

Bombings

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attacks that targeted a luxury hotel, a Spanish club, a Jewish community center, a Jewish cemetery and a narrow street between an expensive Italian restaurant and the Belgian consulate. Three suspects and a bomber who was injured in the attacks were being interrogated by police on Saturday, according to the official Moroccan news agency.

More than 100 people were wounded, Moroccan officials said. Police conducting raids in connection with the bombings arrested 27 Islamists on Saturday, Moroccan media reported.

The bombings in this coastal North African city followed Monday's terrorist attacks on three residential compounds in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

A senior U.S. official said a new al-Qaida pattern may be emerging in which the primary targets are not western, but rather moderate Islamic regimes supported by the West.

Terrorists view the rulers of such countries as apostates, allowing

Western and Jewish activity to exist in their borders.

In mid February, an audiotaped message said to be from bin Laden called on Muslims to carry out suicide attacks as part of a holy war against the United States. The tape also urged Muslims to rise up against several other governments, including those in Saudi Arabia and Morocco.

"We say to honest Muslims that they must move, incite and mobilize the nation ... to liberate themselves from the enslavement of these oppressive, unjust, apostate ruling governments, which in turn are enslaved by America, and to establish the rule of God on earth, and the most eligible for liberation are Jordan, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Yemen," according to a translation of the tape by Reuters.

Later that month, a Moroccan court sentenced three al-Qaida members to 10 years in prison for a plot to blow up U.S. and British warships. Prosecutors said the men, Saudi Arabians, planned to sail a dinghy filled with explosives from Morocco into the Strait of Gibraltar. The plot was similar to

the October 2000 suicide attack that killed 17 sailors aboard the USS Cole in Yemen.

Vince Cannistraro, a former CIA counterterrorism chief, said Saturday the Moroccan bombings show the weakness of al-Qaida.

"They went after extremely soft targets and lost 10 of their own people," Cannistraro said.

The Jewish community center was empty at the time bombers set off their explosives; it was Shabbat. And the Jewish cemetery had been closed for several years, Moroccan officials said.

The buildings bombed on Friday had marginal significance to al-Qaida's cause, Cannistraro said.

He called the targets "pathetic," noting that the bombers did not target Americans or Britons. "The fact that they did this indicates weakness."

Most of the dead and injured were Moroccans, but about a half dozen of the victims were French, Spanish and Italian.

"The terrorism has no logic, and it makes no sense for me because to come here and do what they tried to do, the people killed were

Moroccan nationals," said Khalid Boukhari, marketing director of the posh Farah hotel, where an explosion gutted the lobby. As workers rehung a picture of King Mohammed and cleared debris, Boukhari said he was struggling to understand why the hotel was targeted. Its ownership is "100 percent Arab. We have a hotel that has nothing to do with Americans or Jews," he said.

Crowds gathered outside the Spanish restaurant on Saturday afternoon as Fatima Zaghoul recalled the gruesome scene of the previous night when her building across the street was rocked by what she thought was an earthquake. She said she saw "a big, bright explosion" and one of the restaurant's guards. "His head was almost cut off," she said.

"I'm still scared now. It's a catastrophe," she said. "Nobody thought this would happen."

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Festival

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"(Audience members) were troopers."

Music was only part of the festival's fare. The always-busy Bangkok Grill and Daybreak Coffee were popular among food booths. Both Pizza Research Institute and Holy Cow Café left their restaurants and set up outdoors. For the second straight year, vendors used a recyclable plate and silverware system in order to reduce waste.

"We're really the only festival in the nation that has this system," Bowers said. "It's cutting-edge in terms of low-impact."

Individual stand-out acts included Portland-based instrumental band Taarka, who heated up Friday night with a rip-roarin' set, which extended an extra 15 minutes and brought forth wild dancing from the crowd. The band closed with an over-the-top version of their popular tune "Death Mouse."

Street performer and local favorite Hollow Reed played an impromptu set with his 12-string guitar on the steps of the EMU Amphitheater and provided his sentiments on the festival.

"People are moving harmoniously one with the other," he said.

Kathak Indian Dancers, a troupe of four dancers contributed their talents on Saturday. Later, The Sugar Beets closed out the night and provided a hungry crowd with a sweet, energy-induced set.

These acts, however, were just from the main stage. Crowds also found refuge from either sun or rain by checking out workshops and performances in the three indoor stages. The Buzz Coffeehouse was especially popular and crowded on Sunday for Celtic-band Tom's Kitchen. Jamaican drumming troupe Mabrak was scheduled to give a drum workshop in the EMU Fir Room, but were only able to perform.

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News brief

Panel discussion to address religion, reproductive issues

Though some people may think religious beliefs and reproductive rights mix like oil and water, Students for Choice has incorporated the two subjects into a panel discussion at 7 p.m. today in 150 Columbia.

The three panelists include Sabena Stark, an Oregon Hillel employee, Janice Rubin, a former hospital chaplain, and Ann Bowersox, the campus Presbyterian minister.

The panelists will speak for five minutes each about religious philosophy on reproductive and sexual choice. A moderated question and answer session will follow.

Students for Choice said the goal of the panel is to address complex questions concerning abortion and contraceptive use and how religion and spirituality influence thoughts on the topic.

The panelists will discuss personal and political beliefs, whether there are differences in how their religions address these issues and how to reconcile those differences.

—Lindsay Sawvé