

Police pelted with bricks as they help dying man

■ 'Heart attack victim' found in alleyway

■ Riot officers clear out City Climate Camp

■ More arrests today at Stock Exchange

JUSTIN DAVENPORT
AND DANNY BRIERLEY

POLICE came under a barrage of missiles as they tried to save the life of a man who collapsed during the G20 protests in the City.

The officers were hit by bottles thrown from the crowd as they were forced to carry the man to a safe location to give him mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. An ambulance crew then took him to hospital, where he died.

An independent investigation has been ordered into the death of the man in his forties, who was found slumped in an alley off Cornhill after suffering a suspected heart attack.

Police were today trying to establish whether he was taking part in the protest or was an innocent by-stander caught up in the trouble.

There were no reports that he was injured either by missiles thrown by the crowd or by the police. The incident has been referred to the Independent Police Complaints Commission.

Fresh trouble flared in the City today as 10 people were arrested outside the Stock Exchange.

About 300 police sealed off the area outside the Stock Exchange to prevent more people joining the protest. They said so far they had made 86 arrests during the protests, which have seen



anarchists smashing windows and storming an RBS bank branch in Threadneedle Street.

Today police were braced for seven separate planned demonstrations, most of them based around the summit meeting at the Excel centre.

Stop the War Coalition, the British Muslim Initiative, CND and others said they were planning protests in the

vicinity of the Docklands centre. International groups were also holding protests, among them the Free Tibet group which was planning to lobby the Chinese delegation.

One report has suggested that yesterday's action was a "dry run" for today's events.

A group of black-clad and masked anarchists was at the centre of yester-

day's violence. One reporter described how he had attended meetings of the Whitechapel Anarchist Group, which claimed to be taking orders from University of East London professor Chris Knight. He was at the centre of organising much of yesterday's protest.

Early today police moved on the last of the Climate Camp demonstrators who were attempting to block

Bishopgate. Officers took three hours to remove people who had set up tents in the street and were staging a mainly peaceful protest.

It had begun in a carnival atmosphere with the blocked-in group dancing to a team of drummers. Others danced around a couple playing protest songs on a guitar and mandolin.

Many were preparing to spend the

night and food and drink were tossed over police lines.

Finally officers moved in and were pelted with bottles at one point before the street was cleared in time for this morning's rush hour.

Some caught up in the trouble accused the police of using unnecessary force.

A 19-year-old student from Brighton, who did not want to be named, said:

"People just wanted to go home but they were trapped and then beaten by bully boys protected by riot gear. They are cowards."

However, others were allowed to leave the area, despite being seen committing criminal acts.

City bosses today praised the Met's handling of the G20 protests yesterday, which saw 5,000 people lay siege to the

Bank of England, describing it as "a tricky job very well done". Stuart Fraser, chairman of policy at the City of London Corporation, said: "The police are managing a very difficult balancing act: they need to make sure the demonstrators can protest peacefully and safely, whilst protecting property and keeping the City open for business. Obviously the operation is ongoing and

the situation may change, but so far the police seem to be handling a tricky job very well."

Commander Simon O'Brien, one of the officers in charge of Operation Glencoe, said: "The majority of protesters wanted to protest lawfully but there was a small element who were hell-bent on hijacking that protest and hell-bent on provoking and attacking the police.

Small groups were charging forward and back into police lines. Clearly it was some people trying to find a way to ramp up the protests and hijack them with violence."

Police have filmed the violence and said those involved could expect "a knock on the door" in future.

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Moving in: police clearing Climate Camp demonstrators from Bishopsgate early today, left. More than 80 people have been arrested in connection with the G20 protests in the past 48 hours. Below: graffiti and broken windows at RBS in Threadneedle Street



NICEL HOWARD

