

Explosion will shut down World Trade Center for a week

Businesses, banks scramble, relocate after explosion

NEW YORK — The World Trade Center bomb blast will shut it down for at least a week, officials said Sunday as foreign banks, shippers, law firms and other tenants scrambled to set up shop elsewhere.

that extend around the globe. The cost of the damage, relocation, and lost business was impossible to ascertain Sunday. Many businesses spent the weekend trying to grapple with the damage caused by Friday's noontime explosion in an underground parking garage.

The two skyscrapers, the world's second tallest buildings after Chicago's Sears Tower, are home to more than 900 businesses — from Mrs. Field's Cookies to Dean Witter, Discover & Co., to offices of the world's largest bank, Dai Ichi Kangyo Bank of Japan.

Cult slays four agents in firefight

WACO, Texas — A gun battle erupted Sunday as law officers tried to arrest the leader of a heavily armed religious cult. At least four federal agents were killed and at least 14 others injured.



Authorities had a warrant to search the Branch Davidians' compound for guns and explosives and an arrest warrant for its leader, Vernon Howell, said Les Stanford of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms in Washington, D.C.

The fate of the people in the compound was not known. Howell, the current member of a cult that dates back more than 50 years, claims to be Christ.

"They came right in, parked right by the front door and made a frontal assault on the building," said John McLemore, a KWTX-TV reporter who witnessed the shootout.

"A couple of them were shot when they were inside," he said.

"They jumped out of windows and were dragged off to the side."

He said the building was riddled with bullet holes.

Cult members and law officers negotiated a cease-fire about 45 minutes after the incident began. For the next several hours, ambulances and helicopters removed the wounded.

Bomb victims remembered for their respectable lives

NEW YORK — Times were good for John DiGiovanni.

He was working hard and enjoying his life. All things seemed possible — even a good season for the Mets baseball team.

"He loved that team," recalled his brother, Ernest DiGiovanni. "Lived and died with them."

Then, on Friday, John DiGiovanni parked his car at the World Trade Center.

DiGiovanni, 45, of suburban Valley Stream was among the five people who perished when a bomb exploded in an underground garage below the 110-story twin towers in lower Man-

"I'm so numb that I can't feel anger."

Ernest DiGiovanni, victim's brother

hattan. Also killed in the blast were Steve Knapp, 48, of New York; Monica Smith, 34, of Seaford; Robert Kirkpatrick, 61, of Suffern; and William Macko, in his 40s, of Bayonne, N.J. — all employees of the Port

Authority, the trade center's operator.

The FBI is blaming a bomb for the blast and investigators logged 40 calls claiming responsibility, but Sunday it could only be speculated who did it and why.

Ernest DiGiovanni believes his brother, a dental equipment salesman, was making a call in the area and decided to park his car.

DiGiovanni traveled throughout the Northeast for his work.

"He was so consumed by work," his brother said. "Always on the go."

The family bought the house in 1949, two years after DiGiovanni was born. He went to school at Valley Stream Central High, where he played center field on the baseball team.

He later graduated from Hofstra University and got married. After a divorce, he moved back in with his mother. Dark, fit and slender,

DiGiovanni devoted nearly all his time to work, to a small circle of friends — and to the Mets.

"He really had a zest for life," his brother said.

Ernest DiGiovanni, a film consultant living in Lake Ridge, Va., was sitting in a New York restaurant Friday night watching news reports about the bombing when his wife called to tell him his brother was dead.

As he rushed to care for his mother, Ernest DiGiovanni said he was not yet thinking about the dark forces that took such a bright life.

"I'm so numb that I can't feel anger," he said.

Leaflets miss mark in Bosnia food supplies may miss, too

Russia agrees to provide arms, missiles to Serbia, Serbian-controlled areas

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — The U.S. military launched a major relief effort in besieged eastern Bosnia, dropping a million leaflets saying airdrops of badly needed humanitarian aid were on the way. But Bosnian officials said Sunday that some of the messages missed the mark.

Local officials said residents feared the bundles of food and medicine also might not land in the intended villages.

Ham radio operators in the beleaguered eastern town of Cerska were issuing urgent reports that rebel Serbs had overrun seven surrounding villages.

In another development, the Observer newspaper reported in London that Russia has agreed to supply \$360 million worth of arms, including sophisticated missiles, to Serbia and Serb-controlled areas of Bosnia and Croatia. Such an agreement would violate a U.N. arms embargo.

The airdrop aims mostly to help Muslims suffering from cold and hunger in enclaves almost entirely cut off from relief for months, but they will also provide aid for Serbs and

Croats. The aerial aid mission signals greater U.S. involvement in the war-torn Balkans. A 19-member U.S. government team arrived in Zagreb, Croatia, on Sunday. It will spread out across Bosnia to identify shortfalls in aid deliveries, a U.S. Embassy statement said.

U.S. officials, who said last week that the drops could begin as soon as Sunday, would say only that they would probably begin in the next day or two. They refused to be specific for fear that the planes might be fired on.

Two giant C-130 Hercules planes returned early Sunday to Rhein-Main Air Base in Germany after releasing the leaflets at four points over Bosnia. They flew more than 10,000 feet above the Bosnian countryside under cover of darkness to minimize the risk posed by Serb anti-aircraft guns and shoulder-fired missiles.

However, officials in some of the villages said Sunday that no leaflets had been found. If the leaflets missed their targets, that would illustrate the difficulty of making accurate drops from high altitudes.

Fadil Heljic, a ham radio operator in the eastern enclave of Zepa, said "not one" leaflet landed on the town of 34,000 and people were "slowly losing hope."

"They're afraid that the airdrop bundles will end the same as the leaflets," he said by ham radio in an interview conducted from Zagreb, Croatia.

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