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Rice Offers Condolences on London Transit Bombings Anniversary

Washington -- Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice offered condolences to the British people on the first anniversary of the terrorist bombings of the London transit system, saying the United States and the United Kingdom will honor the memory of those who lost their lives "by continuing to work together to defeat terrorism."

The suicide bombing of three subway trains and a bus in London on July 7, 2005, left 52 people dead and over 700 injured.

"While they left their homes like any other day on July 7, they did not return," Rice said in a statement issued July 8. "Fifty-two families suddenly lost a wife, a husband, a parent, a child. On the anniversary of their death we again mourn their loss and extend our condolences to their families."

Rice added that "the United States shares with the people of the United Kingdom a deep bond of friendship that has stood the test of time. Their loss is our loss, their struggles are our struggles."

"While we mourn those who were killed last July 7, we will honor their memory by continuing to work together to defeat terrorism and ensure that all those who would do harm to the innocent are brought to justice," she said.

The bombings occurred while the summit of the Group of Eight (G8) industrialized countries was taking place in Gleneagles, Scotland. The leaders at the summit issued a joint statement read by British Prime Minister Tony Blair. The statement said they "condemn utterly these barbaric attacks" and that they were "united in our resolve to confront and defeat this terrorism." (See [related article](#).)

The London suicide bombers subsequently were identified as four Muslim extremists who had grown up in England.

Coinciding with the anniversary, two U.S. organizations convened the "Muslim Leaders of Tomorrow" forum in Copenhagen, Denmark, July 7-9 for young Muslim leaders from 14 nations. The forum organizers said they hope to build a constructive movement of young Muslims to reject and marginalize extremism and foster positive Muslim identities in the West.

The organizers were the American Society for Muslim Advancement and the Cordoba Initiative, which are dedicated to bridging the divide between Muslims and the West. (See [related article](#).)

For additional information, see [Response to Terrorism](#).