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DNA Scientist: Suspected Terrorist

Murdered Temixco Professor suspected of links to unnamed terrorist cell

MEXICO CITY: Leading DNA scientist Dr. Pedro Juan Beltran, murdered two days ago at Mexico City International Airport, is officially under investigation for terrorist activities.

Police working with Government agents now believe that Dr PJ Beltran may have been involved in a terrorist plot to distribute biological weapons. Detective Martin Lopez, revealed last night: "It is possible that PJ Beltran's murder was the result of his involvement in a terrorist cell."

Investigators are tracing the origin of \$1 million USD, which was recently deposited into Dr. Beltran's bank account.

Detective Lopez said "We currently have just one lead, American scientist Dr Jackson Bennett."

Bennett, 32, flew into Mexico City Airport from San Francisco on the morning of PJ Beltran's death.

Passenger manifests and CCTV footage show that PJ Beltran and Bennett arrived at the airport within the same hour. The two scientists met in a cafeteria at the airport. Beltran was later found shot dead in a cubicle in a nearby men's bathroom.

One theory is that Bennett murdered PJ Beltran for the money.

Warned Detective Lopez, "Money may have been the trigger, but we're now focused on Dr. Bennett and the potential threat of what he might be carrying."

Was biohazardous material brought into Mexico via the airport? Is Bennett now wandering around Mexico City with substances that might kill thousands?

Bennett is employed by University of California, San

Francisco. He is known by colleagues to have been working with PJ Beltran's Temixco-based research group. Bennett's twin brother is a captain in the US Air Force, leading to the possibility that Bennett may have access to leaked military secrets.

Neither military sources nor UCSF staff were available for comment. A representative for the Temixco Biotech Institute who wishes to remain unnamed, said: "PJ Beltran and Dr. Bennett have been good friends for a number of years. Dr. Bennett often visited the Temixco labs. This meeting wasn't suspicious at all."

When pressed for further information, the Temixco co-worker said only: "PJ Beltran and Jackson Bennett are not terrorists. Their research is about maize and fruit fly genetics - nothing dangerous. These charges are crazy."

Tantalizing leads, but so far no conclusion. Meanwhile, this paper is dedicated to bringing readers the latest updates on the case.

