

U.S. diplomat shot to death in Jordan

Michael Matza

Knight Ridder Newspapers (KRT)

AMMAN, Jordan — A U.S. diplomat was killed Monday morning in Amman as he was preparing to leave home to go to work at the American embassy.

The diplomat was identified as Laurence Foley, a senior administrator with the U.S. Agency for International Development. The agency gave his age as 60.

Foley was shot eight times in the head, chest and stomach. Jordanian

police said Foley's wife, Virginia, discovered her husband's body Monday in a pool of blood in their driveway, near his burgundy Mercedes-Benz.

It was the first killing of a U.S. diplomat since 1998, when 12 Americans died in a bombing at the U.S. embassy in Kenya. That attack was tied to Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network.

No one has claimed responsibility for Foley's killing, but officials immediately stepped up security at the U.S. embassy. Jordanian soldiers guarded the embassy's walls and pa-

trolled the perimeter in jeeps mounted with machine guns. The embassy warned Americans in Jordan to take special precautions.

Jordan is an ally of the United States in the Middle East, and it signed a peace treaty with Israel in 1994. But King Abdullah has disagreed with U.S. threats to use military force to topple Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, warning it could unleash unrest throughout the region. The U.S. threats against Iraq also have fueled anti-American sen-

timent among Jordan's population, the majority of whom are Palestinian refugees. Jordan also has thousands of Iraqi refugees who fled during the 1991 Persian Gulf War.

The Jordanian government has aggressively pursued Islamic extremists in the kingdom and has offered its assistance to the United States to help infiltrate groups associated with al-Qaida.

Foley had worked for the U.S. government for 37 years, the last 14 for USAID, which dispenses American

foreign aid around the world. He provided administrative support for \$250 million worth of USAID programs in Jordan.

Jordanian Information Minister Mohammed Affash Adwan declined to speculate on motives but called the killing "an aggression on Jordan and its national security." Jordanian officials, led by King Abdullah, pledged to bring the killer to justice.

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Students rally in largest D.C. protest since Vietnam

Jessica Coomes

Daily Kent Stater (Kent State U.)

WASHINGTON, D.C. (U-WIRE) — More than 100,000 protesters flocked to the capital Saturday to voice loud, peaceful objections to a possible war in Iraq, which many contended is linked to U.S. oil interests. Organizers said it was the largest rally in Washington since the Vietnam era.

"Normal, everyday people think this war is wrong — it's not just ac-

tivists," said Maureen Havelka, a Kent State senior psychology major who attended the protest.

Speeches by actress Susan Sarandon and the Revs. Jesse Jackson and Al Sharpton highlighted the four-hour rally. The crowd spanned from the Vietnam Veterans War Memorial to a pond by the Washington Monument, a distance of about one-third of a mile.

Protesters then overflowed into Washington's closed streets, drift-

ing shoulder-to-shoulder with bobbing heads and signs, chanting adamantly in a procession around the White House.

International ANSWER, Act Now to Stop War and End Racism, sponsored the event and coordinated other major rallies Saturday in San Francisco and around the world.

While President George W. Bush is calling for a regime change in Iraq, speakers and protesters repeatedly called for a change of power in the

United States.

Ramsey Clark, former U.S. Attorney General, said the United States has weapons of mass destruction, which makes the government a "hypocrisy," not a democracy.

"Regime change needs to begin at home," Clark said.

The Rev. Jesse Jackson questioned the country's priorities and demanded change. But when it matters, Jackson said, democracy will work, and protesters should trust it.

"This time the silent majority is on our side," Jackson explained. "Americans do not want this war."

Michael Barnes, a volunteer for ANSWER, said 100,000 protesters is a conservative estimate, and the crowd may have been as large as 200,000 people.

He said regular protests attract 10,000 to 20,000 people, and Saturday's large audience gives the issue more legitimacy and shows the anti-war position is widely supported.

U. of Arizona student kills three teachers, self

John M. Broder

New York Times

TUCSON, Ariz. — An aggrieved student killed three instructors at the University of Arizona nursing school Monday morning and then fatally shot himself, the Tucson police said. The medical complex at the university was locked down as Tucson police and bomb squad officers searched for explosives.

The police identified the gunman as Robert S. Flores Jr., 41, a student

at the nursing school. College officials said he was failing his course work and fellow students described him as belligerent and potentially dangerous. A school staff member raised an alarm about him more than a year ago, saying he was depressed and capable of violence, but there had been no follow-up action taken, according to the chief of the university's police force.

Richard Miranda, chief of the Tucson city police, said Flores apparent-

ly entered the nursing school building shortly before 8:30 Monday morning and methodically sought out his victims, all of them female nursing instructors.

The first victim was Robin E. Rogers, 50, who was shot multiple times with a handgun as she worked in her office on the second floor, Miranda said.

Flores then walked into a fourth-floor classroom and shot his second victim, Barbara Monroe, as she stood

in front of about 20 students in a class on critical care. Several students in an adjacent classroom called campus and Tucson police.

But before they responded, the police said, Flores walked to the back of the classroom and shot his final victim, Cheryl McGaffie, 44. He then turned to two students he apparently knew and ordered them to leave the classroom, witnesses told the police. Moments later, he released the remaining students, who ran in terror

to other classrooms or out into the parking lot next to the medical complex. The police quickly rounded up the witnesses and sequestered them in a building housing the university's office of alumni affairs.

Flores then apparently shot himself, Miranda said, falling on a backpack that the police feared might contain explosives. By late Monday afternoon the police still had not moved Flores' body as they tried to determine if the backpack posed a danger.

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