

Station Triggers Standoff Near Camp

BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP) — Thousands of people desperate to reach Western Europe rushed into a Budapest train station Thursday after police ended a two-day blockade, setting off a wave of anger and confusion as hundreds shoved their way onto a waiting train. But when it tried to drop them off at a Hungarian camp for asylum seekers, a bitter showdown began.

One man threw his wife and infant son onto the tracks, screaming in Arabic, "We won't move from here!" Police surrounded the prone family, pulled the husband away and handcuffed him as he wailed. His wife and diaper-clad boy — apparently uninjured despite their stumbling descent onto the tracks — were freed and allowed to rejoin other migrants.

The scene of desperation was just one of many that unfolded Thursday as tempers flared in Hungary's war of wills with migrants trying to evade asylum checks and reach Western Europe, a showdown with consequences for the entire continent.

As Hungary's anti-immigrant prime minister warned European partners that he intends to make his country's borders an impassable fortress for new arrivals, his government struggled to coax thousands of unwanted visitors away from the Budapest transportation hub that has been turned into a squalid refugee camp.

People fleeing war and poverty in the Middle East, Asia and Africa rushed into the Keleti train terminal when police unexpectedly withdrew Thursday morning, ending a blockade designed to stop migrants from boarding trains to their desired destinations in Germany and Austria.

Photo Of Dead Child Evokes Past Tragedy

The photo of the dead 3-year-old Syrian boy on a Turkish beach is haunting.

It captures everything we don't want to see when we tap our phones or open our newspapers: a vicious civil war, a surge of refugees, the death of an innocent.

The image of little Aylan Kurdi is hammering home the Syrian migrant crisis to the world, largely through social media. Aylan died along with his 5-year-old brother and their mother when their small rubber boat capsized as it headed for Greece. The Associated Press distributed the photos to its subscribers. The photos were from the Turkish news agency DHA.

"It is a very painful picture to view," said Peter Bouckaert, who as director of emergencies at Human Rights Watch has witnessed his fair share of painful scenes. "It had me in tears when it first showed up on my mobile phone. I had to think hard whether to share this."

But share, he did. Bouckaert, who is in Hungary watching the crisis unfold, said people need to be pushed to look at the "ghastly spectacle" so they can, in turn, prod governments to help the suffering Syrian people.

Guatemala Swears In New President

GUATEMALA CITY (AP) — Guatemala's newly sworn-in president demanded that all top government officials submit their resignations and promised an honest and inclusive administration following the surprise resignation earlier Thursday of President Otto Perez Molina amid a widening fraud investigation.

President Alejandro Maldonado reached out to protesters who took to the streets against the country's entrenched corruption, promising he would "leave a legacy of honesty" and restore faith in Guatemala's democracy in his brief few months in office.

"You can't consider your work done," Maldonado said in remarks aimed at all those demanding change. "In what is left of this year, there must be a positive response."

The unprecedented political drama played out after a week in which Perez Molina was stripped of his immunity, deserted by key members of his cabinet, and saw his jailed former vice president ordered to stand trial. All this just days before Sunday's election to choose his successor.

As Maldonado took office, Perez Molina was in court hearing accusations that he was involved in a scheme in which businesspeople paid bribes to avoid import duties through Guatemala's customs agency. He is the first Guatemalan president to resign.

Prosecutor Seek Death Penalty For Man

CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP) — The white man accused of killing nine black churchgoers in the what authorities said was a racially motivated crime during Bible study will face a death penalty trial, even though not all the victims' families agree with capital punishment, a prosecutor said Thursday.

Solicitor Scarlett Wilson said Thursday that some crimes are just so heinous they require the most serious punishment the state can give.

"This was the ultimate crime, and justice from our state calls for the ultimate punishment," Wilson said, reading a three-minute statement outside her Charleston office. She took no questions.

Wilson filed paperwork saying she would seek the death penalty against 21-year-old Dylann Roof a few hours before her statement. Her reasons: more than two people were killed and others' lives were put at risk.

Roof is charged under U.S. hate crime laws as well, and federal prosecutors haven't decided if they will also seek the death penalty. Federal authorities have said Roof wrote online of fomenting racial violence and used racial slurs in a personal manuscript in which he decried integration.

Clinton Urged Dept. Employee To Speak

WASHINGTON (AP) — Aides to presidential candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton urged a former State Department employee who helped set up her private email server to appear before a House investigative panel, but the former staffer has said he will assert his constitutional right not to testify.

Clinton, the Democratic front-runner for the 2016 nomination, has been dogged by criticism about her use of a private email server for government business during her tenure as secretary of state, and she has struggled to explain her decision.

The response of Bryan Pagliano to a committee subpoena was an unwelcome news to Clinton aides who had pressed him to be interviewed by the GOP-led panel investigating the deadly 2012 terrorist attack in Benghazi, Libya.

The aides were not authorized to publicly discuss private conversations and spoke only on condition of anonymity.

Attorneys for Pagliano sent the committee a letter Monday saying their client would not testify at a hearing planned for next week. The panel subpoenaed Pagliano last month. Pagliano was a State Department employee from 2009 to 2013 and is now a private contractor working in the department's Bureau of Information Resource Management, according to a department official who asked not to be identified when discussing personnel matters.

Biden Unsure If He Will Seek Presidency

ATLANTA (AP) — Vice President Joe Biden said Thursday he was unsure if he will seek the Democratic presidential nomination, telling a Jewish audience that his decision will hinge on whether he and his family have the "emotional energy to run."

"Unless I can go to my party and the American people and say that I am able to devote my whole heart and my whole soul to this endeavor, it would not be appropriate," Biden said, responding to a question following a foreign policy address.

Biden offered his most extensive remarks regarding his deliberations about entering a Democratic primary race that includes front-runner Hillary Rodham Clinton, Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders and others. His entry would shake up the race at a time when some Democrats would like to see more options, with Clinton's campaign struggling with questions over her use of email when she was secretary of state.

The vice president, who unsuccessfully sought the White House in 1988 and 2008 before becoming Obama's running mate, said he did not know if he would seek a campaign that would come months after the death of his 46-year-old son, Beau Biden.

"The most relevant factor in my decision is whether my family and I have the emotional energy to run," Biden said, responding to a question posed by his longtime friend, Stuart Eizenstat, a former U.S. ambassador to the European Union.

Clerks To License Marriages As Their Boss Is Jailed

ADAM BEAM

Associated Press

ASHLAND, Ky. — A defiant county clerk went to jail Thursday for refusing to issue marriage licenses to gay couples, but five of her deputies agreed to issue the licenses themselves, potentially ending the church-state standoff in Rowan County, Kentucky.

U.S. District Judge David Bunning said he had no choice but to jail Kim Davis for contempt after she insisted that her "conscience will not allow" her to follow federal court rulings on gay marriage.

"God's moral law conflicts with my job duties," Davis told the judge before she was taken away by a U.S. marshal. "You can't be separated from something that's in your heart and in your soul."

Bunning offered to release Davis if she would promise not to interfere with her employees issuing marriage licenses on Friday morning. But Davis, through her attorneys, rejected that offer and chose to stay in jail.

Gay and lesbian couples vowed to appear at the Rowan County clerk's office for the fifth time on Friday to see if the deputy clerks would keep their promises.

"We're going to the courthouse tomorrow to get our marriage license and we're very excited about that," said April Miller, who has been engaged to Karen Roberts for 11 years.

As word of Davis' jailing spread outside the federal courthouse, hundreds of people chanted and screamed, "Love wins! Love wins!" while Davis' supporters booed.

Davis' lawyer, Roger Gannam, said it was the first time in history an American citizen has been jailed for believing that marriage is a union between one man and one woman. He compared her willingness to accept imprisonment to what Martin Luther King Jr. did to advance civil rights.

"Kim Davis represents the best of us and everyone should lament and mourn the fact that her freedom has been taken away for what she believes," Gannam said.

Laura Landenwich, an attorney for the plaintiffs, rejected the comparison.

"Ms. Davis is in an unfortunate situation of her own creation. She is not a martyr. No one created a martyr today," Landenwich said, adding "she holds the keys to her jail cell."

Speaking earlier from the bench, Bunning said it would set up a "slippery slope" to allow an individual's ideas to supersede the courts' authority.



CHARLES BERTRAM/LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER/TNS

Kim Davis supporter John Williams, left, argues with Kim Davis protestor Becky Lucie in front of the Carl D. Perkins Federal Building in Ashland, Ky., on Thursday, Sept. 3. Davis was found guilty by U.S. District Judge David Bunning of contempt of court for refusing to issue marriage licenses in Rowan County, Ky.

"Her good faith belief is simply not a viable defense," Bunning said. "I myself have genuinely held religious beliefs ... but I took an oath."

"Mrs. Davis took an oath," he added. "Oaths mean things."

Davis is represented by the Liberty Counsel, which advocates in court for religious freedom. Before she was led away, Davis said the U.S. Supreme Court ruling legalizing gay marriage nationwide conflicts with the vows she made when she became a born-again Christian.

"I promised to love Him with all my heart, mind and soul because I wanted to make heaven my home," Davis said.

Miller and Roberts were denied a marriage license four times by Davis or her deputies since the June ruling. Miller testified that one of the deputy clerks told her to apply in another county. "That's kind of like saying we don't want gays or lesbians here. We don't think you are valuable," she said.

Rather than be fined, jailed or lose their jobs, five of the clerks told the judge they would issue the licenses. Her son, Nathan Davis, refused, but the judge said that wouldn't matter and he wouldn't be punished, as long as the others complied.

Manhunt Could Bring Subdued Holiday In Recreation Area

DON BABWIN

Associated Press

FOX LAKE, Ill. — The manhunt for three suspects wanted in the killing of an Illinois police officer threatened Thursday to dampen the Labor Day weekend across one of the state's most popular recreational areas, a boating and fishing playground known as the Chain O' Lakes.

The region normally draws tens of thousands of visitors for end-of-summer fun, but concerns mounted that tourists might decide to go elsewhere because of the heavy police presence and fear that the fugitives could be hiding somewhere in the lush landscape of lakes, wetlands and forest glens.

"People are concerned about those individuals.

And the few customers I get in here, that's all they talk about," said Marciano Martinez, co-owner of the popular Dockers restaurant, where diners can sit on a lakeside pier under plastic palm trees.

Also Thursday, authorities said they had recovered video from a homeowner's security system that could provide clues in the search for the three men suspected in the slaying of Lt. Charles Joseph Gliniewicz.

The homeowner told investigators the video shows three people near the scene of the shooting. The recording was turned over to the Department of Homeland Security for analysis, and results were expected later in the day, said Lake County Major Crime Task Force Cmdr. George Filenko. Searchers have been ham-

pered by the lack of a description of the suspects beyond the vague one that came from the officer, who told dispatchers only that he was pursuing three suspicious men — two white, one black — moments before he was shot.

Investigators had not yet viewed the video because specialized equipment is needed to retrieve the footage from a hard drive. Authorities did not explain how the homeowner was able to see it.

In the days since Gliniewicz's death in Fox Lake, images of the sleepy village north of Chicago have circulated widely: helicopters hovering over marinas, forests and homes; officers with rifles at

the ready; and SWAT on rooftops with binoculars.

Business at Dockers was already down by half since the officer was slain, Martinez said. And unless the suspects are captured, having killers on the loose could drastically hurt business on the last big weekend of the summer.

At another restaurant hugging the lake, El Puerto, several regular diners said they saw fewer jet skis and power boats than usual at this time of year. From a nearby sandbar, Immer Hernandez reported seeing just one boat where there are typically 20 to 60.

Asked if the manhunt was to blame, he said, "I'm sure that's what it is."



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We salute our employees and all of the hardworking Americans who keep our country moving forward with their dedication, determination and innovation. Happy Labor Day.



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