elimination.

This foursome must succeed, as otherwise ISIS, which is losing vast territories in Iraq, will search for soft ground and softer targets.

What will be better for it other than India? Surrounded by Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh, India will be the land where Gazba-e-Hind - the last jihad will be fought. Supported by sleeper cells and lone wolves, the areas such as Kairana, Rampur, Moradabad and Muzzaffarnagar and many such places in all Indian States will be launch-pads for ISIS fighters.

We need to prepare ourselves for that last battle as this is the only chance of survival for India!



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# Mystery of ONGC's Kadi Oil Well Fire

## A Case Study

Col N N Bhatia, Veteran

In December 1985, I was commanding my Battalion 2 KUMAON (Berar) in Gandhinagar (Gujarat). On 15 December 1985, while I was returning from the evening games, I got telephonic message from the Brigade Headquarters that ONGC's Oil well Kadi (K-53) being sunk, was on fire and that the KUMAONIS were put on high alert to move on short notice to help combating the fire. For the next two days while we were on short notice, I drove down to Kadi about 40 kms away for reconnaissance to gain first-hand information.



**Kadi Oil Well (K-53) on Fire**

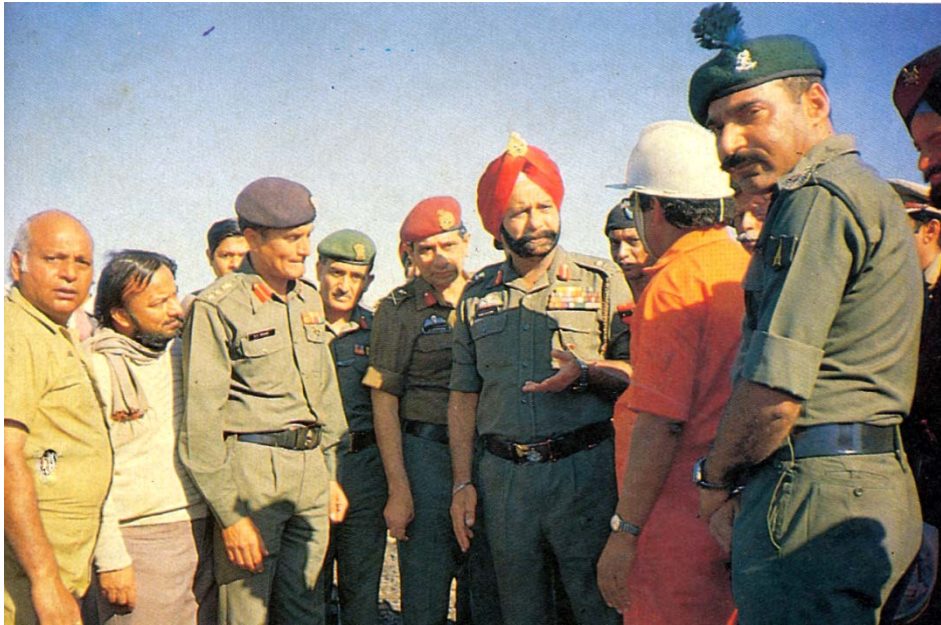
Kadi is a small town on way to Mehasana. K-53 was being sunk close to habitation and main Delhi-Ahmedabad railway line. The trapped gas in the well sunk up to 1974 meters depth suddenly caught fire due to sparking and the solid steel rig weighing over 250 tons melted like a wax candle in no time. It appeared as if an area of two-football grounds size was on fire and blaze raising twice the height of Qutab Minar. No Control Room was established but the ONGC top brass at the site described the blaze as the “**Worst on shore mishap**”. I found huge crowd of curious onlookers hindering ONGC's efforts in combating the fire. There was also large contingent from the media but there were no organized media briefings.

### ONGC's Plan

To extinguish and unravel the mystery of the fire, the ONGC had planned to dig a relief well, 300 meters West of K-53, to reduce pressure in K-53 and convert it into a substitute well to monitor the geological behaviour of the structure that suddenly bucked on December 15, 1985, setting in motion big on shore oil well fire containment plan. The relief well that was planned would draw oil and gas away from K-53, thus facilitating combating the fire. It was hoped, once

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localized trapped oil and gas was burnt, the fire would die on its own while it was equally feared that oil and gas reservoir under the geological sub-structure could be sucked in and fire would remain ablaze for indefinite period ranging from a few to 90 days till the under ground trapped reservoir was exhausted. However, due to intense heat, proximity of habitation and Delhi-Ahmedabad railway line and time consuming effort, digging of the relief well was shelved. Extensive use of water cannons was also ineffective as sprayed water vapours simply evaporated in the intense heat.



**Lt Gen R S Dayal, Maj Gen Afsir Karim & Col Bhatia (extreme right) deliberating with ONGC officials on combating the fire**

### **The Army's Deployment**

Besides seeking help from the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation, the India Petrochemicals in Baroda and local police, the ONGC had, meanwhile, requisitioned six fire experts from Baku Oil fields from the erstwhile Soviet Union. The ONGC Chief, Col S P Wahi had also summoned Raymond de Smedh, Executive Vice President of Sedco Forex- Neptune, a multinational oil company who too was stone walled by the blazing inferno. After trying all possible means, in an unprecedented move, the flabbergasted ONGC staff sought the help of the Army to use its firepower, and on December 18, 1985 I was ordered to deploy half of my Battalion with two RCL guns and small arms to help in combating the fire. The local police and the Home Guards on duty were placed under my command and the first action I took was to cordon 300 meters area around the burning well and push away curious onlookers hindering fire containment plan.

Once I landed with my troops at the site, I was directed by the then Lt Gen R S Dayal, General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Southern Command and Maj General Afsir Karim, General Officer Commanding of Ahmedabad based Infantry Division that Kadi and adjoining villages should be vacated and area cordoned off as Baku fire experts had suggested using explosive to create shock waves so that underground oil and gas channels (2) to well caved in to starve the fire of oxygen, gas and crude supply. I was directed to place two 106 mm Recoilless Guns (RCL guns) to blast the mouth of the well under fire. Since 106 mm RCL Gun fires flat trajectory, high velocity, anti- tank projectiles horizontally that can destroy any known military tank in the world, I had apprehension about the success in this mission. However, we fired number of projectiles



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but to no avail. Meanwhile, the top brass of the Army and the ONGC, along with Baku fire-fighting experts decided to tame the blaze with tank fire and three Vijayanta tanks, from Ahmedabad Division, to shell the well with their 105 mm high velocity, high explosive squash head projectiles were positioned. I had my doubts on this mission's success too as what could not be achieved by firing 106 mm RCL high explosive projectiles was difficult to achieve with similar weapon system of the tanks as 106 mm RCL and tanks fire to destroy enemy armour and not to tame such devastating fires. The successful caving in of the blazing mouth of the well was only possible if the explosive was dropped and detonated vertically. The possibility of lowering explosive through a helicopter was a viable option but high rising flames, wind velocity and fear of collateral damage to Kadi village and railway track negated this option.



**T-59 Tanks from the Army ready to blast the burning oil well**

On December 25, 1985 while the world celebrated Christmas, we were combating Kadi Oil fire. It was no wonder that even after taking the help from the Soviet oil fire experts from Baku, Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation, India Petrochemicals from Baroda and the Army, the well did not just burn but from its inward threw up along large quantities of gas and crude. What did not ignite at the wellhead spread fast in the adjoining areas and burnt as an untenable inferno! The ONGC on its continuing efforts to control the fire brought huge water tanks to jet out water, urea, potassium, aqueous foam and film forming foam that simply evaporated in the intense heat.

While I was ordered to strengthen cordon to avoid loss of life, the 35000 residents of Kadi were told to remain indoors. It was planned to blast the mouth of the well with all the three tanks firing at tandem rapidly shaped changes on the '**D- Day**', the **December 30, 1985**.

### **The Unresolved Mystery and the Power of the Prayers**

On the evening of December 29, 1985, while I was planning to go to do Ahmedabad Railway Station to see off my 11 years old son to board train for Delhi, I saw a sari clad ordinary looking unassuming young lady carrying coconut, vermilion, some flowers and incense sticks in a steel

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thali being stopped and pushed by the policemen of the cordon. In this process she fell down dropping her thali and its contents on the ground. I quickly rushed to the incident site and directed cordoning constables that with out ill-treating any one and specially the ladies, they should man the access control firmly. I also learnt that lady wanted to perform pooja at the fire site and had vowed that she would not take any food till the fire was extinguished. The curious ever Vodka gulping inebriated Russian experts standing close by enquired through the interpreter about the commotion and were told by the interpreter about lady's vow and intensions. They not only had hearty laughter but also advised her not to undertake such a stupid decision of fasting, as she would die of starvation. They also said that fires like Kadi-53 could last anything from 30 to 90 days or more and she was sure to die of starvation.

On my instructions, with the help of some policemen the lady was helped to gather her thali and the contents and I let her perform the pooja from a distance and left for Ahmedabad Railway station to see off my son.

Around midnight, I was on my way to Kadi fire site and was amazed as the fireball visible from miles was missing. For a moment, I thought my driver had lost the way. I reached the site well past midnight and was pleasantly surprised to see that fire had died down on its own and the Soviet fire experts as usual were gulping Vodka down their throats. I asked them through the interpreter as to what had happened and they in exasperation threw their arms in the air in sheer disbelief. I reminded them about that lady's desire to perform pooja and the vow she had undertaken to fast until fire was extinguished and said, "You will perhaps not understand that beyond men and machines there is unknown '**Super Divine Power**' and the unshaken belief of the lady in the **power of the prayer, penance and spirituality of the East** that controls the universe and disasters like the Kadi fire that would always remain a **myth for non-believers** like you". In the dying ambers of K-53 fire, men, machines, monstrous tanks and twisted and mangled over 250 tons steel rig looked too small and insignificant. But the **power of the oriental spirituality** was beyond the comprehension of Baku's non-believers and taming of the untamable kadi oil well fire would always remain a **mystical mystery** much to the relief of the ONGC, the Army, the locals and the Vodka sipping Russian experts, that died on its own and the 'D-Day' for the tanks to fire on December 30, 1985, never came.

### **Major Lacunae**

- The well was being sunk too close to habitation, trunk Delhi-Ahmedabad Railway Line and National Highway-8 (NH-8).
- The fire started on 14 December 1985, the Army was alerted on 15 December 1985 but deployed on 17 December 1985 thus losing precious time.
- No Control Room was established.
- Media briefings were not organized.
- Curious crowd of onlookers hindered fire-fighting operations.
- There were far too many agencies handling the fire operations- ONGC, India Petrochemicals from Baroda, Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation and its Fire Brigade, the Army and the fire-fighting experts from Baku. Therefore, there was lack of coordination amongst various agencies.
- There was no common communication channel amongst various agencies operating in containing the fire.
- Similarly, for security there were ONGC personnel, the Home Guards, local police and the Army.

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- Due to proximity of houses, the railway line and the NH-8, explosive could not be dropped vertically by a helicopter to create shock waves to cave in mouth of the oil well fire and starve the fire of oxygen supply.
- Water cannons spraying water mixed with chemicals were ineffective in containing the fire.
- Horizontal firing of 106 mm RCL guns or tank fire was ineffective, as it could not cave in mouth of the oil well fire.
- Correct underground geological intelligence about the well's supply of gases and crude was not available.
- Due to unavailability of adequate Russian language interpreters, communication with Baku fire experts was difficult.
- Mystery of nature and divine intervention is never thought off in such disasters.

### **Lessons Learnt**

- ONGC or other oil exploration companies should avoid digging oil wells close to human habitation, railway lines or national highways or other vital installations / means of communications.
- If the above is not avoidable then such habitations and means of communication / installations should be shifted at safer distances.
- Due to proximity of the houses, railway line and important road, explosives could not be dropped vertically by helicopter as horizontal bombardment of the mouth of the fire well could not ensure desired results.
- Control Room with proper communication, command and control should have been established.
- When too many agencies are involved in mitigation of the disaster, the lead agency should be nominated as the nodal agency to control the entire operation.
- Accurate geological intelligence of underground characteristics, behaviour, gas and crude estimates must be made available by the geophysical surveys.
- Crowd management is very crucial and so is the media to ward off rumour mongering and adverse publicity. Media should be briefed periodically about the prevailing situation.
- The logistics support by way of lodging, boarding and feeding large number of people involved in the operations by the ONGC with its massive resources was excellent which may not be feasible in any other installation in similar adverse circumstances.
- But for the divine intervention, the fire was uncontrollable, though, as an after-thought it was said that fire got extinguished once local underground reserves of oil and gas got exhausted due to burning.





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## **Deadly IS Attacks in 2016**

During Ramadan, regarded as the holiest and most spiritual month on the Islamic calendar, observant Muslims “abstain from drink and food during sunlight hours and believe that God is at his most forgiving,” according to a recent report from the BBC. Yet during this just-finished Ramadan, which ran June 5 through July 5, radical Muslim terrorists killed more than 300 people in what the Islamic State declared as a “month of calamity everywhere for the non-believers.”

If there was any question radicals have hijacked a religion from around 1.6 billion people to spread violence from an Orlando nightclub all the way to the Prophet's Mosque in Medina, Saudi Arabia, this Ramadan just proved it.



- **2 July 2016:** At least **125 people have been killed** and about 150 injured in an explosion claimed by the so-called Islamic State group in Baghdad.
- **21 June 2-16:** At least **06 members of Jordan's security forces were killed** in a suicide car bombing launched from the Syrian side of the border.
- **9 June 2016:** **At least 30 people killed** in and around Baghdad in two suicide attacks claimed by IS
- **17 May 2016:** Four bomb blasts **kill 69 people** in Baghdad; three of the targets were Shia areas
- **11 May 2016:** Car bombs in Baghdad **kill 93 people**, including 64 in market in Shia district of Sadr City
- **1 May 2016:** Two car bombs **kill at least 33 people** in southern city of Samawa
- **26 March 2016:** Suicide attack targets football match in central city of Iskandariya, **killing at least 32**
- **6 March 2016:** Fuel tanker blown up at checkpoint near central city of Hilla, **killing 47**
- **28 February 2016:** Twin suicide bomb attacks hit market in Sadr City, **killing 70**



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Mr. Maroof Raza  
Mentor  
SWI

For More Details please Contact:

Shivani Lal | Senior Conference Manager  
Security Watch India

Syndicate Bank Complex  
Shubhanchal Hostel Building  
Vikas Sadan Institutional Area  
INA, New Delhi 110023

Direct: 91 11 49667724 |  
Board: 011 4955 6600 | Fax: 011 4955 6688 |

Mob: +91-9582229842

Email: [shivani.lal@securitywatchindia.org.in](mailto:shivani.lal@securitywatchindia.org.in)

[www.securitywatchindia.org.in](http://www.securitywatchindia.org.in)



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