

## N.J. troopers face attempted murder charges

TRENTON, N.J. (AP) — Two white state troopers were indicted on attempted murder charges Tuesday for shooting three black and Hispanic men on the New Jersey Turnpike — one of a series of cases that have stirred a nationwide debate over racial profiling by police.

John Hogan, 29, and James Kenna, 28, could get up to 40 years in prison if convicted on the state charges.

The troopers are accused of firing 11 shots into a van containing four young men on their way to a basketball tryout in North Carolina in 1998. Two black men and a Hispanic man were wounded, and they have filed civil rights and injury lawsuits against the troopers and the state.

Hogan and Kenna have said that they stopped the van because the driver was speeding, and that they opened fire because the van was backing up to hit them.

Hogan's lawyer, Robert L. Galantucci, said Hogan was struck by the van on a dark stretch of highway and had only seconds to respond. He called the indictment "politically motivated."

A message left for Kenna's lawyer was not returned.

The shooting triggered protests and internal investigations that embroiled the New Jersey State Police in the controversy over racial profiling, or the practice of stopping motorists on the basis of race.

Earlier this year, Gov. Christie Whitman fired the State Police superintendent after he said minorities were responsible for most of the state's cocaine and marijuana traffic.

In June, President Clinton issued an executive order calling on federal

law enforcement agencies to collect race and gender data in all stops and arrests. Police in several places, including North Carolina, Houston, San Diego and San Jose, Calif., have taken similar measures.

In April, Hogan and Kenna were indicted on charges of falsifying traffic-stop reports to conceal the fact they were stopping a lot of black drivers.

The following day, the attorney general's office issued a report confirming that traffic stop-and-search patterns provided evidence of racially discriminatory practices by the State Police.

Lawyers for Hogan and Kenna claimed then that the charges were paperwork mistakes and that the troopers were being used as scapegoats in the debate over racial profiling.

The troopers, who are suspended from the force, have pleaded innocent to the misconduct charges.

The union representing New Jersey's state troopers issued a statement calling Tuesday's indictment "outrageous and beyond belief."

"Today a stake was driven through the hearts of many men and women troopers who put their lives on the line every day to protect the citizens of this state," said Ed Lennon, president of the State Troopers Fraternal Association of New Jersey.

Johnnie Cochran, an attorney representing the men who were shot, said he was "ecstatic" about the indictment.

"I'm confident that this is the first step on the road to justice," he said. "I hope that this indictment will be a deterrent for future injustices."

## Treaty violations threaten precarious peace in Congo

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — Peace efforts in the war-torn Democratic Republic of Congo hit a new snag Monday when a rebel leader accused President Laurent Kabila of violating a peace accord brokered last week and issued a veiled warning that hostilities could resume.

The Congolese Rally for Democracy, which has been fighting to depose Kabila since August 1998, has objected to his decision to appoint Lt. Gen. Sylvestre Luesha as head of his armed forces. The decision was announced Friday.

Luesha is an ethnic Mai Mai, who makes up one of the groups meant to be disarmed under a peace deal brokered in Lusaka last week, the Rally for Democracy's chief negotiator Bazima Karaha said in an interview Monday. The loose-knit group has clashed with the rebels during the civil war.

Karaha warned that if Luesha were not removed from his post, "We will carry on and disarm him."

A letter voicing the objection was sent to the Joint Military

"The guns are silent. We believe this should be the end of the war in the Congo."

BAZIMA KARAHA  
chief negotiator, Rally for Democracy

Commission, which is overseeing the Congo cease-fire, but no reply had been received, Karaha said.

"It is a threat. It is a violation. This man must be disarmed," he said.

Rival rebel leader Ernest Wamba dia Wamba told reporters in Pretoria that he agreed with Karaha that Luesha was a bad choice, but said he would not go so far as to tell Kabila what to do.

Karaha added that the cease-fire appeared to be holding.

"The guns are silent. We believe this should be the end of the war in the Congo," he said.

Karaha, who flew in to South Africa on Saturday to hold talks with President Thabo Mbeki, was Kabila's former foreign minister. He joined

the rebels after accusing Kabila of nepotism and corruption and failing to chart a clear political course.

The civil war in the former Zaire, which erupted a year after Kabila overthrew its former dictator Mobutu Sese Seko, has drawn in forces from five other countries. Zimbabwe, Namibia and Angola have been propping up Kabila's regime, while Uganda and Rwanda have been supporting the rebels trying to overthrow him.

Wamba encouraged South Africa's continuing involvement in the peace process.

"The emphasis in the DRC has shifted from fighting to negotiation, an area in which South Africa has rich experience," he said.

## Rare collection reveals other side of Malcolm X

ATLANTA (AP) — The only known collection of Malcolm X's personal letters and notes are on display at Emory University, and many offer a glimpse of him as a typical teen-ager who liked to jitterbug, admired pretty girls and wanted to be a lawyer some day.

The writings differ from the public view of Malcolm X as a fiery orator and advocate of black nationalism.

"They are quite unique," James H. Cone, of Union Theological Seminary in New York, said Tuesday. Cone is the author of a 1992 book about Malcolm X and the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

The only other known personal letters written by Malcolm X are in FBI files.

The Emory collection — mostly letters and school notebooks written from 1938 to 1955, when Malcolm X was a teen-ager and young adult — is on long-term loan to the library.

Though not a large collection, the letters and notes could change the accepted view of Malcolm X's early years.

In his speeches and in his autobiography, the civil rights leader described himself as a small time hood who could barely read before he was converted to the Nation of Islam in prison.

But the early papers paint a much different picture. They show the 13- to 15-year-old Malcolm to be an articulate student who rarely misspelled words and usually used correct grammar. In one assignment, he wrote that he wanted to be a lawyer, a district attorney or a politician.

One piece on display is a letter he wrote while in prison to half-sister Ella Collins.

"This being Easter, I thought it would be nice of me if I tried to write you a charming letter."

In another letter, 16-year-old Malcolm wrote from Boston to a friend.

"Sorry I haven't gotten around to writing you sooner but I have been very busy. You know how we traveling men are. How is everything in Jackson, Boston's fine. The place is really 'jumpin'."

Leroy Davis, a professor of African-American studies at Emory, said: "Just to see Malcolm's actual handwriting set off trembles."

Malcolm X was born Malcolm "Harpy" Little in Omaha, in 1925. He spent a few years in a foster home in the Lansing, Mich., area after his father was murdered and his mother was put in a mental institution. After moving to Boston at age 16, he got mixed up in small time street crime. He was sent to prison for burglary in 1946 at age 21.

During his six-year prison term, he became a disciple of Elijah Muhammad, head of the Nation of Islam. After getting out of prison, Malcolm adopted "X" as his last name.

In the early 1960s he advocated black nationalism and was often followed by government agents suspicious of his motives and provocative views.

As the leading spokesman for the Nation of Islam, Malcolm X called for a rigid separation of whites and blacks. But in 1964, he broke with the Nation of Islam, made a pilgrimage to Mecca and declared himself an orthodox Muslim. He was shot and killed a year later in New York City.

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