

MailOnline

Home News U.S. | Sport | TV&Showbiz | Australia | Femail | Health | Science | Money | Video | Travel | DailyMailTV | Discounts

Latest Headlines Royal Family **News** World News Arts Headlines France Most read Wires

Login

TV licence evader refused to pay because the 'BBC covered up facts about 9/11 and claimed tower fell 20 minutes before it did'

- Tony Rooke represented himself at Horsham Magistrates' Court in Sussex
- Told inspector on visit in May 2012 that he would not be paying licence fee
- Rooke said he was withholding fee under Section 15 of Terrorism Act 2000
- This states it's an offence for someone to provide funds used for terrorism
- He said he didn't want to give money to an organisation 'funding terrorism'
- Rooke said BBC claimed World Trade Centre 7 fell 20 minutes before it did
- But judge made Rooke pay £200 costs and gave him conditional discharge

By [MARK DUELL](#)

PUBLISHED: 18:49, 25 February 2013 | **UPDATED:** 07:37, 26 February 2013

384

[View comments](#)

A 49-year-old man refused to pay his TV licence because he believed the BBC covered up facts about the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

Tony Rooke, who represented himself today at Horsham Magistrates' Court in West Sussex, said he did not want to give money to an organisation 'funding the practice of terrorism'.

Rooke, who admitted owning a TV and watching it without a licence, was found guilty of using an unlicensed set, given a six-month conditional discharge and told to pay £200 costs.

He was visited in May 2012 by an inspector after withdrawing his licence in March, but said he was withholding the funds under the Terrorism Act.

Section 15 of the 2000 Act states that it is an offence for someone to invite another to provide money, intending that it should be used, or having reasonable cause to suspect that it may be used, for terrorism purposes.

Site Web

ADVERTISEMENT

Like Daily Mail

Follow Daily Mail

Follow @DailyMail

Follow Daily Mail

Follow @dailymailuk

Follow Daily Mail

DON'T MISS

▶ **Love Island's Jess Shears and Dom Lever welcome first child as couple share sweet snaps of their newborn... two years after meeting on the reality show**



▶ **Prince William and George celebrate wildly alongside Kate and Charlotte as Duke's team Aston Villa hammer Norwich in Premier League**



▶ **Joker viewers around the world WALK OUT of movie theaters and urge cinemas to BAN the ultra-violent film saying it glamorizes gun crime**



Strictly Come Dancing: Michelle Visage is branded a 'SHOWSTOPPER' by

'I am withholding all funds from the BBC, the Government and subsidiaries under Section 15 of the Terrorism Act,' he told the inspector.

He added that he had already lodged a complaint with the BBC.

Rooke told the court: 'I believe the BBC, who are directly funded by the licence fee, are furthering the purposes of terrorism and I have incontrovertible evidence to this effect. I do not use this word lightly given where I am.'

He was not allowed to show his pre-prepared video evidence in court because the District Judge said it was not relevant to the trial.

But the major point Rooke said he relied upon was that the BBC allegedly reported that World Trade Centre 7 had fallen 20 minutes before it did.



Wouldn't pay: Tony Rooke (pictured at Horsham Magistrates' Court today), did not want to give money to an organisation 'funding the practice of terrorism'



Fan base: Around 100 supporters of Tony Rooke arrived at Horsham Magistrates' Court in West Sussex to watch the court case - although only 40 could pack into the public gallery

He also made reference to a theory about the way the skyscraper was said to have fallen in on itself, which some people believe showed signs of a controlled demolition.

Mr Rooke said: 'The BBC reported it 20 minutes before it fell. They knew about it beforehand. Last time I was here I asked you (the judge): "Were you aware of World Trade Centre 7"?'

'You said you had heard of it. Ten years later you should have more than heard of it. It's the BBC's job to inform the public. Especially of miracles of science and when laws of physics become suspended.'

judges as she opens the show with her Cabaret-themed performance



Emmerdale's Chelsea Halfpenny and James Baxter reveal they have been dating for a YEAR as they cosy up for smitten Instagram snap

Dianne Buswell brands boyfriend Joe Sugg 'The One' during Q&A session with fans... as she recovers in hospital following horror Strictly fall



Lottie Moss highlights her sensational figure in VERY racy pink bikini as she lives it up in Beverly Hills Model sizzled in two piece



Frankie Bridge enjoys a trip down memory lane as she chomps on chips in hospital while breastfeeding her son Carter in hilarious throwback straight after his birth in 2015



'We missed you': Zayn Malik leaves fans delighted as he returns to social media with new shaved head in brooding snap... weeks after missing his sister's wedding



Tommy Fury is branded a 'diva' after he ditches a PA appearance last minute because he 'didn't want to make the journey down to Plymouth'



Caroline Flack poses TOPLESS as she shuns her recent drama while continuing Ibiza holiday... following furious row with beau Lewis Burton





Happy: Speaking outside court, Rooke said he was 'pleased' with the outcome, 'all things considered'

SHARE THIS ARTICLE

RELATED ARTICLES



9/11 victim's family attacks Zero Dark Thirty on eve of...



Hate preacher Abu Qatada's family wins 'anti-harassment'...

'They have made programmes making fools of and ridiculing those of us who believe in the laws of gravity. American reports have shown that the fall was nothing but a controlled demolition.

'I am not looking at who demolished it - that is impossible - but the BBC actively tried to hide this from the public.'

Not paying a TV licence under Section 363 of the Communications Act is a strict liability offence, said Garth Hanniford, prosecuting. He asked Rooke why he continued to watch the BBC with no licence.

Rooke said: 'Ignorance is not an excuse - I need to know what these people are saying.' He later added: 'You are asking me to commit a crime if you are asking me to pay.'

Around 100 supporters arrived at Horsham Magistrates' Court today to watch the court case - although only 40 could pack into the public gallery.

The court called in back-up from Sussex Police with two officers standing at the door to the court and several more outside. There was cheering and applause as Rooke put his case forward in court.

▶ Angelina Jolie admits she 'lost herself a bit' after her high profile split from Brad Pitt
The Maleficent: Mistress of Evil star split from Brad Pitt in 2016



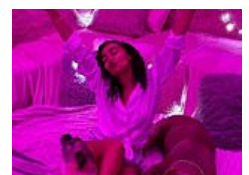
▶ Love Island's Amber Gill flaunts her cleavage and shows off her enviable curves in a low cut neon swimsuit in throwback snap from Miami break



▶ TOWIE SPOILER: Amber Turner tearfully reveals boyfriend Dan Edgar IGNORED her at a club during chat with pal Chloe Meadows... as she fears she is 'hated' by his friends



▶ Inside Leigh-Anne Pinnoch's 28th birthday bash: Singer celebrates with a cosy sleepover, pink fairy lights and balloons... but her Little Mix bandmates are nowhere to be seen!



▶ Big Brother season one contestant Cassandra Waldon dies, age 56, after car accident in Rome Heartbreaking



▶ The Crown's Claire Foy and co-star Matt Smith put on a very playful display as they hold hands and head for lunch together in London

Gemma Collins reveals she was so poor growing up that she 'didn't know what a



Flashback: This is a grab from BBC World's breaking news coverage of the September 11 attacks in 2001

District Judge Stephen Nicholls said: 'This is not a public inquiry into 9/11. This is an offence under section 363 of the Communications Act.'

He said he had difficulty sitting in the magistrates' court as he 'did not believe he had the power to rule under the terrorism act'.

He said: 'Even if I accept the evidence you say, this court has no power to create a defence in the manner which you put forward.'

Sentencing, Judge Nicholls said: 'Mr Rooke puts the basis of his defence under Section 15 of the Terrorism Act, effectively asking the court to find the BBC is a terrorist organisation and that if he continues to pay them he himself is committing a criminal offence.'

'I have explained to Mr Rooke even if I were to accept his evidence I would be unable to find a defence.'

Speaking outside court, Rooke said he was 'pleased' with the outcome, 'all things considered'.

Share or comment on this article: TV licence evader refused to pay up because the 'BBC covered up facts about 9/11'

▶ [TOASTER was' as the TOWIE star gets candid about her 'happy childhood'](#)

▶ [Myleene Klass, 41, is glowing in a beige mac and oversized sunglasses as she takes newborn son Apollo to work... two months after giving birth](#)

▶ [James Bond No Time To Die: Daniel Craig, 51, looks dapper as 007 in FIRST POSTER for the 25th chapter of the film franchise](#)

▶ [Miley Cyrus flashes her abs in a cropped jumper while grocery shopping in LA after BLASTING 'slut-shamers' for labelling her a 'w****' following Cody Simpson kiss](#)

ADVERTISEMENT

'I believe the BBC, who are directly funded by the licence fee, are furthering the purposes of terrorism and I have incontrovertible evidence to this effect. I do not use this word lightly given where I am'

Tony Rooke

Grab A Tissue Before You See Goldie Hawn At 73

Medical Matters

Sponsored Links

At 77, This Is Harrison Ford's Real Life Partner

Direct Healthy

▶ [Pregnant Ashley Graham dons plunging blue blouse to shop at NYC bridal boutique with gal pal in NYC](#)
The expecting 31-year-old glowed

▶ [Adam Sandler encourages his daughters' interests in show business and says he'll 'back them up' in whatever they want to do](#)