

Feds Foil Plot To Attack Federal Reserve

NEW YORK (AP) — A Bangladeshi man who came to the United States to wage jihad was arrested in an elaborate FBI sting on Wednesday after attempting to blow up a fake car bomb outside the Federal Reserve building in Manhattan, authorities said.

Before trying to carry out the alleged terrorism plot, Quazi Mohammad Rezwanul Ahsan Nafis went to a warehouse to help assemble a 1,000-pound bomb using inert material, according to a criminal complaint. He also asked an undercover agent to videotape him saying, "We will not stop until we attain victory or martyrdom," the complaint said.

Agents grabbed the 21-year-old Nafis — armed with a cellphone he believed was rigged as a detonator — after he made several attempts to blow up the bomb inside a vehicle parked next to the Federal Reserve, the complaint said.

Authorities emphasized that the plot never posed an actual risk. However, they claimed the case demonstrated the value of using sting operations to neutralize young extremists eager to harm Americans. "Attempting to destroy a landmark building and kill or maim untold numbers of innocent bystanders is about as serious as the imagination can conjure," said Mary Galligan, acting head of the FBI's New York office. "The defendant faces appropriately severe consequences."

Skydiver's Feat Could Influence Space Training

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Now that the dust has settled in the New Mexico desert where supersonic skydiver "Fearless Felix" Baumgartner landed safely on his feet, researchers are exhilarated over the possibility his exploit could someday help save the lives of pilots and space travelers in a disaster.

Baumgartner's death-defying jump Sunday from a balloon 24 miles above Earth yielded a wealth of information about the punishing effects of extreme speed and altitude on the human body — insights that could inform the development of improved spacesuits, new training procedures and emergency medical treatment.

A NASA engineer who specializes in astronaut escape systems said Baumgartner's mission "gives us a good foundation" for improving the odds of survival for professional astronauts, space tourists and high-altitude pilots and passengers.

"What I would hope is that, perhaps, this is just the first step of many, many advancements to come" in emergency bailouts, said Dustin Gohmert, who heads NASA's crew survival engineering office at the Johnson Space Center in Houston.

In an interview after Baumgartner became the first skydiver to break the speed of sound, Gohmert noted that researchers have spent decades working on self-contained space escape systems, with no significant advances since Joe Kittinger in 1960 jumped from 19.5 miles up and reached 614 mph, records that stood until Sunday.

Violent Crimes Up By 18 Percent In U.S.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Violent crimes unexpectedly jumped 18 percent last year, the first rise in nearly 20 years, and property crimes rose for first time in a decade. But academic experts said the new government data fall short of signaling a reversal of the long decline in crime.

The U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics reported Wednesday that the increase in the number of violent crimes was the result of an upward swing in simple assaults, which rose 22 percent, from 4 million in 2010 to 5 million last year. The incidence of rape, sexual assault and robbery remained largely unchanged, as did serious violent crime involving weapons or injury.

Property crimes were up 11 percent in 2011, from 15.4 million in 2010 to 17 million, according to the bureau's annual national crime victimization survey. Household burglaries rose 14 percent, from 3.2 million to 3.6 million. The number of thefts jumped by 10 percent, from 11.6 million to 12.8 million.

The statistics bureau said the percentage increases last year were so large primarily because the 2011 crime totals were compared to historically low levels of crime in 2010. Violent crime has fallen by 65 percent since 1993, from 16.8 million to 5.8 million last year.

"2011 may be worse than 2010, but it was also the second-best in recent history," said Northeastern University criminology professor James Alan Fox.

OBITUARIES

Leonard Layne Jr.

Leonard Layne Jr., 77, of Scotland, SD, died Tuesday, October 16, 2012 at the VA Medical Center in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Funeral services are 10:30 a.m., on Friday, October 19, 2012 at Christ Episcopal Church in Yankton, South Dakota with Reverend James Pearson officiating. Burial will be in the Garden of Memories Cemetery in Yankton with military honors provided by the Ernest-Bowyer VFW Post No. 791. Visitation is from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., on Thursday, at the Wintz & Ray Funeral Home in Yankton with a prayer service at 7:00 p.m. Visitation resumes one hour prior to the funeral service at the church.

Leonard was born April 21, 1935 in Yankton, South Dakota to Leonard Sr. and Minnie (Remington) Layne. He grew up in Yankton where he attended Grove School and Yankton High School. Then Leonard enlisted in the United States Air Force. He served as an Air Policeman in England and Germany during



Layne

After his discharge, they moved to Yankton and Leonard worked for Yaggie Mills and then with sales and delivery for Meadow Gold. After his military disability forced him to retire, they moved to Scotland, South Dakota where Leonard volunteered as a Boy Scout troop leader and golf's softball coach. He loved golfing, bowling, hunting and fishing. Leonard enjoyed his Shortwave Radio and CB Club. He was also a member of the Moose Lodge and VFW in Yankton and very active at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Scotland. Leonard was a jovial, friendly, cordial man who loved to visit and didn't know a stranger. Above all, he treasured the time spent with his family.

the Korean War, obtaining the rank of Airman First Class. While serving in England, Leonard met Frances "Vera" Story and they were united in marriage on April 27, 1957.

Leonard is survived by three children: Clinton A. (Raelene) Layne of rural Tabor, SD, Leslie Genimatas and Leo Scott Layne both of Scotland, SD; four sisters: Shirley Broz of St. Helena, NE, Kay (Hal) Kellogg of La Barge, WY, Jan (Dennis) Mines of Yankton and Barb (John) Schneider of Yankton; and many nieces and nephews.

Leonard was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Frances "Vera" on May 10, 2010; son, Howard V. Layne; grandson, Clinton A. Layne II; brother, Robert "Bob" Layne; two sisters, Betty Sherman and Alice Bush.

To post an online sympathy message, please visit wintzrayfuneralhome.com.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
October 17, 2012



Online condolences at:
www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com

Visitation will begin one hour prior to services on Saturday at the church. To send online condolences, visit www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com.

James 'Jim' Teusink Jr.

ABERDEEN — James "Jim" Teusink Jr. 65, of Aberdeen died Tuesday, Oct. 16, 2012, at his home.

Arrangements are pending with Carlsen Funeral Home and Crematory, Aberdeen. Visit www.carlsenfh.com

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YOUR NEWS! THE PRESS & DAKOTAN

Obama, Romney Vie For Women Voters

BY DAVID ESPO AND KEN THOMAS
 Associated Press

MOUNT VERNON, Iowa (AP) — One day after their contentious, finger-pointing debate, President Barack Obama and Republican Mitt Romney vied aggressively for the support of women voters Wednesday, as they and their running mates charged across nearly a half-dozen battleground states in the close race for the White House with 20 days to run.

Not even Republicans disputed that Obama's debate performance was much stronger than the listless showing two weeks earlier that helped spark a rise in the polls for Romney. The two rivals meet one more time, next Monday in Florida.

The first post-debate polls were divided, some saying Romney won, others finding Obama did. At least some of the voters who asked the questions in the town-hall style encounter remained uncommitted. "If Gov. Romney could actually provide the jobs, that would be a good thing because we really need them," said Nina Gonzalez, a 2008 Obama voter, neatly summarizing the uncertainty confronting voters in a slow-growth, high-unemployment economy.

Obama wore a pink wristband to show support for Breast Cancer Awareness Month as he campaigned in Iowa and then Ohio, and reminded his audience that the first legislation he signed after becoming president made it easier for women to take pay grievances to court.

Romney took no position on that bill when it passed Congress, and his campaign says he would not seek its repeal. But Obama chided him, saying, "That shouldn't be a complicated question. Equal pay for equal work."

He also jabbed at Romney's remark during Tuesday night's debate that as Massachusetts governor, he received "whole binders full of women" after saying he wanted to appoint more of them to his administration. "We don't have to collect a bunch of binders to find qualified, talented women," he said.

U.S. Embassy In Stockholm Evacuated

STOCKHOLM (AP) — The U.S. Embassy in Stockholm was evacuated Wednesday after receiving a letter containing an unknown substance, police said.

Bomb disposal experts were sent to the embassy to remove the letter and analyze its contents. Streets around the embassy were closed but reopened after police had removed the letter.

Police declined to give details on the content but police spokesman Daniel Granstrom told Swedish tabloid *Expressen* it contained some kind of "powder."

Asked if the substance was dangerous, he said "it may have been dangerous, but it's not dangerous now."

Election 2012

BY CONNIE CASS
 Associated Press

WASHINGTON — This is presidential? They bicker, interrupt, talk over the moderator.

To some, the Obama-Romney rematch was squirm-inducing. But shedding some dignity probably won't cost the candidates much. Since both President Barack Obama and challenger Mitt Romney came out swinging, neither was likely to claim a decisive advantage among viewers who thought the debate smacked of the wrong type of reality TV. And many backers who were already lined up on the two sides of the super-heated race were looking for a scrappy face-off.

"In the world of 'The Real Housewives,' everybody needs to turn over a table from time to time," said Evan Cornog, dean of the Communications School at Hofstra University, where Tuesday night's debate took place. "How good that is for the republic. I don't know."

The presidency isn't a person,

Pheasant

From Page 1

Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Department.

Pheasant hunting has always been a South Dakota pastime, but tourism officials over the past decade have turned the season into a nationwide draw.

In 2002, the number of nonresident pheasant hunters exceeded residents for the first time. Last year, the state licensed more than 95,000 nonresident pheasant hunters and about 69,000 resident small game hunters.

Hunters who flock to Huron, about 130 miles northwest of Sioux Falls, are excited about the 38 percent jump in the area's pheasant count, said Megan Benker, convention and sales director for the Huron Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau.

"Our hotels are already all full,

it's an institution. And Americans traditionally expect presidents seeking re-election to maintain a certain level of decorum. Challengers get more leeway but still are expected to pay deference to the office of chief executive, if not to the man. Maybe that tradition is doomed in a conflict-addicted popular culture where even television cooking shows are "throwdowns."

Can the notion of the dignity of office survive the era of flash analysis, when a phrase like "binders full of women" launches a thousand Internet jokes — while the debate's still in progress — and campaigns spin the matchup into attack ads within hours?

The tone of Tuesday's faceoff was embraced by Democrats who were dismayed by Obama's dreary performance in the first of this year's three debates. They had urged him to adopt a more brass-knuckles style.

When Obama stepped up to meet Romney's hard-charging persona, the result was a presidential campaign matchup that stands

and we're looking for a great season this year," Benker said.

Hunters killed more than 1.5 million pheasants last year, when brood counts showed a pheasants-per-mile index of 3.57. Surveys conducted this summer show a pheasants-per-mile index of 4.21, according to the wildlife department.

The pheasant population had taken a hit over the past few years, especially along eastern South Dakota's I-29 corridor and its population centers, Runia said.

Brookings, which has seen heavy winter snow and big spring rains, saw its brood count numbers jump by more than 71 percent to 1.93 pheasants-per-mile this year. Fields around Watertown and Aberdeen are seeing 50-percent jumps.

The increases are more tempered in the central part of the state, where a dry spring failed to produce the new spring grass growth the birds like for nesting.

Outdoor enthusiasts said the short-term trends are great, but

Colorado (9), Nevada (6), Ohio (18) and Wisconsin (10).

As the campaign days dwindled down, the number of television commercials rose higher. According to media buyers who track ads, target voters in the area around Cleveland can expect to see an average of about 120 ads next week paid for by the two candidates and groups supporting them — more than 17 a day. There were similar, if somewhat less intense campaign-by-commercials under way across all the battleground states.

In many cases — Florida, Ohio, Wisconsin, Virginia, Nevada among them — competitive races for the Senate and even House contests added to the bombardment. So, too, campaign brochures, piling up in mailboxes earlier than past elections because of widespread pre-election day voting.

There was little mystery in the candidates' concentration on women voters. An AP-GfK survey taken in mid-September, when Obama was leading in the opinion polls, found that 8 percent of all likely votes were women who were either undecided or said they might change their minds.

Polls since the first debate two weeks ago show gains for Romney among women voters, a shift that Obama can ill afford given the traditional Republican advantage among men.

Democrats rebutted Romney's memory of the binders he received as the newly elected governor of Massachusetts in 2002.

On a conference call arranged by the Democratic National Committee, a former executive director of the Massachusetts Government Appointments Project said the group provided the resumes of women qualified for appointment unprompted. "To be perfectly clear, Mitt Romney did not request" them, said Jesse Mermell.

Romney quickly countered with a combination testimonial and fundraising appeal from Kerry Healey, who was his lieutenant governor in Massachusetts. She said he had named numerous women to his administration, adding, "He sought out our counsel, and he listened to our advice. We didn't always agree, but we were always respected."

out as one of the most rancorous on live TV, especially for an event in which the candidates were on-stage with everyday folks, fielding their earnest questions. Whether that was good or bad, it was one of the most exciting to watch.

Romney turned to the president and posed his own accusatory questions, demanding answers. When Romney made a point, Obama would shoot back, "Governor, that's not true." Six times he declared Romney's words "not true."

Maribeth McCarthy of Alexandria, Va., said watching the back-and-forth left her wishing that moderator Candy Crowley could bang a giant gong whenever someone fibbed.

"I don't understand how it's right for people to call each other liars on stage," said McCarthy, a vice president at a financial institution, who said she expects to vote for Obama but wasn't happy with either candidate in the debate. "How on earth would we know who's right?"

they worry that a continued decrease in land enrolled in the federal Conservation Reserve Program could pose a longer-term threat. The voluntary program encourages farmers and ranchers to enter into multi-year contracts with the U.S. Department of Agriculture to plant vegetation cover suited for wildlife.

Runia said some 225,000 acres of CRP in the state expired Aug. 1, and most of that acreage will be plowed in late fall or the spring for crop production.

And in August, the U.S. Agriculture Department approved emergency haying and grazing on additional CRP land in an effort to help drought-stricken farmers and ranchers who needed livestock feed.

The USDA emergency order came after the pheasant hens' main nesting season, so the cut CRP hay shouldn't negatively affect this year's population, Runia said.

"But we might see a little bit of an effect next year," he said.

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Erna Pietz

Funeral services for Erna R. Pietz, 94, of Tripp will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, October 20 at Frieden's Reformed Church in Tripp with Rev. Greg Way officiating. Interment will follow in Frieden's Cemetery, Tripp.

Visitation will be held on Friday from 3-7 p.m., with a prayer service at 7 p.m., at the Goglin Funeral Home in Tripp. Erna passed away on Tuesday, October 16, 2012 at the Good Samaritan Society of Tripp.

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

Goglin Funeral Home
 Tyndall - Scotland - Tripp

www.goglinfh.com