

《“伊斯兰国”宣称对柏林圣诞集市袭击负责》

导读:极端组织“伊斯兰国”通过其宣传机构宣布，对于当地时间19日晚发生在德国首都柏林的圣诞集市卡车袭击案负责。



A "soldier" of the Islamic State group carried out a truck attack that killed 12 people at a Berlin Christmas market, a news agency linked to the jihadists said Tuesday.

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A soldier of the Islamic State carried out the Berlin operation in response to appeals to target citizens of coalition countries, the IS-linked Amaq news agency said in a statement posted online.

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The statement did not identify the attacker.

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The truck was rammed into shoppers at the Christmas market in Berlin on Monday night, killing 12 people and wounding dozens more in what German Chancellor Angela Merkel said was a likely "terrorist" attack.

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Police arrested a Pakistani asylum-seeker soon after the attack but released him on Tuesday for lack of evidence, leaving investigators to pursue their hunt for the real perpetrator.

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While Germany has so far been spared the devastating jihadist carnage, it has suffered a spate of attacks this year.

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In some cases, the assaults have been claimed by IS and carried out by asylum seekers.

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On July 18, a 17-year-old asylum-seeker wielding an axe and a knife attacked passengers on a Bavarian train, injuring five people, before being shot dead by police.

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The IS group released a video purportedly featuring the attacker announcing he would carry out an "operation" in Germany, and presenting himself as a "soldier of the caliphate".

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A US-led military coalition that includes Germany has been carrying out air strikes against IS positions in Iraq and Syria since 2014.

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