

Doctors Without Borders Leaves City

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — The U.S. and Afghan governments vowed Sunday to jointly investigate the attack on a hospital in Kunduz that killed 22 people, as street-by street battles continued between government forces and Taliban fighters and officials warned of a looming humanitarian crisis for civilians trapped in the city.

Amid accusations that U.S. jet fighters were responsible for what Doctors Without Borders said was a "sustained bombing" of their trauma center in Kunduz, President Barack Obama and Afghanistan's President Ashraf Ghani promised investigations. Obama said he expected a full accounting of the circumstances surrounding the bombing, and that he would wait for those results before making a judgment. He said the U.S. would continue working with Afghanistan's government and its overseas partners to promote security in Afghanistan.

Some top U.S. officials said the circumstances surrounding the incident remain murky, but others indicated the U.S. may have been responsible. Army Col. Brian Tribus, a spokesman for American forces in Afghanistan, said Saturday that a U.S. airstrike "in the Kunduz vicinity" around 2:15 a.m. Saturday morning "may have resulted in collateral damage to a nearby medical facility."

U.S. officials speaking on condition of anonymity said American special operations forces advising Afghan commandos in the vicinity of the hospital requested the air support when they came under fire in Kunduz. The officials said the AC-130 gunship responded and fired on the area, but U.S. Secretary of Defense Ash Carter said it's not certain yet whether that was what destroyed the hospital.

The officials were not authorized to discuss the incident publicly. They also said the senior U.S. military investigator is in Kunduz but hasn't yet been able to get to the site because it continues to be a contested area between the Afghans and the Taliban militants.

Chaffetz Confronting Establishment

WASHINGTON (AP) — One-time college placekicker Jason Chaffetz wants to boot Republican House leaders off their path to promotions.

Chaffetz declared Sunday that he's running to replace retiring House Speaker John Boehner, even though Boehner has chosen Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy as his successor, and upend the would-be GOP leadership slate.

It's not a new role for Chaffetz. The 48-year-old chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee has never been shy about seeking leading roles in politics. He's climbed the power ladder through a mix of media savvy and confrontations with some establishment favorites. And despite having strong family roots in Democratic politics — his father was the Utah co-chairman for Michael Dukakis' presidential campaign in 1988 and was once married to Dukakis' wife, Kitty — Chaffetz entered Congress in 2009 ideologically aligned with the tea party-tinged class that propelled the GOP into the House majority two years later.

It's far from clear that Chaffetz will win enough support in the House's complex selection process. Within moments of his announcement, Republicans friendly to McCarthy raised questions about his fitness for the post. But Chaffetz insists that the biggest House majority in decades needs an overhaul at the top, and that he's being called to lead it.

"I've had enough members who've come and said, 'Please Jason, do this,'" Chaffetz said on Fox News Sunday. "We don't want to fight internally. But realistically, we can't vote to promote the existing leadership."

Fears Of Another Intifada Stoked

JERUSALEM (AP) — A series of grisly Palestinian attacks that killed several Israeli civilians has prompted the government to take unprecedented security measures amid growing public debate over whether the specter of another Palestinian Intifada, or uprising, is on the horizon.

Israel's prime minister vowed a "harsh offensive" to counter rising violence that has focused in recent weeks over Jerusalem's most sensitive holy site sacred to both Muslims and Jews, in a series of so-called "lone wolf" Palestinian attacks against Israelis. On Sunday, Israel announced that Palestinians would be temporarily barred from Jerusalem's Old City, the first time Israel has taken this step since it captured the Old City in the 1967 Mideast War.

The latest spike in violence comes at a time when many Palestinians no longer believe statehood through negotiations with Israel is possible. Israeli commentators have raised the possibility of a third uprising, though Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas has so far prevented major outbreaks of violence despite his growing friction with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

OBITUARIES

Sherry Fischer

Sherry Fischer, 63, of Scotland, South Dakota passed away on Friday, October 2, 2015 at Sanford Hospital in Sioux Falls.

Memorial services will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 7 at Zion Lutheran Church, Scotland with Rev. Jonathan Vehar officiating. Visitation will be held 1 hour prior to the service. Burial will follow in the Rosehill Cemetery, Scotland.

Funeral arrangements are being handled by Goglin Funeral Home of Scotland. Online condolences may be sent at www.goglinfh.com.

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Elvin Parish

Elvin W. Parish, 96, of Yankton, passed away Saturday, Oct. 3, 2015, at Good Samaritan Society, Scotland.

Funeral services will be 2 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 8, 2015, at 1st Assembly, Yankton, with the Rev. Jeff Mantz officiating. Burial will be in the Yankton Cemetery, Yankton with Military Graveside Rites by the

Ernest-Bowyer VFW Post #791 Honor Guard and the SDARNG Honor Guard.

Visitations will be 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 7, at the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton, and then one hour prior to the service at the church.

To send an online condolence go to: www.opsahl-kostelfuneralhome.com.

Historic South Carolina Floods: Heavy Rain, Hundreds Rescued

BY SEANNA ADCOX
Associated Press

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Hundreds were rescued from fast-moving floodwaters Sunday in South Carolina as days of driving rain hit a dangerous crescendo that buckled buildings and roads, closed a major East Coast interstate route and threatened the drinking water supply for the capital city.

The powerful rainstorm dumped more than a foot of rain overnight on Columbia, swamping hundreds of businesses and homes. Emergency workers waded into waist-deep water to help people trapped in cars, dozens of boats fanned out to rescue people in flooded neighborhoods and some were plucked from rooftops by helicopters.

Officials said it could take weeks or even months to assess every road and bridge that's been closed around the state. Several interstates around Columbia were closed, and so was a 75-mile stretch of Interstate 95 that is a key route connecting Miami to Washington, D.C. and New York.

"This is different than a hurricane because it is water, it is slow moving and it is sitting. We can't just move the water out," Gov. Nikki Haley said at a news conference.

One death was reported in the area on Sunday, bringing weather-related deaths to seven since the storm began days earlier.

People were told to stay off roads and remain indoors until floodwaters recede, and a curfew was issued for Columbia and across two surrounding counties. The capital city



TRACY GLANTZ/THE STATE/TNS

Barricades block the flooded intersection of Monroe and Maple streets in Columbia, S.C., on Sunday. Several streets and neighborhoods are flooded in Columbia as heavy rains from Hurricane Joaquin fall.

told all 375,000 of its water customers to boil water before drinking because of water line breaks and the threat of rising water to a treatment plant. Nearly 30,000 customers were without power at one point.

State forecasters said another 2-6 inches could fall around the state, and it could be Tuesday before skies are sunny. The rainstorm around the Southeast has drawn tropical moisture from offshore that's linked up with an area of low pressure and a slow-moving front.

Local officials counted several hundred water rescues by mid-morning before Columbia Fire Chief Aubry Jenkins said in an interview that there were too many rescues to keep count.

"We're just trying to get to everyone," Jenkins said. "But there are places we just haven't gotten to."

One of the hardest hit

areas in Columbia was near Gills Creek, where a weather station recorded more than 18 inches of rain — or more than a third of the city's average yearly rainfall — nearly all of it in 24 hours. The creek was 10 feet above flood stage, spilling floodwaters that almost reached the stoplights at a four-lane intersection.

Vladimir Gorin said he led his 57-year-old aunt through floodwaters about 7 feet deep surrounding her apartment near Gills Creek. He said his aunt, Wanda Laboy, waited several hours after calling 911, so family came to help.

"She's very distressed right now," said Gorin, 38. "She lost everything."

His aunt, who didn't appear to be injured, was heading with her nephew to his house in an unflooded area of Columbia, he said.

"I'm trying to find my way back home, and every road

that we've taken is blocked or flooded," he said in a phone interview.

Emergency shelters were being opened around the state for displaced residents, and President Barack Obama declared a state of emergency in South Carolina.

Along the coast, rainfall had exceeded two feet since Friday in some areas around Charleston, though conditions had improved enough that residents and business owners were allowed downtown on a limited basis.

Charleston Mayor Joe Riley said he's never seen flooding as bad in his 40 years as mayor.

"This was a record storm," he said. "You know the amount of rainfall that we have experienced is unprecedented. I feel very fortunate that we were able to get through this as well as we have."

Ore. Shooter Showed Little Sympathy During Killings

BY GOSIA WOZNIAKA
Associated Press

ROSEBURG, Ore. — The gunman had already shot several students at close range when he stood inches from Lacey Scroggins and demanded she stand up.

It was only the fourth day of community college for the 18-year-old aspiring surgeon. She was face down, her head tucked between her outstretched arms, among dead and dying classmates.

Scroggins could hear someone gurgling. She felt the weight of mortally wounded Treven Anspach against her, the 20-year-old's blood flowing onto her clothing.

She prayed and played dead, frozen to the floor. The killer stepped over her and shot someone else.

In a rampage lasting about 10 minutes, Christopher

Harper-Mercer took nine lives Thursday morning in chilling fashion before killing himself as officers closed in, placing the small town of Roseburg among settings that have become infamous for inexplicable violence.

In addition to slain English professor Lawrence Levine, the dead and nine wounded were students young and old — some high school aged, others just beginning college and some starting over after a broken marriage, drug abuse or in hopes of a new career.

The rural Umpqua Community College on nearly 100 acres of pastureland along the North Umpqua River has about 3,200 students in this southwestern Oregon community, where the struggling timber industry is no longer seen as a path to the future. Its website said it offered "a peaceful, safe atmosphere."

The school term had just begun and Levine's 10 a.m. introductory composition class was underway when Mercer-Harper arrived on campus not with books, but with a small arsenal of weapons that included five handguns, a semi-automatic rifle, five magazines of ammunition and a flak jacket.

The young man was described as an awkward loner who had flunked out of Army basic training and lived with his mother. His social media profile suggested he

was frustrated with organized religion and had studied mass shootings.

Those who knew him said they never expected what would happen next.

Scroggins heard a pop and noticed a hole in a classroom window, according to a detailed account provided by her father, Pastor Randy Scroggins.

Harper-Mercer, 26, who was enrolled in the class but had showed no signs of anger

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Sessions will be held in Hartington in the spring.


Monday Session Topics:

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| Oct. 5 | Expectations on the Journey |
| Oct. 12 | Embracing the Uniqueness of Your Grief |
| Oct. 19 | Exploring the Grief |
| Oct. 26 | Experiencing Life Beyond |

Presenter: Sheila Kramer, Aftercare Coordinator Sheila is the aftercare coordinator for the Wintz Funeral Homes. She received her Master's Degree in School Counseling with an emphasis in Community Counseling and has over 24 years of counseling experience.



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