

Citizens Of 5 Countries Kidnapped In Nigeria

BAUCHI, Nigeria (AP) — Gunmen attacked a camp for a construction company in rural northern Nigeria, killing a guard and kidnapping seven foreign workers from Britain, Greece, Italy, Lebanon and the Philippines, authorities said Sunday, in the biggest kidnapping yet in a region under attack by Islamic extremists.

The attack Saturday night happened in Jama'are, a town in Bauchi state. There, the gunmen first attacked a local prison, burning two police trucks, Bauchi state police spokesman Hassan Muhammed told The Associated Press.

The gunmen then targeted a workers' camp for Lebanese construction company Setraco, which is building a road in the area, Muhammed said. The gunmen shot dead a guard at the camp before kidnapping the foreign workers, the spokesman said.

"The gunmen came with explosives, which they used to break some areas," Muhammed said. He did not elaborate and an AP journalist could not immediately reach the town, which is about 200 kilometers (125 miles) north of the state capital, Bauchi.

One British citizen, one Greek, one Italian, three Lebanese and one Filipino were kidnapped, said Adamu Aliyu, the chairman of the local government area that encompasses Jama'are. He said one of the hostages was a woman, while the rest were men. He initially had said four of the hostages were Lebanese. He blamed the confusion on incorrect information he received from his staff.

Iran's Leader Steps Into Uncharted Territory

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Iran's supreme leader is supposed to be many things in the eyes of his followers: Spiritual mentor, protector of the Islamic Revolution, a moral compass above the regular fray.

Political referee is not among them.

Yet that is the unfamiliar role Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has adopted as the political mudslinging gets heavier ahead of elections in June to pick a successor for President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

"Bad, wrong, inappropriate," scolded Khamenei on Saturday in his most stinging rebuke of Ahmadinejad for his mounting attacks on rivals — including an ambush earlier this month in parliament when he played a barely audible videotape that purported to show corruption inside the family of the chamber's speaker.

Khamenei then went on to chide the parliament speaker, Ali Larijani, for publicly humiliating Ahmadinejad in response to the tape.

Agent Cancels All Of Pistorius' Upcoming Races

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — Oscar Pistorius' track career was put on hold indefinitely Sunday as his agent canceled all future races so the double-amputee Olympian can focus on defending himself against his murder charge.

After visiting Pistorius at the police station he is being held at, agent Peet van Zyl said in a statement there is "no option but to cancel all future races that Oscar Pistorius had been contracted to compete in to allow Oscar to concentrate on the upcoming legal proceedings."

Pistorius was arrested and charged with the Valentine's Day murder of model girlfriend Reeva Steenkamp, who was shot multiple times at Pistorius' upscale Pretoria home in the early hours of Thursday.

Pistorius has been held since Friday at the Brooklyn police station in the South African capital, where Van Zyl visited Sunday along with members of Pistorius' family and his legal team.

"The nature of my visit today was two-fold," Van Zyl said. "On a personal level I wanted to offer my support to Oscar, who I have known and worked with for the last seven years and consider a friend and a great professional athlete."

Pope Gives First Blessing Since Announcement

VATICAN CITY (AP) — His arms outstretched in a symbolic embrace, Pope Benedict XVI blessed tens of thousands of cheering people on Sunday in one of his last appearances as pontiff from his window overlooking St. Peter's Square.

Last week, 85-year-old Benedict shocked the world by announcing his resignation. He will step down on Feb. 28, planning to retreat to a life of prayer in a monastery behind the Vatican's ancient walls.

The noontime appointment in the vast cobblestone square also served as a kind of trial run for how Rome will handle the logistics, including crowd security, as the city braces for faithful to flock to Rome for the election and installation of the cardinal who will succeed Benedict as leader of the world's 1.2 billion Catholics.

Rome Mayor Gianni Alemanno said upward of 100,000 people turned out Sunday and that everything went smoothly. But while there was still space in St. Peter's Square for more, many couldn't get in — or easily out — because entrances from the main boulevard were just too narrow.

Daughter Of Soldier Finally Receives Purple Heart

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A Southern California woman who never knew her father has received his Purple Heart, Silver Star and other military medals he earned before he died in World War II.

Hyla Merin tearfully accepted eight medals earned by her father 2nd Lt. Hyman Markel on Sunday at her home in Thousand Oaks on Sunday.

Markel died while fighting German troops in Italy in 1945, before his daughter was born, and received the Purple Heart and Silver Star posthumously.

In October, the manager of a West Hollywood apartment building where Merin's mother had lived in the 1960s found a box containing the Purple Heart.

The manager contacted a nonprofit organization that returns medals to vets or their families. The group found Merin and discovered several other medals she should have received.

KYNT
AM 1450
MORNING COFFEE
WEEKDAYS MONDAY-FRIDAY

Monday, February 18
7:40 am Yankton County Comm
(Bruce Jensen, Allen Sinclair)
8:20 am Calvary Pre-School
(Laurie Hanson)

Tuesday, February 19
7:40 am Girls JV Hockey
(Dave Spencer)
8:20 am Avera Foundation
(Frani Kieffer)
8:45 am Dakota Museum
(Crystal Nelson)

YOUR NEWS! The Press & Dakotan

White House: Draft Immigration Plan A Backup

BY PHILIP ELLIOTT
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Republicans and Democrats alike on Sunday predicted President Barack Obama would fail if he pushed forward with his own effort to overhaul the nation's immigration system and urged the administration to hold off while lawmakers work on a bipartisan measure.

Republican Sen. John McCain predicted the administration's efforts would come up short if the White House went forward with a proposal to put the estimated 11 million illegal immigrants in the U.S. on a long pathway to citizenship. Democratic Sen. Chuck Schumer, who met with Obama on Wednesday at the White House to discuss progress, urged his allies in the administration to give a bipartisan group of eight lawmakers the time to hammer out a deal on their own.

Obama's newly appointed top aide, chief of staff Denis McDonough, said the White House would only send its plan to Congress if the lawmakers stumble in their efforts and cast its efforts as a backup plan.

"Well, let's make sure that it doesn't have to be proposed," McDonough said of the president's pitch, first reported on USA Today's website late Saturday.

"We will be prepared with our own plan if these ongoing talks between Republicans and Democrats up on Capitol Hill break down," McDonough said in a second interview, adding he's optimistic they would not crumble.

The administration's proposal would create a visa for those in the country illegally and allow them to become legal permanent residents within eight years. The proposal also requires businesses to know the immigration status of their workers and adds more funding for border security.

It drew immediate criticism from Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla.

"If actually proposed, the president's bill would be dead on arrival in Congress, leaving us with unsecured borders and a broken legal immigration system for years to come," said Rubio, who is among the eight lawmakers searching for a comprehensive plan.

Many of the details in the administration's draft proposal follow the broad principles that Obama previously outlined. But the fact the administration is writing its own alternative signaled Obama wants to address immigration sooner rather than later and perhaps was looking to nudge lawmakers to move more quickly.

The tactic potentially complicates the administration's work with Congress.

Republican Rep. Paul Ryan, the Wisconsin lawmaker who was his party's vice presidential nominee last year, said the timing of the leak suggested the White House was looking for "a partisan advantage and not a bipartisan solution."

"Leaking this out does set things in the wrong direction," said Ryan, who could be a serious contender for his party's presidential nomination in 2016. "There are groups in the House and the Senate working together to get this done and when he does things like this, it makes that much more difficult to do that."

Freshman Rep. Joaquin Castro, D-Texas, called the leaked plan "incomplete" and said both parties in Congress and the White House need to work together on a solution.

"It hasn't happened yet. It will happen before something is acted upon and certainly before something is passed," he said.

McCain, the Arizona senator whose previous efforts at an immigration overhaul ended in failure in 2007, predicted the White House proposal's demise if it were sent to Congress. He strongly urged the president to pocket the drafted measures and give senators a chance to finish their work.

"I believe we are making progress in a bipartisan basis," McCain, who is among the

Senate group working on legislation, said.

Schumer, a New York Democrat and a close ally to the White House, said he has not seen the draft proposals but, along with the Democrats working on a compromise, met with Obama this week to talk about progress being made on Capitol Hill. Schumer acknowledged that a single-party proposal would have a much more difficult time becoming law and urged the bipartisan group of senators to keep meeting to find common ground.

"I am very hopeful that in March we will have a bipartisan bill," Schumer said. "And, you know, it's obvious if a Democrat — the president or anyone else — puts out what they want on their own, (it) is going to be different than when you have a bipartisan agreement. But the only way we're going to get something done is with a bipartisan agreement."

Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., suggested Obama's proposed plan was going nowhere but added that his party was evaluating its relationship with Hispanic voters, who supported Obama in November with 71 percent of their votes.

"I think people want a little different face on immigration, frankly," said Paul, who is also considered among the 2016 presidential hopefuls. "They don't want somebody who wants to round people up, put them in camps and send them back to Mexico."

The Associated Press, relying on a CQ Roll Call transcript that was distributed after "Fox News Sunday" and omitted the word "don't" in that quote, initially reported that Paul saw his party as in favor of such efforts to deport immigrants. The AP's subsequent review of an audio recording of the broadcast confirmed the missing word.

McDonough appeared on ABC's "This Week," NBC's "Meet the Press" and CBS' "Face the Nation." Ryan and Castro spoke to "This Week." McCain spoke to "Meet the Press." Schumer appeared on CNN's "State of the Union."

OBITUARIES

Richard Gall

Funeral services for Richard A. Gall of Scotland will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, February 19 at the United Church of Christ in Scotland with Rev. Ron Shilley officiating. Organist will be Shirley Orth. Interment will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday at the Garden of Memories in Yankton with military graveside rites by Paul Grosshuesch V.F.W. Post #2966 and Joseph Verm American Legion Post #155, both of Scotland, and the South Dakota Army National Guard Military Funeral Honor Guard. Casketbearers will be Richard's grandsons: Timothy Hoyt, Adam Hoyt, Nathan Anderson, Joel Merkwan, Tobias Gall, and Andrew Gall.

Visitation will be held on Monday from 3:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. prayer service at the Goglin Funeral Home in Scotland. Online condolences may be sent at www.goglinfh.com.

Richard Albert Gall was born on Tuesday, June 13, 1922 at Lesterville, South Dakota to Emil Ferdinand and Johanna Elizabeth (Auch) Gall. He went to school through the 8th grade at the Northstar School near Lesterville. Richard left home at age seven-



Gall

teen to work on a farm in Illinois. He later worked in a battery factory until enlisting in the U.S. Marine Corps on March 31, 1943. He completed basic training at San Diego, California then went overseas with the 3rd Armored Amphibious Battalion. Richard saw action at Pelelieu Islands and Okinawa during World War II. After his honorable discharge on December 24, 1945, he returned to South Dakota and farmed with his father on the family farm eight miles southeast of Scotland, near Lesterville. Richard was united in marriage to Arlene Wollman on October 7, 1951 at the Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Menno, South Dakota. While farming and milking cows, he was meticulous in the care of his equipment and ma-

chinery. Other than necessary chores, he never worked on Sundays. Richard was a faithful member of the United Church of Christ in Scotland, and served in various offices of the church. As a youth, Richard enjoyed playing baseball. Later in life he enjoyed being a spectator at local sporting events and was a dedicated Twins and Vikings fan. While still on the farm, he liked to go bowling. He enjoyed golfing and fishing and having coffee with his friends. Richard was a member of the Scotland VFW. One of the most memorable experiences of his life was being a recipient of a trip with two of his brothers, also WWII veterans, to Washington, D.C. as a part of the "Honor Flight" program. Richard passed away at his home in Scotland on Saturday, February 16, 2013, having attained the age of 90 years, 8 months and 3 days.

Grateful for having shared Richard's life are his wife of 61 years, Arlene Gall of Scotland; three children: Bonnie (Curt) Hoyt of Whiteclay, Nebraska, Rodney (Teresa) Gall of Yankton, and Randal Gall of Yankton; six grandchildren: Timothy (Tarah) Hoyt, Tobias (Kari) Gall, Valerie (Joel) Merkwan, Angela (Nathan) Ander-

son, Adam Hoyt and Andrew Gall and fiancé Chelsea; five great-grandchildren: Kloe and Oakley Gall, and Benjamin, Hannah and Elijah Merkwan; three brothers: Aldon (Esther) Gall of Scotland, Marvin Gall of Lake Andes and Emil (Betty) Gall of Columbia, South Carolina; four sisters: Olive (Eugene) Wollman of Menno, Eileen (Joseph) McIntyre of Las Vegas, Nevada, Delores Nelson of Yankton and Marjorie Novak of Mitchell; three sisters-in-law: Doris Gall, Geneva Gall and Betty Gall; as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Richard was preceded in death by his son, Steven Gall; his parents, Emil and Johanna Gall; and three brothers: Raymond, Clifford and John Gall.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
February 18, 2013

Goglin Funeral Home
Tyndall - Scotland - Tripp

www.goglinfh.com

Ardena Mueller

Funeral services for Ardena Mueller, 95, of Tripp will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 19 at the First American Lutheran Church in Tripp.

Visitation will be held on Monday from 7-8 p.m. at the Goglin Funeral Home in Tripp. Interment will be held on Tuesday at 2 p.m. at the Rosehill Cemetery in Scotland.

Ardena passed away on Saturday, February 16, 2013 at the Good Samaritan Society in Tripp.

Online condolences may be sent at www.goglinfh.com.

Goglin Funeral Home
Tyndall - Scotland - Tripp

www.goglinfh.com

Ramona Adams

Ramona J. Adams, 53, of Yankton died Friday, Feb. 15, 2013, at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital, Yankton.

Services are at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 20, at Trinity Lutheran

Church, Yankton, with the Rev. Dave Wildermuth officiating. Visitation begins at 5 p.m. Tuesday at the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton, and then one hour prior to the service at the church.

Elvina Walter

Elvina Mira Walter, 93 of Crofton, Neb., died on Saturday, Feb. 16, 2013, at the Autumn Winds Assisted Living, Yankton.

Funeral services are at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 20, at the United Church of Christ Congregational, Crofton, Neb., with Pastor Les Parmentor officiating. Burial will be at the Crofton City Cemetery.

Visitation is 5-8 p.m. Tuesday at the Wintz Funeral Home,

Crofton. Visitation will continue one hour prior to services at the church on Wednesday.

Tyler Gilpin

Tyler Gilpin, 30, of Santee, Neb., died unexpectedly at his home on Saturday, Feb. 16, 2013.

Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home and Crematory, Yankton, is in charge of the arrangements.

Blast From The Past Breakfast Special \$3.95
Monday-Friday 6am-11am
Yesterday's Cafe
2216 Broadway

HONORING THEIR MEMORY
Our Thoughts And Prayers Are With Them

Our care and concern does not end with the funeral service. This week we remember with family and friends the anniversary of the deaths of:

Eleanor E. Lindner
who passed away on
February 22, 2012

Lucy Anne Swoboda
who passed away on
February 22, 2012

Bradley 'Mahoney' S. Stepp
who passed away on
February 24, 2012

Jean Hunhoff
who passed away on
February 22, 2003

This remembrance is brought to you free of charge. If you have a loved one you would like remembered, contact us at Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory. Guiding and serving families with compassion and trust.

OPSAHL-KOSTEL FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY INC.
Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton
Memorial Resource Center, Tyndall
Memorial Chapels, Tyndall, Tabor & Menno
665-9679 • 1-800-495-9679
www.opsahl-kostelfuneralhome.com

WINTZ & RAY FUNERAL HOME and Cremation Service, Inc.

*Sharing Your Grief
Honoring Memories
Celebrating Life
Helping You Heal*

2901 Douglas Ave., Yankton
605-665-3644
visit us at wintzrayfuneralhome.com

Directors: Steve, Jerry, Jim and Paul Wintz