

Italy building collapses, trapping families inside

■ Complex crashes to the ground, trapping 23 of the 24 families inside.

FOGGIA, Italy (AP) — A six-story apartment building came crashing down upon 24 sleeping households in southern Italy on Thursday, trapping them in a 15-foot-high heap of concrete and dust. Only one family escaped intact, fleeing with seconds to spare after a frantic attempt to save their neighbors.

Wakened by the sound of the building shaking itself to pieces, the family of five ran apartment to apartment, ringing doorbells and pounding on doors. The effort nearly cost them their lives, said building superintendent Luigi Lacontia, who ran from the building with the family at the last minute.

"I took a step back, thinking I could see someone stick their head out the window," Lacontia said. "Instead, I saw the entire building crumple."

By nightfall, authorities had accounted for only 17 survivors out of the 70 to 75 people believed to be inside. The latest, a young man, was pulled out more than nine hours after the last survivor had been found. After a day of seeing only covered bodies on gurneys go by, the dusty search crews stopped digging to applaud the rescue, shouting, "He's alive!"

Searchers recovered 13 corpses, wheeling them out under green sheets with broken limbs dangling.

Paramilitary police Capt. Antonio Di Spazio said he feared about 50 people had been killed. Many may have died on the stairs, trying to escape.

Authorities suspect a structural failure brought down the 30-year-old building. Some residents said workers had been renovating a garage underneath; Di Spazio said that would be investigated.

In Rome, politicians urged Parliament to push through a proposed law that would make buildings subject to periodic inspections.

"It is absurd that cars must undergo periodic checkups while buildings don't," said Cristina Matranga, a lawmaker for the opposition Forza Italia party.

Emergency crews evacuated an adjoining building in the neighborhood, a cluster of tidy, well-kept apartment blocks in the city of 150,000. Awakened in the night by the crash and then by screams, neighbors packed balconies to watch the daylong rescue effort.

The apartment building fell about 3:15 a.m.

Crushing floors and ceilings, it collapsed into rubble about 15 feet high. A single door stood upright atop the ruin—that of the tiny rooftop apartment, its fall cushioned by the floors pancaked beneath it.

Resident Aldo Guidone woke to the noise of the building shaking. Someone rang his doorbell, and then the building dropped from beneath him.

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CRISTINA MATRANGA
Forza Italia party lawmaker

Guidone landed flat in the rubble, escaping alive with his son and daughter-in-law. Their 8-year-old son was missing.

"In the heart of the night I heard my bed shake, like an earthquake. Then I heard creaking noises but I couldn't understand what was happening," Salvatore Taronne, 19, said from his hospital bed.

"All of a sudden I found myself deep in chunks of cement," he said. "It was dark, and I didn't have the strength to scream."

The identity and whereabouts of the family that alerted the others could not immediately be determined.

Hundreds of firefighters, police and other rescuers surrounded the site, removing the rubble in bucket relays and with bulldozers. The work would keep going through the night, Di Spazio said.

Man kills wife's boyfriend, himself in Starbucks

■ Prearranged meeting turns into murder at coffee shop in Florida mall.

AVENTURA, Fla. (AP) — A man whose wife planned to leave him for another man shot and killed his rival and then himself in a Starbucks coffee shop at a suburban Miami shopping mall Thursday morning, police said.

Bernard Desroches and Louis Paduano were at the Aventura Mall in

a prearranged meeting to discuss the breakup of the marriage, police Lt. Skip Washa said. Desroches' wife of 10 years had been seeing Paduano for about two months, he said.

"There was nobody yelling and screaming at each other like there was a fight," Washa said.

Desroches, 41, simply pulled out a semiautomatic handgun and shot Paduano, 52, twice in the abdomen.

He shot him again as he tried to escape, then put the gun in his own mouth and pulled the trigger, Washa

said. Desroches' wife, Carla, works in the mall's Bloomingdale's store and apparently met Paduano there, Washa said.

He said Desroches didn't threaten anyone else in the mall Thursday. The shooting occurred about 20 minutes before most of the stores opened for the day.

The palm-fringed mall, one of south Florida's largest was closed during the investigation but reopened midafternoon.

Barak, Arafat continue talks

Negotiators say clearing up pullback issue still priority

JERUSALEM (AP) — Trying to clear the air, Israeli and Palestinian negotiators affirmed Thursday that a pair of U.N. Security Council resolutions calling for an Israeli pullback from war-won land still form the basis of their talks.

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak had rattled the Palestinians in recent days with remarks that seemed to suggest Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 do not apply to the negotiations on a final Israeli-Palestinian peace treaty.

Israel has long insisted that the resolutions, passed after the 1967 and 1973 Mideast wars, do not require Israel to withdraw from all war-won territory. In the two wars, Israel captured land from Egypt, Syria and the Palestinians.

Barak took this line of reasoning a step further in the past week, saying that the U.N. resolutions "have a different context" when referring to the Palestinians than when referring to Arab nations with recognized borders.

The Palestinians reacted angrily, noting that all interim peace accords, including the one signed in September by Barak and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, say the resolutions form the basis for a final peace treaty.

On Thursday, Israeli and Palestinian negotiators issued a joint declaration that a final peace treaty will "lead to the implementation of Security Council resolutions 242 and 338."

The statement apparently was aimed at clearing the atmosphere and not a signal that the two sides had changed their conflicting interpretations of the resolutions.

"I hope that this statement will put an end to all the questions that were raised in the last couple of days," Oded Eran, the chief Israeli negotiator, said after a 3 1/2-hour meeting with his Palestinian coun-

terpart, Yasser Abed Rabbo, in the West Bank town of Ramallah.

During the meeting, the Palestinians again demanded that Israel freeze construction of Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Eran said the dispute should be settled as part of the negotiations and that in the 100 days set aside for the talks, Israel wouldn't be able to build much anyhow, said a Palestinian official close to the talks who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Yayeh Abdel Rahim, a senior adviser to Arafat, said Thursday that the continuation of settlement construction "means the assassination of the peace process."

He noted that while Israel dismantled a West Bank settlement outpost Wednesday, one of 12 that have been removed, Barak has retroactively approved 30 other settler encampments set up in the past year.

Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy, meanwhile, criticized the Palestinians for what he said were unreasonable demands, such as an Israeli withdrawal from all lands captured in 1967 — the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and east Jerusalem — and the dismantling of all Jewish settlements in the disputed lands.

"We want to move ahead, but they (the Palestinians) also have to understand that without a compromise from their side, they will not be able to make progress," Levy said.

A hitch developed in an interim phase Thursday.

Israel is to turn over another five percent of the West Bank to Palestinian civilian control Monday, according to interim accords. However, Arafat Thursday rejected the Israeli map outlining the areas, Palestinian officials said. Talks are to continue Friday.

Winter's A' Comin'



The Daily Nebraskan is now accepting applications for senior positions for the spring semester. Any major and class standing will be eligible as long as you are taking at least six credit hours and have a 2.0 GPA or higher.

Positions are open for: web editor, assistant web editor, managing editor, associate news editors, assignment editor, copy desk chief, copy editors, sports editor, A&E editor, opinion editor, night editor, design chief, designers, art director, photo chief, senior artist, senior reporters, senior photographers, advertising account executives, creative ad designer and classified staff.

Pick up an application and job description and sign up for an interview at the Daily Nebraskan, 34 Nebraska Union. Applications are due Sunday, November 14. Interviews will be held during the week of November 15-19. Positions will be announced before Thanksgiving break. The Daily Nebraskan is an equal opportunity employer and adheres to all applicable guidelines.

Stolen paintings turn up 21 years later at art house

■ Pieces taken from a San Francisco museum were found in New York.

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Three paintings stolen nearly 21 years ago from the M.H. de Young Memorial Museum in San Francisco have apparently been recovered at a New York auction house.

The paintings, one of which may be a Rembrandt, were left anonymously at William Doyle Galleries on Tuesday, said Harry Parker III, director of museums for the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco. A note left with the paintings said they had been taken from the de Young.

They were stolen Christmas Eve 1978. The culprits were never caught. A fourth painting also taken that night, "Harbor Scene" by Willem van de Velde, was not returned.

At the time of the theft, "Portrait of a Rabbi" was considered an authentic Rembrandt and valued at \$1 million.

Experts have since said it likely was painted by one of Rembrandt's followers. If Rembrandt had painted the painting, it would be worth \$20 million, Parker said.

The paintings were left at the Doyle gallery on one of the days dur-

ing which the auction house lets members of the public auction their art. As the day came to a close, an employee noticed an unclaimed bag and looked inside.

Lynn Federle Orr, the fine arts curator of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, flew to New York and identified the paintings as those taken from the de Young in 1978.

The paintings were in their frames but were "rather extensively damaged" by an apparent attempt to clean them, Parker said. One of them, Aert van der Neer's "River Scene at Night (Harbor Scene)," was returned in three pieces.

The other stolen painting was "Interior of the Church of Saint Lawrence, Rotterdam," by Antonie de Lorme. With the exception of the possible Rembrandt, the three others were worth a combined \$75,000 at the time of the theft.

Authorities believe more than one thief slipped into the de Young through a skylight in 1978, then left by climbing the drawers of a 17th-century Dutch cabinet.

The FBI is still investigating the 1978 thefts. Parker said he expects the paintings to arrive in San Francisco next week, after which the "Portrait of a Rabbi" will be tested to reassess who actually painted it.

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