

89 missing from Russian airlines

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MOSCOW — A Russian airliner crashed and a second disappeared from radar about the same time Tuesday night after both planes took off from the Moscow airport, raising fears that terrorism was involved.

There was no word on survivors among the 89 people believed to be aboard the planes, which left from Moscow's Domodedovo airport, Russian news agencies reported.

President Vladimir Putin ordered an investigation by the nation's top intelligence agency, and security was tightened at airports across the country.

Authorities have expressed concern that separatist rebels in the breakaway republic of Chechnya could carry out attacks linked to this Sunday's presidential election there.

Rebels have been blamed for a series of terror strikes that have claimed hundreds of lives.

Chechnya's previous president, the pro-Russian Akhmad Kadyrov, was killed by a bombing

in May.

Witnesses reported seeing an explosion before the first plane crashed about 125 miles south of Moscow, and authorities were not ruling out terrorism, the agency said.

The Interfax news agency said emergency workers spotted a fire about 600 miles south of Moscow in the region where the second plane went missing.

Putin ordered the Federal Security Service to investigate, Russian news agencies reported.

LAWSUIT

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with utmost diligence to be responsive and faithful to the United States Constitution and interpret it to the best of our ability with the best minds we have available."

The Campus Ministers' Association released a statement in support of the University's non-discrimination policy Monday.

"Each of us oversees religious student organizations that have

The service is the successor to the Soviet-era KGB.

A Tu-134 airliner with 43 people aboard crashed in the Tula region, 125 miles south of Moscow, at about 10:56 p.m. Tuesday, Emergency Situations Ministry spokeswoman Marina Ryklina said.

She said the plane was carrying 35 passengers and a crew of eight.

ITAR-Tass reported that the plane belonged to Volgograd-based airline Volga-Aviaexpress and was being piloted by the company's

director. Rescuers found the jet's tail near the village of Buchalki, Interfax reported.

A Tu-154 with 46 people aboard lost contact with flight officials about three minutes later near Rostov-on-Don, about 600 miles south of Moscow, Ryklina said.

The jet belonged to the Russian airline Sibir, which said the plane disappeared from radar screens, at about 11 p.m. Tuesday, Interfax reported.

There were 38 passengers and a crew of eight aboard.

been recognized and approved by the University," the statement reads. "None of our groups have experienced discrimination based on our particular form of religious expression by the University."

Association members said it was important to make a public statement on behalf of other campus faith groups.

"We're committed to the freedoms that the University is committed to as well," said Or Mars, executive director of N.C. Hillel. "Since we share that same commitment, we felt that it was impor-

tant to support the chancellor in his efforts."

Rep. Walter Jones, R-N.C., sent a letter to the Department of Education last week, requesting an investigation into the "ongoing problem of censorship of Christian students" at UNC.

Jane Glickman, a spokeswoman with the department, said Tuesday that it has yet to respond to Jones' letter and still is in the process of determining what action to take.

Contact the University Editor at uodesk@unc.edu.

SCHOOLKIDS

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store is similar to that of the old one: The bright walls are plastered with posters, though many of the shelves still were bare Tuesday morning.

The two stores are linked by computer, allowing cashiers to keep track of both stores' inventory in real time as customers make purchases.

"If they pick up a certain CD — say, the new Wilco CD — if we have a used copy (in the other store), it will show up on their system," Roberson said.

The new store will carry more

used vinyl records in response to increased demand, Culross said. Independently produced albums also are increasing in sales, he said.

"There has been a huge shift from the major labels," he said. "A lot of bands have left them."

Culross said Schoolkids, which has been around for 30 years, will continue to be a mainstay for music enthusiasts.

"There is a counterculture that needs to thrive," he said. "We're hoping to bring more and do more."

Contact the A&E Editor at artsdesk@unc.edu.

CAMPUS Y

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in the basement had caused mold to spread, damaging the building's wooden frame.

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Bruce Runberg, associate vice chancellor for planning and construction, told trustees during their May meeting that the top floors of the building had been condemned and were inaccessible.

He also said that recent flooding

of the building had caused mold to spread, damaging the building's wooden frame.

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CANCER

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cramped," Earp said. "The current building is not amenable to renovations (for) the high-tech research we want to do."

Dr. Richard Goldberg, the lead physician for the new N.C. Cancer Hospital, said patients are burdened by the structure.

The facility is unable to provide the full range of treatment and research for every patient simply because there isn't enough room. New technology doesn't physically fit in the building, patients are packed into overcrowded chemotherapy units and outpatient clinic facilities struggle to run smoothly.

Goldberg said that by tripling the size of the new facility, the clinical area will reach the same level of excellence as the research division.

He added that patients will be able to receive care and participate in experimental treatments that they might normally have to travel to receive.

"It's like one-stop shopping," Goldberg said.

The hospital system's board of

directors advanced \$2 million to the undertaking last year, Earp said, allowing preliminary plans to begin.

The new hospital already has retained an architectural and construction management firm, and the design for the developmental phase is complete.

Earp added that groundbreaking on the new facility could occur in late 2005 and that construction will start no later than 2006. The center is estimated to be complete in about three years.

The Lineberger Center now employs about 250 faculty members, and the new facility will draw in about 50 more within the next decade.

And the new hospital will add, in all, about 350 new jobs and will help attract more biotechnology and pharmaceutical research to Research Triangle Park.

"It's a reality much sooner because of the legislative funding," Goldberg said. "It's a great example of the state supporting the needs of the people of the state."

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RESEARCH

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ness and finance at Elizabeth City State University. He estimated that the project will generate 15 to 20 high-paying clinical faculty jobs, as well as 250 jobs from construction.

In addition, a UNC-CH report on the future N.C. Cancer Hospital said the facility is expected to generate \$405 million and 3,271 jobs by 2010. At ECU, the cardiovascular center is expected to generate 500 jobs, with immediate economic effects reaching \$300 million in construction and payroll. Long-term impacts could reach \$34 million per year, according to the press release.

The governor's office also is predicting that the medical centers will create an extra \$700 million in economic activity, in addition to 2,500 jobs from construction.

And they also could help the state's unemployment rate, which is already on a downward track.

The number of jobless North Carolinians dropped to 5 percent in July, down from 5.5 percent in June and considerably lower than

the 6.6 percent rate in July 2003.

The new facilities will create irreplaceable jobs, said Amy Fulk, press secretary for Senate President Pro Tem Marc Basnight, D-Dare. "The jobs that this will create in the health care field are jobs that can't be shipped to other places."

Crunching the numbers

The medical centers package was just one of many issues worked out in this summer's legislative session, and it did not come without a few curve balls.

Initially, it looked to include only \$180 million for the cancer center and \$60 million for the heart and stroke center. But by the end of the session, legislators hammered out a plan including \$35 million each for a bioinformatics center at UNC-Charlotte and a wellness center at UNC-A, as well as \$28 million for the pharmacy school at ECSU.

Legislators also carved out \$10 million each for a teaching and nursing center at Fayetteville State University; a health consortium at Western Carolina University; an optometry school at UNC-

Pembroke; property purchases at Winston-Salem State University and the N.C. School of the Arts; and a Millennial Campus at N.C. Agricultural and Technical State University and UNC-Greensboro.

Financing the package will add \$468 million in debt to the state's total.

The home stretch

Because most of the projects in the final package were added during the summer, only the cancer center and heart and stroke center have been given clearance by the UNC-system Board of Governors.

As a result, board members will have to sit down at the September meeting and analyze what legislators have handed them, said BOG Chairman Brad Wilson.

The Senate version of the bill included the UNC-CH and ECU projects, and then the House version tacked on the centers at ECSU, UNC-A and UNC-G. Soon, members thought other places in the state should also reap the benefits, Fulk said. "You have to make sure that at the end of the day, if

you're going to make that kind of investment in the system, it should be systemwide investment."

Several of the projects had been discussed, and though they weren't on the table initially, they were added as an effort to move the package forward, said Julie Robinson, press secretary for House Co-speaker Jim Black, D-Mecklenburg.

For the UNC-C bioinformatics center and UNC-A wellness center, which were already on the October agenda, the process is just a matter of form, Wilson said.

If BOG members think a project should be reconsidered, they will let legislators know, he said. Some projects are still in the planning stages and will require further scrutiny. But in the end, the board does not have that discretion.

Still, Wilson said, though board members are grateful for the money, the process is in place for a reason.

"All of that is a process that has served the university well for over 30 years."

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