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REPORTER: Richard Watson

PRODUCER: David Lewis

EDITOR: David Ross

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ACTUALITY OF SIRENS AND SHOUTING

WATSON: Carnage beneath the streets of London as bombs explode on the tube. It has all the hallmarks of an Al Qaeda attack.

WOMAN: You could hear the screaming from the carriages at the front, because that was where the explosion had happened.

MAN: Our carriage was smoke-filled, there was lots of dust, there was lots of panic, we could see the people covered in blood.

WATSON: But this mission wasn't carried out by foreign Jihadists – the bombs were planted by British citizens, led by a teaching assistant from Leeds.

VIDEO ACTUALITY OF SIDDIQUE KHAN

KHAN: We are at war and I am a soldier and our words have no impact upon you. Therefore we are talking a language that you understand. Our words are dead until we give them life with our blood.

WATSON: The bombers have been portrayed as so-called clean-skins - people with no history of extremism, people the intelligence services could not be expected to stop. But File on 4 can reveal that the group's leader, Mohammed Siddique Khan, had extensive contacts with an international Jihadi network, which British intelligence either missed or ignored.

SIGNATURE TUNE

ACTUALITY IN CAR

SARWAR KHAN: We've just passed the Leeds United football ground and this is the outer edge of Beeston. On my right hand side you can see the neighbourhood, it is a mixed community consisting of white, black, Asian – all community living here with good coherence.

WATSON: Sarwar Khan is a taxi driver and community leader living in Beeston. He's also secretary of the local mosque, set amongst the back to back red brick terraces and cobbled alleyways. Houses here are in decay, pigeons roost in broken roofs. It's a world apart from the glitz and prosperity in the centre of Leeds, just a few miles away. Beeston is home to a large, close-knit Pakistani and Kashmiri community. To the intense discomfort of residents, these streets were thrust into the media spotlight when it emerged that three out of the four London bombers came from the area. What was your reaction when you found out that this terrorist atrocity originated from your own community?

SARWAR KHAN: We were shocked, especially when it was known that these are the young people from here, from the Beeston. We were shocked, these young lads, who were well known in the community in a good manner, well educated and have got decent jobs working in the community, and their other side came as a surprise.

WATSON: What came as a surprise for the community was an even bigger surprise for the intelligence services and the government. Just four weeks before the 7th July bombings, the Joint Terrorist Analysis Centre – which is staffed by the domestic intelligence service MI5, the secret service MI6, the government listening station

WATSON cont: GCHQ and the police - filed a secret report. Leaked to the American press, it concluded that although “events in Iraq are continuing to act as a focus and motivation for a range of terrorist-related activity in the UK”, no group currently has “the intent or capability” to mount an attack. The London bombings, it seemed, had come out of the blue. But in Leeds we’ve discovered there were clues to be found. Back in 2001, Siddique Khan and some close friends set up a gym in the basement of the Kashmiri Welfare Centre in Hardy Street, which also houses the local mosque. Siddique Khan used to encourage youngsters to train with weights – apparently he wanted to keep them off the Beeston streets, where drugs are sometimes traded. But his religious views began to draw attention.

SARWAR KHAN: Siddique did use the basement along with other youngsters from the area and they left from there roughly five or six years ago.

WATSON: And why did they leave?

SARWAR KHAN: Well, there were two reasons. One reason was the basement at that time wasn’t up to the standard. There was a lot of damp needed improvement that is one reason. And the other reason was, I think, most of these boys did try to tell other mosque users you shouldn’t do religion this way, you do this one, or you should cover your head, and they were portrayed this was the true Islam. It was felt strongly that they were trying to impose their religion to other people.

WATSON: And people didn’t like that?

SARWAR KHAN: People didn’t like it. And those feelings were made known to the whole group, so they just left of their own accord.

WATSON: Siddique Khan was making himself unpopular by pushing Wahhabism – a fundamentalist interpretation of Islam, which originated on the Arabian peninsular. Wahhabis claim a more direct linkage with the prophet and they don’t recognise Shias as true Muslims. They also totally reject western democracy – which in their view is haram or evil because it puts manmade law above God. Wahhabism is the guiding philosophy of Al Qaeda. Away from the mosque, his work colleagues began to notice his character change.

WATSON cont: Is it true that people were beginning to get a sense that he was becoming slightly less trustworthy throughout 2003?

COLLEAGUE: There was a sense of a lesser level of reliability, possibly. He was off sick quite a lot and he hadn't arrived in work, which was put down to sickness, things like that.

WATSON: A period of just a few days or weeks?

COLLEAGUE: I think it was weeks, but again there were odd days as well. I can't be precise there.

WATSON: We can reveal that Mohammed Siddique Khan had been leading a double life. By the time he was being asked to leave the Hardy Street mosque in 2001, his journey into extremism was well underway. Dr Rohan Gunaratna is the head of the international centre for political violence and terror research at the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies in Singapore. He's recently interviewed a member of Jemaah Islamiah – the south east Asian militant group linked to Al Qaeda. The man he spoke to was Nasir Abbas, who fought for 6 years in Afghanistan, and who's being detained in Indonesia in connection with the 2002 Bali bombings. Nasir Abbas told Dr Gunaratna that Siddique Khan travelled to Malaysia in 2001, where he met the notorious terrorist Humbali.

GUNARATNA: He was received by Humbali, who is the operational leader of Jemaah Islamiah, one of the groups closest to Al-Qaeda. Humbala was also on the military committee of Al-Qaeda. Humbali hosted him in Malaysia. Another JI member who is Afghan-trained looked after him, and after that Mohammed Siddique Khan visited the Philippines, and in the Philippines Mohammed Siddique Khan visited Camp Alabia and he was in the company of Nasir Abbas, who is the regional leader. So Mohammed Siddique Khan spent time in South East Asia, familiarising himself, educating himself before he returned to Europe. This was in early 2001.

WATSON: And what is the source of this information? Is it reliable, do you think?

GUNARATNA: Yes. The source is basically from a Malaysian detainee currently in Malaysian detention, and the source in the Philippines is a detainee who is in Indonesia. I have met one of these detainees and I can tell you that that particular detainee is very credible.

WATSON: What sort of training would he have received? What was the aim of it?

GUNARATNA: The training was recruit training, but again there were specialised courses. But what is most important is that Mohammed Siddique Khan spent time at a camp that was being run by Al-Qaeda trainers.

WATSON: But these were by no means the only contacts Siddique Khan had with Islamic extremists linked to Al Qaeda. We've discovered a strong connection with another terrorist suspect - this time an American Islamist from New York.

ACTUALITY IN QUEENS, NEW YORK

WATSON: I'm in the borough of Queens – just over the bridge from Manhattan island, a thriving multicultural community. The police arrested the terror suspect last April just a few metres from where I'm standing, as he drove to a training course where he was learning to be a taxi driver. This was his first visit back to America since the 9/11 attack.

We'll call him Shafique - we can't reveal his true identity for legal reasons. But what we can say is that he's a US citizen from a well-connected Pakistani family. He's currently in custody in America and has admitted a string of terrorist offences, as court documents reveal.

ACTUALITY OF SHAFIQUE INDICTMENT

READER IN STUDIO: Starting the summer 2003, that's when I first started providing funding, material support to Al Qaeda, you know, for the war in Afghanistan. And from the summer of 2003 to about March 2004, I provided night vision goggles, sleeping bags, waterproof socks, waterproof ponchos and money to a high-ranking Al Qaeda official in South Waziristan.

WATSON: Shafique told the court he was fully aware of Al Qaeda's role.

READER IN STUDIO: I understand it was involved in ongoing military operations within Afghanistan, and also that Al Qaeda was also involved in military organisations outside of Afghanistan, namely bombings and hijackings and kidnappings outside of Afghanistan. So that's what I understood Al Qaeda was involved in – those kinds of military operations.

WATSON: Despite the fact that his own mother almost lost her life in the attack on the World Trade Centre in 2001, Shafique travelled out to Pakistan a week after 9/11 to support the Taliban in anticipation of US attacks against Afghanistan. He spelled out his commitment to the cause in an interview recorded in Pakistan in 2001.

EXTRACT FROM ITN BROADCAST

SHAFIQUE: I did go up there, but that doesn't mean that my loyalty is with the Americans. My loyalty has always been, is and forever will be with the Muslims.

MAN: If there is a ground war, are you willing to kill American soldiers?

SHAFIQUE: Yes. I am willing to kill the American soldiers if they enter into Afghanistan with their ground troops, I am willing to kill the Americans. And if the Americans use Pakistan soil as its basis, we will kill them here in Pakistan too.

WATSON: Over the next two years, the New York radical developed contacts with Al Qaeda and Taliban leaders. Dr Rohan Gunaratna says Shafique became a very significant player.

GUNARATNA: He was a specialist trainer and also a link man for European and North American Jihadists, with the surviving remnants of Al-Qaeda leadership located in Pakistan. But more than that, I think that he inspired and instigated and built capability among European and North American Jihadists.

WATSON: What sort of training did he help with in Pakistan?
Do you know?

GUNARATNA: He's a combat tactician and also he was able to provide more specialised training through the network of trainers he had in Pakistan, and he was very very connected to the Jihad network in the North Western frontier province area, where the key leadership of Al Qaeda is, even to this day, having some presence.

WATSON: Out in Pakistan, Shafique was staying with a British radical called Hassan Butt, who had flats in Lahore and Islamabad. These flats were used as stopping-off points for British recruits for jihad training. Hassan Butt claims that between three to four thousand recruits have passed through camps in Pakistan and Afghanistan. When it emerged that five Britons had died fighting for the Taliban against the Northern Alliance in 2001, Mr Butt was full of praise.

EXTRACT FROM ITN RECORDING

BUTT: As for the Muslims, we're very envious. We're very happy that these people have become martyrs. We're very envious of these people and we too would like to be like this, because to live and die and walk and talk for Islam is every Muslim's role in life.

ACTUALITY IN CHEETHAM HILL

WATSON: I'm in Cheetham Hill, in the northern suburbs of Manchester. I've just met with Hassan Butt, the British jihadist who was with Shafique in Pakistan. He won't be interviewed. But we understand from a very well-placed source that Mohammed Siddique Khan stayed at Hassan Butt's flat in 2003 and met with the self-confessed Al Qaeda fixer Shafique, both in Pakistan and back in Leeds. Siddique Khan's contacts with Shafique and Al Qaeda supporters in Malaysia and the Philippines were missed opportunities for British intelligence to catch on to his growing radicalisation. But we can reveal how even clearer evidence was overlooked, and it involves a secret surveillance operation on a British-based terrorist suspect last year.

WATSON cont: We've been told by a confidential source that Siddique Khan was secretly recorded and filmed talking to this terrorist suspect. We know his identity, but cannot reveal it for legal reasons, so we'll call him Jamaal. Our source says he's seen photographs and transcripts of a meeting between Jamaal and Siddique Khan. The Metropolitan Police declined to comment and we have no way of checking this information. But if there was a detailed surveillance operation involving Mohammed Siddique Khan, as our source says, then it becomes far harder to explain why he wasn't pursued. Our source had other significant information to reveal. When Jamaal was detained by the British authorities last year, our source says Siddique Khan contacted him, demanding an urgent meeting.

ACTUALITY IN CAR

WATSON: The two men drove to a small town by the sea. Siddique wanted to know what the security services had found out about Jamaal. It now looks likely that he was trying to find out whether his own cover had been blown. What's even more alarming is that on the two occasions our source met with Siddique Khan, he was with the same three other men - who are not the same three who died in the London bombings. This raises the possibility that three other associates of Siddique Khan are still on the loose. When File on 4 learned about this, we immediately encouraged our source to disclose the information to the anti-terrorist police. Under the Terrorism Act, this is an obligation. But the man taking the potentially crucial information at the other end of the terrorist hotline didn't seem bothered at all, saying, "No disrespect, but these people could have been anybody." Our source was dismayed. We wanted to ask the Home Office and Metropolitan Police about these allegations, but they declined to be interviewed. A Home Office spokeswoman said they would not comment on the work of the intelligence and security services. One of the issues we wanted to raise with the government was the quality of intelligence assessments in the run-up to the London bombings, especially in light of the fact that the Joint Terrorist Analysis Centre - or JTAC - downgraded its UK terror threat assessment just weeks before the 7th July. It is something we were able to discuss with Sir Paul Lever, a former chairman of the Joint Intelligence Committee, which advises the Prime Minister on security threats.

It's caused some embarrassment that the JTAC committee concluded, in the weeks before the 7th July bombings, that there was no credible threat to the UK from an operation such as that. What do you make of that?

LEVER: I have only seen the reports in the press of what their report said. I haven't seen the whole context in which it was put. But you're right. It was the assertion in those words with the benefit of hindsight sounds, to say the least, overly confident. But it presumably reflected the intelligence that was actually available to them and their best guess – because it is not much more than a guess – as to the likelihood of cells or networks existing which they hadn't detected any trace of.

WATSON: But isn't that itself extremely alarming, because in fact – as we found out just three or four weeks later - there was a cell in existence, it was very much a credible threat and more than fifty lives were lost.

LEVER: Yes, it's certainly very worrying, but to expect 100% perfection of the security service or of the police is unrealistic. They are devoting significantly increased resources to these targets. They are indeed taking them very very seriously.

WATSON: But beyond these specific missed opportunities, there are wider concerns – about the failure to gather and act on intelligence about extreme Islamist groups, which have been allowed to operate freely in the UK. Dr Rohan Gunaratna says the British government has made a grave mistake in giving extremist clerics free reign.

GUNARATNA: Mohammed Siddique Khan was radicalised by the preachers of hatred, whom the British Government permitted to live in London and preach Jihad. It was directly as a result of his exposure to that radical doctrine that he met with Al-Qaeda operatives and finally this led him to travel to the lands of Jihad. These clerics based in Britain created an Islamist milieu that spawned and sustained Jihadism or Islamic radicalism. Without that kind of milieu, that kind of spraying hatred, I don't think you would have had the two attacks in July in London.

WATSON: One British Jihadist who we know has spent time in Pakistan told us that he estimates that three thousand British citizens have been out to Jihad training camps in Pakistan. Does that surprise you?

GUNARATNA: I have no doubt that at least three thousand British nationals went and received training in Pakistan and Afghanistan. Certainly the fact that there is several thousand Afghan and Pakistani trained Jihadists in Britain poses an enduring threat to British and to international security.

WATSON: Foremost amongst these radical clerics is Sheikh Omar Bakri Mohammed, who set up the extremist British-based group, Al Muhajiroun. It was Al Muhajiroun members who facilitated Mohammed Siddique Khan's visit to Pakistan in 2003. Al Muhajiroun - Arabic for the emigrants - campaigns against what it sees as the illegal occupation of Muslim lands such as Iraq and for the creation of an Islamic state here in the UK.

ARCHIVE RECORDING OF OMAR BAKRI

BAKRI: The topic is a self sacrifice operations or the suicide operations. People like to call it suicide bombing. We call it self sacrifice operation.

WATSON: Sheikh Omar Bakri Mohammed discussing suicide - they say martyrdom operations - at a meeting recorded by File on 4 in London's east end last year.

BAKRI: Martyrdom is what you want. Do the effort. Clear your intention. Go forward, never look backwards. Make sure you have nothing left behind you to think about or to cry for, and fight in the name of Allah.

WATSON: Bakri Mohammed is a Syrian national who won indefinite leave to remain in Britain in the early 1980s. He used to be a member of the Islamist intellectual movement, Hizbukteria. After an ideological split, he left Hizbukteria in the mid 1990s to form Al Muhajiroun. He famously once said he wanted to see the black flag of Islam flying over Downing Street. The account of how Bakri Mohammed's organisation spread outwards from London to help create an international network of terrorist supporters goes to the heart of this story.

ACTUALITY OF PRAYER SESSION

WATSON: It's evening prayer in the New York borough of Queens. It marks the end of fasting - it's Ramadan. A battered yellow New York cab sits outside and nearby workshops have shutters pulled firmly down, covered with spray-can graffiti.

In the mid 1990s, the local mosque was taken over by radicals from Hizbukteria. And by the late 1990s, Al Muhajiroun, which had established a cell in Queens, was targeting the mosque in a recruitment drive. Back then, Kamran Bokhari was a young American student keen to explore Islam. He became interested in the political ideas behind Al Muhajiroun and helped run their website, acting as a spokesman. But he became increasingly worried about extremism. For him, a statement issued after Al Qaeda bombed the US embassies in east Africa marked a turning point.

BOKHARI: So along comes this statement that praises the bombers as a, if you will, response to US imperialism, and that really set off the alarm bells for a lot of us in the United States, because we were specifically engaging the Jihadists, not that we were getting any response. We were engaging the Jihadists in the ideological debate on how they were wrong. And then the party that is doing that all of a sudden takes a 180 and says, you know, this is good because it is a response to US imperialism.

WATSON: So you got the clear impression then that coming from London, from Al-Muhajiroun, there was a sense that the organisation was becoming much more radical?

BOKHARI: It was actually a shock. I never thought the organisation was radical to begin with. So a lot of people left the group immediately.

WATSON: Including you?

BOKHARI: I got disturbed and I got in touch with the party leadership, who said no, this was a mistake, we will rectify it, it wasn't right, I was to do it. But clearly we were being kept in the dark, and I didn't see any progress or any move towards rectifying that statement. So over time I just fell by the wayside. I no longer kept my communications with the group. I didn't want to be spokesperson for a group that was violent.

WATSON: Private Investigator Bill Warner has investigated Al Muhajiroun and American Islamists for three years. He's currently helping the FBI. He believes Shafique - the New Yorker who's admitted to being a fixer for Al Qaeda - began his path to radicalism in the Queens mosque, which was being targeted by the New York branch of Al Muhajiroun.

WARNER: He was born and bred in the United States. He went to St John's University, college degree, he had a nice job, \$70,000 a year, and all of a sudden he gets involved with Al-Muhajiroun in this neighbourhood, Queens, New York. It appears later on he went into a more militant stance. He actually went to Afghanistan, he wanted to fight the US forces. He's been back and forth to Afghanistan and Pakistan numerous times from what the reports indicate, and last year, April 2004, he met with some of the high-ranking Al-Qaeda operatives at some of these Pakistan meetings.

WATSON: Bill Warner says Shafique was the key member of Al Muhajiroun in Queens, an organisation keen to bring on new recruits. In June 2000, radicals advertised a three day conference on the internet - and the star speakers were all from Al Muhajiroun in London. Kamran Bokhari, who used to be the spokesman for Al Muhajiroun in America, is now a senior analyst with the US security consultancy, Strategic Forecasting. He has no doubt about the role played by Al Muhajiroun in the Jihadi movement overseas.

BOKHARI: Al-Qaeda didn't have to do their homework, if they were able to pick up people who hung out with Al Muhajiroun, these were already pre-prepared, pre-packaged people from an ideological point of view. All they had to do was to get them to commit themselves to the cause of Al-Qaeda and train them. Half the work was done already.

WATSON: Is that why, in your view then, the authorities were wrong to underestimate the importance of these networks?

BOKHARI: Yes. I mean, there is something called freedom of speech, I mean, we all believe in that, but if freedom of speech is going to be used and exploited for violent purposes and it will lead to a situation where it will become an

WATSON: Was it an intelligence failure, do you think?

LEVER: I would say perhaps it was a failure of imagination. It was a failure to think what might happen. I don't think you could say that they failed to notice what was actually going on.

WATSON: That failure of imagination seems all the more inexplicable given the events that unfolded in America well before the 9/11 attack, when followers of another British-based radical cleric were involved in setting up a terrorist training camp in cowboy country.

ACTUALITY OF LOG TRAIN

WATSON: Klamath Falls, Oregon. Population 100,000 – the only big town around. A mile-long lumber train is trundling south through the mountains to California. This is logging country – forests and ranch-lands so thinly populated that hiding in the outback is easy. For the British and American Islamists who wanted to train with guns, it seemed ideal.

ACTUALITY OF CHOPPING

WATSON: Mike Myers is getting ready for the Oregon winter. He's out here in front of his modest timber cabin most mornings, chopping wood.

MYERS: This right here is on the bottom edge of the snow zone, so usually from here on up this juniper all turns into pine trees. That's where the snow stays all winter.

WATSON: What do people generally do?

MYERS: Cattle ranch, logging. It's very sparsely populated. From here on up there's practically no people, because the winters are just too long and too much snow.

WATSON: If you walk to the top of a rise, where Mike regularly finds old Indian arrowheads, you can just about see the neighbouring ranch, tucked away in the folds of the landscape. Mike says that back in 1999, the new neighbours at Dog Cry Ranch didn't seem equipped to be in the farming business.

MYERS: The only time I really ever saw them was when they came after their animals and then when they were leaving. There was quite a bit of activity, it looked like they were hauling stuff up, they would get stuck real easy because they didn't have automobiles for the muddy country in the winter time.

WATSON: What did they look like?

MYERS: The ones I talked to actually was a woman and probably her son. They were white-skinned. There was other people that had veils and shawls on.

WATSON: They didn't last long down there.

MYERS: No. Two or three months. I was under the impression they were never equipped to handle the winter.

WATSON: But while Mike was curious about their ranching skills, there were others asking questions at a more official level. The British security services had intercepted a communication sent from the Dar Es Salem Mosque in Seattle to a mosque in Britain associated with the radical cleric. The communication from Seattle floated the idea of establishing a terrorist training camp at the ranch, because the gun laws were lax and the landscape looked like Afghanistan. MI5 tipped off the FBI.

ACTUALITY IN POLICE CONTROL ROOM

WATSON: John Doherty is a detective working in the Klamath County Sheriff's department. He was asked by the FBI to try and covertly photograph the ranch.

DOHERTY: I drove out and located the property, drove around it, trying to locate probably the best place where I could take some surveillance photographs. I found what I believed to be a forest service road and was able to drive in on the east of the property where I was able to see at least the rooflines and some roofs of vehicles that were parked out there, which I thought was odd that there was as many vehicles parked there as what it was. They weren't the type of vehicle that would normally be out in that area, specifically four wheel drive trucks and vehicles that would be suitable to the terrain around the ranch.

WATSON: They were normal cars?

DOHERTY: They were passenger cars.

ACTUALITY WALKING THROUGH SCRUBLAND

WATSON: This is the spot where Officer Doherty took his photographs. It's a small piece of raised ground on the boundary of the ranch, covered in yellow sage brush, which grows well in the rich volcanic soil. Although he tried standing on the roof of his car here, his view was interrupted by the rise of the land and the trees. So the next day he arranged for a plane to fly over the area and take some aerial photographs, pictures which were sent to the FBI for their counter-terrorism experts to analyse. When the FBI raided the ranch they found the occupants had gone. Charlie Mandigo was one of the agents assigned to the case.

MANDIGO: What we found was what I would describe very squalid conditions. There were some old beat up trailers, no running water, very primitive conditions. A lot of spent firearm shells, shells from handguns and rifles.

WATSON: The forensic examination, coupled with interviews in the Muslim community in Seattle, was enough for the FBI to piece together what had happened. An American convert to Islam had been the instigator of the idea. He'd sent the message to the British based cleric, suggesting that the ranch could be used for armed training. According to the FBI, the radical cleric was taken by the idea. He despatched one of his most trusted assistants to visit the camp. That man coincidentally once lived less

GUNARATNA: I believe that the British government did not take sound and timely action, and I believe that after the July events in Britain, after you were attacked in London, now you want to really go after them, and you are doing that. But I believe that until then, you were very patient and very tolerant and very politically correct.

WATSON: Sir Paul Lever, who's spent a career in senior government positions, denies there's been a widespread failure of intelligence, but recognises the scale of the challenge.

Should the alarm bells have started to warn in the early 2000s after 9/11, because you had a situation where many British Jihadists were travelling to Pakistan to train, you had people setting up training camps in North America with firearms. There was plenty of evidence around that this was a growing British Jihadi movement.

LEVER: I'm not sure how specific the intelligence was. I mean, don't forget, training camps in American, I mean America is full of all sorts of good old boys who go on training camps. I mean, the worst terrorist atrocity in America before 9/11, the Oklahoma bombing, was nothing to do with Muslim fundamentalism. What intelligence and intelligence assessment can aspire to do is to reveal secrets. Iraq either does or does not have weapons of mass destruction in certain quantities. This is a fact, it may be difficult to find it out, but it is susceptible of discovery. Intelligence is less good at explaining mysteries. It is a mystery whether, over the course of time, British Muslim youth will become radicalised by exposure to certain types of preaching.

WATSON: But that is in a way a failure to understand the communities in Britain.

LEVER: Maybe. And with retrospect you can say well, people should have worried far more about what the effect of some of these developments in the world was going to be on some elements of British youth. But at the time, i.e. before there was evidence of the numbers who had gone to Pakistan, to Afghanistan, before we'd ever heard about Richard Read, before there were these indications, I think genuinely most people would not have credited the possibility that young men born and bred in Britain – part of our societies - would go down this path.

WATSON: What emerges from a careful examination of the background of Mohammed Siddique Khan is a terrorist who slipped under the radar, despite having numerous contacts with international Jihadists and Al Qaeda. And if our source is correct, then even when he was found to be linked to a UK terror suspect – and featured in covert surveillance – there was a failure to keep him in the intelligence services' sights. But these specific failings grew out of a climate where the radicalisation of a minority of young angry British Muslims by extremist clerics barely registered as a risk. Given the potential for other Siddique Khans to be sleeping in Britain, perhaps that is the biggest intelligence failure of all.

SIGNATURE TUNE