

CAPITOL ...Continued from A-1

The evidence gives lie to claims by right-wing pundits and Republican officials such as Rep. Matt Gaetz, R-Fla., that the violence was perpetrated by left-wing antifa thugs rather than supporters of the president.

"If the reports are true," Gaetz said on the House floor just hours after the attack, "some of the people who breached the Capitol today were not Trump supporters. They were masquerading as Trump supporters and, in fact, were members of the violent terrorist group antifa."

Steven D'Antuono, the assistant director in charge of the FBI's Washington field office, told reporters that investigators had seen "no indication" antifa activists were disguised as Trump supporters in Wednesday's riot.

The AP found that many of the rioters had taken to social media after the November election to retweet and parrot false claims by Trump that the vote had been stolen in a vast international conspiracy. Several had openly threatened violence against Democrats and Republicans they considered insufficiently loyal to the president. During the riot, some livestreamed and posted photos of themselves at the Capitol. Afterwards, many

bragged about what they had done.

So far, at least 90 people have been arrested on charges ranging from misdemeanor curfew violations to felonies related to assaults on police officers, possessing illegal weapons and making death threats against House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif.

Among them was Lonnie Leroy Coffman, 70, an Alabama grandfather who drove to Washington to attend Trump's "Save America Rally" in a red GMC Sierra pickup packed with an M4 assault rifle, multiple loaded magazines, three handguns and 11 Mason jars filled with homemade napalm, according to court filings. He was arrested carrying a 9mm Smith & Wesson handgun and a .22-caliber derringer pistol in his pockets.

His grandson, Brandon Coffman, told the AP on Friday his grandfather was a Republican who had expressed admiration for Trump at holiday gatherings. He said he had no idea why Coffman would show up in the nation's capital armed for civil war.

Also facing federal charges is Cleveland Grover Meredith Jr., a Georgia man who in the wake of the election had protested outside the home of Republican Gov. Brian

Kemp, whom Trump had publicly blamed for his loss in the state. Meredith drove to Washington last week for the "Save America" rally but arrived late because of a problem with the lights on his trailer, according to court filings that include expletive-laden texts.

"Headed to DC with a (s—) ton of 5.56 armor-piercing ammo," he texted friends and relatives on Jan. 6, adding a purple devil emoji, according to court filings. The following day, he texted to the group: "Thinking about heading over to Pelosi (C—)'s speech and putting a bullet in her noggin on Live TV." He once again added a purple devil emoji, and wrote he might hit her with his truck instead. "I'm gonna run that (C—) Pelosi over while she chews on her gums. ... Dead (B—) Walking. I predict that within 12 days, many in our country will die."

A participant in the text exchange provided screenshots to the FBI, who tracked Meredith to a Holiday Inn a short walk from the Capitol. They found a compact Tavor X95 assault rifle, a 9mm Glock 19 handgun and about 100 rounds of ammunition, according to court filings. The agents also seized a stash of THC edibles and a vial of injectable testosterone.

Meredith is charged with transmitting a threat, as well as

felony counts for possession of firearms and ammunition.

Michael Thomas Curzio was arrested in relation to the riots less than two years after he was released from a Florida prison in 2019. He had served eight years for attempted murder.

Federal law enforcement officials vowed Friday to bring additional charges against those who carried out the attack on the Capitol, launching a nationwide manhunt for dozens of suspects identified from photographic evidence.

The FBI has opened a murder probe into the death of Capitol Police Officer Brian D. Sicknick, who was hit in the head with a fire extinguisher, according to law enforcement officials who spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the ongoing investigation publicly.

The Trump supporters who died in the riot were Kevin D. Greeson, 55, of Athens, Alabama; Benjamin Philips, 50, of Ringtown, Pennsylvania; Ashli Babbitt, 35, of San Diego; and Rosanne Boyland, 34, of Kennesaw, Georgia.

Boyland's sister told the AP on Friday she was an adherent of the QAnon conspiracy theory that holds Trump is America's savior. Her Facebook page featured photos and videos praising Trump and promoting fantasies, including

one theory that a shadowy group was using the coronavirus to steal elections. Boyland's final post on Twitter — a retweet of a post by White House social media director Dan Scavino — was a picture of thousands of people surrounding the Washington Monument on Wednesday.

The AP's review found that QAnon beliefs were common among those who heeded Trump's call to come to Washington.

Doug Jensen, 41, was arrested by the FBI on Friday in Des Moines, Iowa, after returning home from the riot. An AP photographer captured images of him confronting Capitol Police officers outside of the Senate chamber on Wednesday.

Jensen was wearing a black T-shirt emblazoned with a large Q and the phrase "Trust The Plan," a reference to QAnon.

Jensen's older brother, William Routh, told the AP on Saturday that Jensen believed that the person posting as Q was either Trump or someone very close to the president.

"I feel like he had a lot of influence from the internet that confused or obscured his views on certain things," said Routh, of Clarksville, Arkansas, who described himself as a Republican Trump supporter. "When I talked to him, he thought that maybe this was Trump telling him what to do."

VACCINE ...Continued from A-1

On Friday, Dr. Ralph Yates, chief medical officer for Salem Health Hospital and regional care system, looked with satisfaction as people received their shots at 24 tables set up in the cavernous, cinder-block main fairgrounds building.

"In terms of mass vaccinations (in Oregon) I think we're it," Yates said. "This can be replicated easily."

There is space in the building, almost the size of a Costco, to triple the vaccination stations when National Guard medics and other troops arrive as early as Tuesday.

Those eligible to receive the vaccination are in the top priority category set by the Oregon Health

Authority, which includes hospitals, health care providers and residents at long-term care facilities; emergency medical service providers and other first responders.

The line of people waiting for their shots from Salem health staffers snaked into the parking lot. Oregon Health Authority Director Patrick Allen told reporters in a Zoom news conference with Brown that people would merely need to attest they're eligible for the shot. Both the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are being used.

But Yates said the system had to be tightened after several people were found in line who did not qualify. Now, people are being asked what

their jobs specifically are.

"We want the community vaccinated, but there isn't enough vaccine at this point," Yates said.

The vaccinations at the fairgrounds started Wednesday with 200 vaccinations before getting into high gear at about 1,700 doses Thursday, and around the same number is expected on Friday, according to Yates.

"In my 41 years of medical practice, this is the most meaningful work of my career, right here," Yates said. "Hope is here. It's not on the horizon; it's here."

OHA expects that between 300,000 and 400,000 individuals will qualify for access to COVID-19 vaccination under Phase 1a.

Allen said the federal

government has painted too rosy a picture about the rollout of the vaccines.

"This is going to take a while. I think it's been challenging for people to hear that messaging from us when the federal government has been much more optimistic in its messaging and talking about ... how virtually everybody who wants a vaccine would be able to get it by June," Allen said.

He said the fall is "a reasonable target ... unless many more vaccines are approved or much, much more production comes online or more doses are purchased from manufacturers than are available now."

On Friday, OHA recorded 7,994 doses of vaccine administered — including 578 second doses — raising

the state's total number of shots given to 74,914.

Questions have been raised about the governor announcing last month she wants to see schools reopen soon. In a letter to Brown on Thursday, teachers unions representing Oregon's five largest school districts said that before schools open, staff and students need free and frequent access to COVID-19 testing and staff must have access to a vaccine.

"The harsh reality is that many of our kids across the state have been out of school for almost a year now in terms of in-classroom learning," Brown told reporters. "It's extremely challenging for a lot of kids, particularly our littles, to be learning how to read or learning how to do math on a computer remotely."

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