

UM Coach: Bomb Sniffing Dogs, Spotters on Roofs Before Boston Marathon Explosions

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University of Mobile's Cross Country Coach, who was near the finish line of the Boston Marathon when a series of explosions went off, said he thought it was odd there were bomb sniffing dogs at the start and finish lines.

"They kept making announcements to the participants do not worry, it's just a training exercise," Coach Ali Stevenson told Local 15.

Stevenson said he saw law enforcement spotters on the roofs at the start of the race. He's been in plenty of marathons in Chicago, D.C., Chicago, London and other major metropolitan areas but has never seen that level of security before.



"They kept making announcements on the loud speaker that it was just a drill and there was nothing to worry about," Coach Ali Stevenson told Local 15. **"It seemed like there was some sort of threat, but they kept telling us it was just a drill."** ([See Sott report quoting Local Tv15](#))

"Evidently, I don't believe they were just having a training exercise," Stevenson said. "I

think they must have had some sort of threat or suspicion called in.”

Stevenson had just finished the marathon before the explosions. Stevenson said his wife had been sitting in one of the seating sections where an explosion went off, but thankfully she left her seat and was walking to meet up with him.

“We are just so thankful right now,” Stevenson said.

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