

Beat: Politics

Spain raised the terror alert level after attack in France

Until circumstances are clarified

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USPA NEWS - The Spanish Government has raised the terror alert level temporarily until circumstances are clarified about attack committed in France against Charlie Hebdo newspaper, which caused 12 dead and dozens injured, five of them in critical condition. Spain has five alert levels, from zero to four.

Since 2004, as a result of threats by jihadists and detentions carried out in the country of supposed terrorist, the highest alert level 2, last September, surveillance had remained unchanged by the absence of "objective data" that would allow fear an attack in Spain. Nor are there now, said the Interior Minister Jorge Fernandez Diaz, but after what happened in France, Spanish Government has offered all required assistance to apprehend the perpetrators of the attack and he has adopted preventive measures.

The Government's decision means that special units of the Police, the Guardia Civil and the Army will protect government buildings, airports, railway stations, nuclear power stations and personalities.

This despite the fact that the Interior Minister Jorge Fernandez Diaz said Wednesday that the deployment will just be perceived by citizens, in an attempt not to alarm the population.

Spain suffered on March 11, 2004 the biggest terrorist attack in its history, when several bombs exploded within three commuter trains in Madrid, causing 190 deaths and more than 2,000 injured. Since then, the Police and Guardia Civil have intensified their fight against Islamic terrorism, identified by experts as the greatest threat to the country's stability.

Spain is a target of jihadism, who want to recover Al-Andalus, the historical territory conquered by Islam between the eighth and fifteenth centuries.

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