

Crazed man attacks, five children dead, gunman shoots self

STOCKTON, Calif. -- A man fired several dozen shots from an automatic rifle in an elementary school Tuesday, killing five children, wounding at least 35 other people and then fatally shooting himself in the head, authorities said.

Bruce Fernandez, spokesman for the county office of emergency services, said six people had died.

Ellen Rich at St. Joseph's Medical Center said eight victims were being treated there, and said the total, including those being treated at other hospitals, was 35 wounded.

"We have at least 30 people that we've sent out to area hospitals," said Police Chief Jack Calkins.

The attack at Cleveland Elementary School came shortly before noon. Other children were kept in their rooms, said John Klose, Stockton Unified School District information officer.

Police Sgt. James Monk said his office learned that a "man went berserk with an automatic weapon and we have several (people) down."

"Several dozen shots were heard from an automatic rifle," said Monk.



Andy Manhart/Daily Nebraskan

Violent surge erupts in Miami minority area

MIAMI -- Police cordoned off a largely black neighborhood Tuesday after a six-hour melee of shooting, burning and rock-throwing that was touched off by the fatal shooting of a black motorcyclist by a white policeman.

Mayor Xavier Suarez declared the situation in the Overtown neighborhood under control Tuesday morning and called for an investigation.

Police surrounded the neighborhood and allowed only those with legitimate business into the area, said a police spokesman, Officer Angelo Bitsis. Schools in the neighborhood were closed.

The riot erupted on the night of the federal holiday for slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. and as national attention was focused on the city as the host of Sunday's Super Bowl. It also rekindled memories of Miami riots in the early 1980s.

"It just exploded," said City Commissioner Rosario Kennedy as she prepared to enter the 1 1/2-square-mile area with a police escort. "People have been celebrating Martin Luther King's birthday all day. Maybe they were drunk. We just

don't know."

The riot began about 8 p.m., about two hours after the death of motorcyclist Clement Lloyd. Lloyd, 21, was shot in the head as he was being chased for an alleged traffic violation, said Sgt. Michael Mazur, another police spokesman.

At least two officers were pursuing the motorcyclist for alleged erratic driving when they passed a third officer, William Lozano, who was stopped by the side of the road in an unrelated incident, police said.

Lozano, who is white, shot Lloyd as the motorcycle came toward him, said Assistant Police Chief Don March.

The motorcycle crashed into a moving car, seriously injuring Lloyd's 24-year-old brother, who was a passenger. The brother, whose name was not immediately released, was in critical condition today, according to Jackson Memorial Hospital officials.

Within minutes of the shooting, at least 100 blacks began throwing rocks and bottles at police, who called for reinforcements. About 125 officers cordoned off the area, authorities said.

Confetti readied for Bush speech

WASHINGTON -- President-elect George Bush labored Tuesday to trim the first speech he will deliver as president into more semonette than sermon, while the capital and an estimated 300,000 celebrants made ready for an inauguration extravaganza that won't leave much else to moderation.

Congress, meanwhile, accorded a warm reception to Bush's closest confidant and senior Cabinet appointee, James A. Baker III, who at confirmation hearings pleaded for a partnership between the executive and legislative branches in the conduct of America's foreign policy.

Baker, sure to win approval as Secretary of State, said the first order of business should be "a meeting of our minds on how to proceed with the Soviet Union." The task, he said, "is to arrange affairs so that whatever the outcome of perestroika, a more responsible, constructive foreign policy will remain in Moscow's interest."

Elsewhere in the capital, thousands of performers, from Hollywood figures to high-school majorettes, rehearsed for scores of inaugural events. The first will be a twilight pageant at the Lincoln Memorial on Wednesday.

The leading man remained in the cutting room, trying to reduce the length of the address he will deliver Friday at noon, upon taking office as president. He aims at "something in the range of 15 minutes or less," said spokeswoman Sheila Tate.

The speech was drafted by Peggy Noonan, the principal author of Bush's Republican convention acceptance speech last summer and a contributor to President Reagan's nationally broadcast farewell last week.

Bush could do worse than aim



Andy Manhart/Daily Nebraskan

for brevity when he mounts the Capitol's West Portico Friday to take his oath beneath the winter skies. One president, William Henry Harrison, droned on in an icy downpour for nearly two hours, caught pneumonia and died.

George Washington delivered the briefest inaugural address after taking the oath for his second term. It totalled 135 words.

Wednesday's opening for the five-day inaugural whirlwind, an outdoor affair, is to be attended by Bush and Vice President-elect Dan Quayle. It will feature a wingtip-to-wingtip flyover by 21 Navy F-14 Tomcats, in a salute to a new commander-in-chief who flew 58 combat missions over the Pacific for the Navy in World War II.

The show also will include music from the Gatlin Brothers and the Beach Boys and will culminate in a massive fireworks display lighting the sky with 1,000 electric-white bursts, in keeping with the "thousand points of light" theme of Bush's campaign.

Later in the evening, matters turn far more pricey - and exclusive - for the Bush faithful, with three black-tie dinners going at \$1,500 per seat.

Baker told the Senate panel Tuesday that "bipartisanship does not mean that we must always agree" on foreign policy. "But eventually we must proceed, and when we do so together."

Baker was cordially received, and got a strong introduction and endorsement from Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, a fellow Texan and the Democratic candidate for vice president last fall.

Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell, D-Maine, said that Baker and other cabinet appointees "are generally experienced, hopefully pragmatic people, and we won't have the rigid ideology of the first Reagan term." He added that "I am trying very hard to establish from our side an atmosphere of cooperation and bipartisanship."

Favoritism toward Wedtech Corporation shows Meese in violation of ethics

WASHINGTON -- Former Attorney General Edwin Meese III violated federal ethics standards by acting at the request of a close friend to assist scandal-plagued Wedtech Corp. and a proposed \$1 billion Middle East oil pipeline, a Justice Department report concluded today.

A department statement said no further action against Meese is warranted because he is no longer a government employee. Meese left the administration last summer to join two conservative research organizations.

The report's findings on ethics questions are based in large measure on evidence gathered in a 14-month criminal investigation of Meese by an independent counsel. That probe did not address ethical questions and ended with a decision not to prosecute.

Bakker pleads innocent in court

CHARLOTTE, N.C. -- Former PTL leader Jim Bakker pleaded innocent today to federal charges of diverting millions of dollars in donations from his followers and using the money to support his lavish lifestyle.

Bakker made no comment during the hearing, but defense attorney George T. Davis asked U.S. Magistrate Paul Taylor to impose a gag order in the case.

Davis read parts of an interview published Jan. 2 in which retired U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Rufus Reynolds, who presided over the PTL bankruptcy case, called the founder of the religious broadcasting empire a "sawed-off little runt."

Davis also said Reynolds described Bakker as "a thief."

Meese's lawyers called the findings by the Justice Department's Office of Professional Responsibility a "travesty of justice."

At the White House, spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said that President Reagan believes "this report was unnecessary, partly because Mr. Meese has not been in the office for some time and partly because it was unwarranted."

Fitzwater said that Reagan still believes his longtime friend did nothing wrong. "That's the way he feels. I talked to him and I know whereof I speak," the spokesman said of the president.

The investigators said that if Meese were still attorney general, "we would recommend (to the next ranking department official) that the president take disciplinary action."

The Justice Department said in a statement that because Meese is no longer associated with the department, no further disciplinary action is warranted in connection with matters raised in the report.

In a statement, the department said Attorney General Dick Thornburgh has reviewed and accepted the report and considers the matter

closed.

Thornburgh addressed the portion of the report that found that Meese had violated the executive order and the department's standards of conduct by participating in matters involving the Bell companies while holding stock in them.

"It appears to me that Mr. Meese's failure to fully dispose of his financial interest in the regional Bell operating companies resulted from a failure to obtain or act upon adequate legal advice rather than an intent to violate ethical standards," said Thornburgh.

In a 16-page statement prepared in response to the report, Meese's lawyers contend that "there is absolutely no basis for criticizing his conduct."

The report said Meese's "actions were inconsistent with the highest standards which the American people demand of not only every other attorney in the department, but especially the attorney general who must set the highest standard of behavior for the department and for the government."

Contents of the 61-page report were first disclosed by The Washington Post in Tuesday editions.

Company sold chemicals to Libya

FRANKFURT, West Germany -- West Germany's Merck chemical company told the government Tuesday that it shipped 19 tons of a chemical solvent to Libya last year. It said the destination may have been the plant Washington says can produce poison gas.

A Frankfurt company reported it provided expensive ventilation equipment to a now-defunct Frankfurt firm reportedly at the center of

the plant's construction at Rabta, Libya.

A transport company in Cologne said federal officials seized some of its records in conjunction with the growing Libyan investigation.

The acknowledgments add to the growing list of West German companies that were or may have been involved in providing materials for the plant, although they may not have known it at the time.

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