

Qatari Opens Fire at U.S.-Occupied Base

The Associated Press

DOHA, Qatar — A gunman opened fire Wednesday on U.S. and Qatari soldiers guarding an air base in this Persian Gulf country. The soldiers shot and killed the gunman, both countries said.

No other casualties were reported in the late morning shooting.

The attacker's motive was unknown. UNC is currently exploring the possibility of opening a branch of Kenan-Flagler Business School in the country.

The violence at Al-Adid Air Base, which is being used by U.S. military aircraft, came days before Qatar plays host to global financial decision-makers at key trade talks.

U.S. Trade Representative Robert Zoellick will head the American delegation for the discussions with 141 other nations.

Some members of the World Trade Organization had been wary of coming to the Gulf state because of heightened tension in the region linked to U.S. strikes on Afghanistan.

Qatar supports the U.S. war on terrorism, and American troops involved in the campaign are in the country.

The gunman fired at a security position manned by two U.S. personnel and a Qatari soldier, according to the U.S. Central Command.

The official Qatar News Agency said the gunman fired several times at the air base and the guards shot back, killing him instantly. It identified the gunman as Abdullah Mubarak al-Hajiri, a Qatari.

The Hamad Medical Establishment, a state body that supervises hospitals in Qatar, said in a statement that al-Hajiri had been diagnosed as suffering from symptoms of disturbed personality and unbalanced character. He was admitted to a psychological clinic in 1990.

In Washington, Pentagon spokeswoman Victoria Clarke declined to answer a question on how many U.S. soldiers or planes might have been at the base at the time.

The air base's security was "never compromised" during the shooting, Central Command said.

Last month, a U.S. master sergeant was killed in a forklift accident while building an air strip in Qatar, becoming the first U.S. casualty linked to the strikes on Afghanistan.

The base is about 30 miles south of the capital, Doha, where the WTO meeting kicks off on Friday.

White House spokesman Ari Fleischer said the shooting did not immediately appear connected to the WTO meeting. "That can change, of course."

FBI, Police Work to Find Robber

By SCOTT WARFIELD
Staff Writer

The Chapel Hill Police Department is working with the FBI to find a man who robbed a Wachovia Bank on Tuesday afternoon.

The bank, which is located off Airport Road on 101 Banks Drive near Interstate 40, was robbed at 12:52 p.m., reports state.

Chapel Hill Police Chief Gregg Jarvies said the Wachovia Bank is not believed to have had problems with robberies in the past.

The man, photographed by a surveillance camera, left the scene with an undetermined amount of cash, reports state.

The man entered the bank through the east entrance and handed a note demanding money to the teller, reports state.

Chapel Hill police are not releasing the contents of the note.

Police also are not ruling out the possibility that the man was armed.

"There was mention of his having a weapon," Jarvies said.

But it could not be confirmed that a weapon was present during the robbery, Jarvies said.

"No weapon was seen," he said.

As of Wednesday, officials said they had no suspects.

"We have nothing of yet," Jarvies said.

The investigation is under way.

Police have conducted several interviews of bank tellers and people who were present during the robbery, Jarvies said.

Along with key witnesses and a picture of the subject, police officials are receiving help on the case.

"We are working with the FBI," Jarvies said.

At this point, police believe the afternoon robbery was a solo act.

"It doesn't appear that anyone else was involved," Jarvies said.

"We are still looking into that possibility, though."

The City Editor can be reached at citydesk@unc.edu.

BERGER
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the attacks will be felt into the future but that the economy will adjust.

The general audience response was positive, despite a few antagonistic questions after the speech.

Sean Michnowicz, a sophomore peace, war, and defense major at UNC, said he was impressed that Berger was politically impartial during his speech.

"Despite ideological differences, he backed the president," Michnowicz said.

Linda Esner, a Chapel Hill resident, said Berger's speech was illuminating.

"He took a tremendous subject and made it understandable and uplifting."

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ELECTIONS
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threatened to force changes in both elections. Emily Margolis, Board of Elections chairwoman, said problems in one of the three Student Central servers caused errors for students logging on to vote between 7 a.m. and noon in all races.

Kristal Evans, a sophomore from Greenville, said she tried to vote three times before getting into the system. She also said the site was not open at 9 a.m. when she tried to log on. "It was so irritating."

But while many voters were met with error messages, some students were not aware the elections were taking place or decided not to vote. "I didn't try to vote today, but I'm not surprised there were computer problems," said Lee Bush, a junior from Charlotte. "There is always something wrong with Student Central."

Margolis said she did not feel the decision to postpone the District 17 race would negatively affect voter turnout because the candidates in that district, freshmen Natalie Russell and Anthony Stokes, have been very active. District 17 includes Craige and Ehringhaus residence halls and Odum Village.

But Stokes said that because all of his campaign materials advertised Nov. 7 as election day, many voters will not be aware of the postponement. He also said he was discouraged by voting problems because he thinks students need to see Congress as functioning effectively.

The University Editor can be reached at udek@unc.edu.

Although the Homecoming candidates said they were frustrated by the day's events, they said they were satisfied with how the Board of Elections handled the server breakdown.

Homecoming queen candidate Shayla Higginbotham said she and other candidates were not pressured into making a decision about postponing the election. "The board gave us ample time to decide," she said.

Margolis said Wednesday's problems resulted from an instrumental error and not a human one. She said she is confident the general elections in February will not have similar complications.

Young said candidates agreed that ending voting at the planned time was fair. "This is Chapel Hill, not Florida," he said. "We want to have a good election."

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CLINTON
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terrorist attacks didn't match its rhetoric.

Twomey said that although the Clinton administration did react less aggressively than the Bush administration is now, the amount of action matched the severity of the attacks. He also said the nation viewed the fight against terrorism differently. "We sort of look at Clinton now as being vastly soft," Twomey said. "However, before the (Sept. 11 attacks) the dominant paradigm of how we viewed terrorism was a law enforcement strategy, not a military one."

Bacevich also said there was little change in America's fight against terrorism when Bush took office. "The Bush administration wasn't waging a war on terrorism before September 11, much like Clinton," he said.

Others say conservative ideology has something to do with Bush's stance.

The State & National Editor can be reached at stntdesk@unc.edu.

"Bush comes from a long tradition of conservatives that feel there are inherently evil people and, no matter how they became that way, the solution is to hunt them down and kill them or put them in jail," said Ivan Arreguin-Toft, a Harvard University political science professor.

Bush also boasts strong public support. According to recent Gallup Polls, the approval ratings for Bush have been at or above the 80 percent mark. "I'm not convinced that Bush would be willing to risk substantial military casualties if he didn't have the public's support," Twomey said.

But he said the major shift in the thinking didn't come with the new administration — it came with the attacks on America. "We can't compare Bush after September 11 to Clinton," he said. "I think much more changed on September 11 than changed on January 20."

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Liz Barrett	Natalie Mayor
Natalie Berry	Heather Medlin
Elizabeth Bischoff	Rachel Meyer
Mandy Capps	Ashley Moody
Kendall Cline	Kindelle Morton
Louise Corder	Lizzy Moser
Leanna Degenhart	Brooke Moskovitz
Nancy Donaldson	Win McMurry
Beth Dulin	Ellen Parker
Blair Dunlap	Kirsten Paul
Lynn Fitch	Elizabeth Perry
Lauren Guy	Maggie Pitts
Suzanne Hancock	Mary Beth Rumley
Louisa Hassenfelt	Molly Smith
Margaret Ann Hughes	Whitney Tiernan
Sarah Kepley	Celine van Riemsdijk
Anna Knott	Jessica Weatherford
Morgan Lasater	Meg West
Christina Matthews	