

Organization Data Sheet: Bling Bling Gang

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A. When the organization was formed + brief history
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Bling Bling Gang's name derives from its members spending habits – particularly on designer clothes, ostentatious jewelry, and luxury vehicles.• Law enforcement officials in Great Britain claim that the gang was able to establish one of the largest cocaine smuggling networks within the country's borders.• The network spanned several countries, with members in London, Paris and New York.¹• As of 2006, the group had positioned as many as 51 members based in the world's most fashionable cities.²• The gang was known to prey on vulnerable young women, many of them single mothers, to smuggle cocaine in specially constructed suitcases or in containers such as vases or bottles of rum and perfume.³• Most of the members of the gang are of French Guyanese descent.
B. Types of illegal activities engaged in,
a. In general
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Extortion and drug trafficking
b. <i>Specific detail: types of illicit trafficking activities engaged in</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drug trafficking: smuggled cocaine paste and cocaine liquid from the Caribbean into the US, Canada, Europe and, in particular, London, where it was turned into crack and distributed to other UK cities.⁴
C. Scope and Size
a. Estimated size of network and membership
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information not found.
b. Countries / regions group is known to have operated in. (i.e. the group's operating area)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• St. Martin, England, France, and the United States (New York)
D. Leader Characteristics
a. Who is/are the leader(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ian Dundas-Jones, described as the “managing director” was jailed for 27 years and recommended for deportation in 2006.⁵• His wife, Sandra, ran communications with conspirators abroad and booked air tickets, was sentenced to 10 years for smuggling cocaine.⁶
b. Leadership timeline
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nicholas Nesbeth – former bookkeeper for the gang – arrested in April 2011⁷• Bernard Clarke – jailed for 18 years after pleading guilty to importing cocaine and manufacturing and supplying crack (February 2006).⁸
c. Leadership style (autocratic, diffuse, etc.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information not found.
E. Organizational Structure
a. Topology (cellular, hierarchical, etc.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cellular
b. Membership – is there formal or informal membership in the organization or network? What role do informal or nonmembers play in trafficking and other criminal activities?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Utilize drug mules

Information derived from several sources and searchable databases.

All research conducted according to the project manual.

c.	Command and Control (decentralized or centralized)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
F. Resources	
a.	Financial
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
b.	Human
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The raw cocaine was first brought into the UK from the Caribbean by either manipulating legitimate courier services or by hiding it with drug mules using passenger flights.⁹ The gang would rely on 3 mules for each trip abroad – each individual unaware of the other.¹⁰
c.	Logistical
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forgery, safe-houses, etc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In many cases the gang imported cocaine through the courier service – DHL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Packages were sent to non-existent addresses and eventually seized by the drivers.¹¹
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key routes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
d.	Transportation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found. Sea <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found. Air <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flew couriers from the tiny Caribbean island of St Martin, to Paris and Amsterdam From there they travelled on to the UK by plane, ferry, bus and train, often arriving at Waterloo Eurostar terminal or Victoria coach station, where they were met by gang members.¹² Intermodal container <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
G. Trafficking Methods and Modalities	
a.	Corruption
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
b.	Concealment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professionally re-sealed rum bottles, book spines and cosmetics, shampoo and perfume containers. Specially constructed suitcases.¹³
c.	Deception
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
d.	Circumvention (avoiding border entry points)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
H. Prior / Existing Relationships	
a.	Other criminal organizations (cooperative and conflictual)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
b.	Corrupt politicians, law enforcement, political parties and other state entities, etc.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.

Information derived from several sources and searchable databases.
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<p>c. <i>Specific detail: Any alliances / past dealings with terrorist groups.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
<p>I. Ideological / Ethnic / Familial Orientation (if any)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
<p>J. Technical Sophistication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
<p>K. Penchant for Innovation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
<p>L. Activities in United States</p> <p>a. Includes both criminal and non-criminal activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found. <p>b. <i>Specific detail: trafficking activities; logistical activities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found. <p>c. Linkages with US groups</p> <p>i. Market/transaction links</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found. <p>ii. Stable supplier</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found. <p>iii. Franchise arrangement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found. <p>iv. HQ and Branch office</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
<p>M. Evaluations</p> <p>a. Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>b. Weaknesses and vulnerabilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>c. Additional insights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">
<p>Other Notes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There appears to be no updates on this gang since the British government dismantled a major portion of its operations in February 2006. During this same operation the group's leader, Ian Dundas-Jones, was arrested and eventually sentenced to jail.

¹ "Bling-Bling gang jailed," *The Sun*, February 27, 2006. <http://www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/news/article39357.ece>.

² Ibid.

³ Wilkes, David. "'Bling gang' smashed; The illegal immigrant cocaine smugglers who raked in Pounds 3m a week to spend on gold, diamonds and designer clothes," *The Daily Mail*, February 28, 2006. <https://sremote.pitt.edu/hottopics/Inacademic/DanaInfo=www.lexisnexis.com+>.

⁴ "Bling-Bling gang jailed," *The Sun*.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ "Alleged 'Dog Paw' associate recaptured," *Go-Jamaica*, April 15, 2011. <http://go-jamaica.com/>

[news/read_article.php?id=28058](http://www.guardian.co.uk/news/read_article.php?id=28058).

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Oliver, Mark. "Bling Bling' cocaine gang jailed," *The Guardian*, February 27, 2006. <http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2006/feb/27/ukcrime.drugsandalcohol>.

¹⁰ Cowan, Roise. "Fourteen jailed as police smash global crack cocaine network," *The Guardian*, February 28, 2006. <http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2006/feb/28/drugsandalcohol.ukcrime>.

¹¹ Oliver, "Bling Bling' cocaine gang jailed."

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Ibid.