U.S. soldier assigned to NATO unit arrested in U.K.

Man suspected of espionage linked to Russia

BY EMMA BURROWS, KONSTANTIN TOROPIN and BRIAN MELLEY
Associated Press

LONDON — A member of the U.S. Army assigned to a NATO unit was arrested Tuesday in England on suspicion of espionage related to Russia, counterterror police and other officials said. The arrest comes during heightened concern over threats to American forces stationed in Britain and tension between Moscow and much of Europe.

The 41-year-old man, who was not named, was arrested near Gloucester on suspicion of violating two sections of the National Security Act 2023: assisting a foreign intelligence service and obtaining or disclosing protected information.

He was serving in NATO's Allied Rapid Reaction Corps at Imjin Barracks near Gloucester, according to a U.S. official, a senior NATO official and a British government official. The man is an officer, the U.S. official said. All three spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity to discuss sensitive military matters.

The Allied Rapid Reaction Corps is a multinational land unit within the NATO military alliance that is designed to quickly respond to crises or short-notice operations. According to the unit's website, it is made up of forces from 20 nations but is led by the British and based in Gloucester, where the U.S. soldier was arrested.

U.S. Brig. Gen. Sean Stinchon, commanding general of the Army's Counterintelligence Command, described the suspect as a senior soldier but offered no other details on his identity in a news release. Officials have not provided more information about the case.

The Metropolitan Police said its counterterror forces worked closely with the FBI and U.S. military. In the news release, FBI Director Kash Patel called it an "important arrest" dealing with allegations of espionage that are of "utmost concern" for the U.S. and its allies.

"This FBI has no tolerance for anyone who breaks their oath to the United States and whose actions endanger our national security and that of our partners," Patel said.

The suspect was in custody at a London police station, officials said. Searches were conducted at two locations in Gloucestershire, a county about 90 miles west of London.

Police said the arrest was not related to other counterterrorism investigations, indicating no connection with a suspected terror plot linked to Iran in September at a U.S.-run base in Britain, RAF Fairford, near Gloucester.

Russia, Ukraine hold nearly 4 hours of U.S.-mediated talks

BY BASSAM HATOUM
Associated Press



ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTO BY ALTAF QADRI

U.S. envoy Steve Witkoff, right, speaks Tuesday during the coordination meeting before the trilateral talks between Russia and Ukraine mediated by the United States in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates — Russia and Ukraine on Tuesday held their first U.S.-mediated talks in nine months on ending the 4½-year-old war, with U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio calling the meeting "very productive" and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy saying the session was "constructive and quite substantive."

Hopes of ending Europe's biggest conflict since World War II are tempered, however, by the absence of any significant breakthroughs in three previous rounds of talks earlier this year.

There's nothing to suggest a new posture that would lead to a breakthrough, but circumstances surrounding the talks have been changed by the outcome of the U.S. midterm elections as well as increased pressure on Russia's wartime economy. Moscow also is seeking to break Ukrainians' will as another winter sets in by ramping up its battering of the country's power grid.

Neither Rubio nor Zelenskyy attended the talks in Abu Dhabi, the capital of the United Arab Emirates. The session lasted four hours and another is scheduled for a second day Wednesday.

Delegations from Moscow and Kyiv met as Washington, represented by U.S. President Donald Trump's son-in-law Jared Kushner and envoy Steve Witkoff, renewed its push to stop the fighting.

"It looks like the talks in Abu Dhabi were very productive," Rubio said in Paris at the Group of Seven meeting, although he urged patience. "There's a lot of work to be done in that regard. It's not like something that's on the verge of being solved in the next 24 hours or anything like that."

Zelenskyy said the talks were largely about humanitarian issues, including prisoner exchanges and returning Ukrainian civilians in captivity, as well as children taken from the country. Security guarantees also were discussed, he added during an appearance at the University of Copenhagen in Denmark.

A senior Ukrainian official who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to comment publicly said Ukraine and Russia talked about a large scale prisoner swap, although the details will be discussed in the coming days.

The two-day session was the first such meeting since February on Russia's full-scale invasion, which analysts and humanitarian organizations say has killed hundreds of thousands of soldiers and thousands of civilians.

Kushner said he believed there were "some good ideas how to bridge" the differences between the two sides.

Nvidia and Jensen Huang face shareholder lawsuit

Filing alleges investors misled about spy affair

BY KELVIN CHAN
AP technology writer

A shareholder has sued Nvidia and its CEO, Jensen Huang, accusing them of deceiving investors in their responses to media reports about Huang's affair with a purported Chinese spy that threatens national security.



Huang

The complaint comes after President Donald Trump said the FBI is investigating the affair, which Huang has acknowledged and apologized for. Trump said Monday that Huang told him he had no idea the person could be involved in espionage.

The affair, which is also being scrutinized by Nvidia's board, has raised concerns that Beijing is using nefarious means to gain access to Nvidia 's cutting-edge microchips which power the development of artificial intelligence but face export restrictions to China.

The complaint filed Monday in a California court says the company misled investors about Huang's relationship with Alice Huang, who news reports said is suspected of working for Chinese intelligence, and the national security implications.

The news reports said that the Commerce Department was investigating Alice Huang's company, Singapore-based Megaspeed, on suspicions that it was helping to sidestep U.S. export restrictions blocking Nvidia chips from being sold to China. But Nvidia said then that its compliance team checked and determined that Megaspeed wasn't doing anything illegal.

But, according to the complaint, the statements were misleading because they were made when Jensen Huang was having an affair with Alice Huang, who is "suspected of seeking to help smuggle Nvidia products into China."

It accuses Nvidia and Huang of failing to disclose the affair and issuing false statements about Nvidia's relationship with Megaspeed, which posed a "material risk" to Nvidia's reputation and business prospects.

Nvidia didn't immediately respond to a request for comment.

The complaint, filed by retail investor Mark Kistenmacher, seeks unspecified damages and a jury trial. It seeks to represent in a class-action lawsuit anyone who bought shares of Nvidia from October 9, when The New York Times first reported about the pair socializing in Taiwan, until November 8, when the company said it was investigating reports that Huang was the "target of a foreign intelligence effort."

Shares of Nvidia, one of the world's most valuable companies, fell $7.97, or 4.3%, on Monday, wiping out about $190 billion in market value. Shares were down again Tuesday before the opening bell.

FBI: Texas man charged in cruise ship murder argued with woman

BY ANNA WILDER and DAVE COLLINS
Associated Press

A cruise ship passenger was charged Tuesday with killing a woman after the vessel departed from Texas this weekend, telling FBI agents that he beat and choked her in their cabin after an argument caused him to "snap," court documents showed.

The woman, who was not immediately identified, was found dead Sunday after 48-year-old Jason Watford opened their room's door for a ship housekeeper with blood on his hands and clothes, according to an FBI affidavit filed in federal court. The housekeeper spotted the victim lying on the floor with facial injuries, and an investigator on the cruise ship contacted authorities.

Watford was taken into custody the next morning after the vessel returned to Galveston, Texas. A video posted on social media shows him being escorted off the ship in handcuffs.

Watford, of Tyler, Texas, made an initial federal court appearance on a murder charge Tuesday in Galveston, and was being held in a county jail. His public defender, Javier Martinez, did not respond to requests for comment. His next hearing is scheduled for Monday.

A man who said he is Watford's son declined to comment Tuesday when reached at a phone listing in public records for relatives.



