

Essen: 'Salafist' Sikh temple bombers were known to police

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There was no way of predicting a bomb attack on a Sikh temple despite two suspects being known to police, North Rhine-Westphalia authorities said on Wednesday.

"The crime could not have been prevented by the authorities," a report submitted to the state parliament by state interior minister Ralf Jäger stated.

Authorities knew that the teenagers were "radicalized Salafists who might have wanted to commit property crimes like theft and burglary," Jäger told broadcaster Westdeutsche Rundfunk (WDR). "But there were no indications that in fact attacks were planned. Of course we know better today, but at the time we couldn't be 100 percent certain."

Three people were hurt in the attack on April 17th, when a