

# EL OBSERVADOR

## Rouge Police Charged in Massacre

(AP)— Two police officers suspected in a shooting spree that killed 30 people last week in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil were identified by witnesses who saw them at the crime scene, officials said Sunday.

Police officers Fabiano Goncalves Lopes and Jose Augusto Moreira Felipe, who were arrested Saturday, were seen near the drive-by shootings that left 30 people dead on the city outskirts, officials said.

Police had arrest warrants for two other suspects who were linked to the crime by witnesses who saw their composite sketches.

Lopes, 30, and Felipe, 32, were on medical leave from the police department at the time of the killings, said Marcela Lobo, a spokeswoman for the Rio de Janeiro State Security Secretariat. Both had a history of disciplinary problems, she said.

Authorities believe the killings were a show of force by rogue police angered by the arrest of eight other officers caught on film while disposing of two bodies.

But many were perplexed by the seemingly random nature of the crime. Only two of the victims had criminal records and five were teenagers shot dead while playing video games at a local bar.



A relative of a victim in Rio De Janeiro's bloodiest massacre in memory holds a poster that reads "Police violence in our community" in front of the Sao Antonio church, in Nova Iguacu, Brazil. (AP photo)



A portrait of the Pope John Paul II and the Guadalupe Virgin is seen at the Liberacion Square on Saturday, April 2 in Guadalajara City, Mexico. (AP photo)

## Latin America Laments Pope's Death

(AP)— Hundreds of thousands of people in heavily Roman Catholic Latin America gathered at neighborhood parishes and in city squares Saturday to lament the death of Pope John Paul II and reflect on the life of a pontiff with whom they shared a special bond.

Anguished mourners raised their hands to heaven or bowed their heads in grief as the news spread that the man who led the church for more than a quarter of a century was gone.

Cathedral bells rang out from Mexico to Argentina, calling saddened worshippers to special Masses in memory of the Spanish-speaking pope. Political leaders who had shaken the pontiff's hand despite ideological differences issued public condolences and ordered flags lowered to half-staff.

In Mexico City, which John Paul chose for

the first foreign trip of his papacy in 1979, about 200 people gathered at the base of a bronze statue of the pope at the Basilica of Guadalupe, crying, clapping, clutching rosaries and chanting: "John Paul II, the whole world loves you!"

Mourners draped a large black ribbon above the entrance of the basilica, a centuries-old sanctuary where the pope canonized the church's first Indian saint three years ago.

Street vendors sold bandannas with a printed picture of the smiling pope and hand-screwed messages saying, "John Paul II, Mexico loves you," while church officials mounted a display of clothes and personal articles left behind by the pope during his five visits here. Basilica director Diego Monroy was to lead an all-night, candlelight vigil for the pope.

## Legacy of Farmworker Activist Promoted

### Cesar Chavez fought for respect, fair wages, better lives

(AP)— On the 78th anniversary of Cesar Chavez's birth in Arizona, farm workers and many other Latinos continue to honor the late labor and civil rights leader. But some say too many young people have no idea who he was or what he helped accomplish.

Teachers, parents and former farm workers in Arizona and throughout the nation are battling to keep Chavez's memory and message of community service relevant to young people.

They say it's difficult because most Latino youths are detached from the vineyards and vegetable farms where Chavez made his name and landmark improvements.

"Young people just don't know," said 72-year-old Gustavo Gutierrez, who organized farm workers and toiled with Chavez at the height of the labor movement in the 1960s. "We had to struggle to go to a public swimming pool. They don't have to do that. We had to struggle to go to desegregated schools. They don't have to do that."

Chavez, who died in April 1993 in San Luis, was born on March 31, 1927, near his family's farm in Yuma.

He became a migrant worker when he was 10, after his family lost its farm in the Depression.



Cesar Chavez

Chavez dropped out of school in the eighth grade to help support his family. Throughout his childhood

and early adult life, he traveled across the Southwest and worked farms and vineyards.

In the early 1960s, Chavez worked hard to establish the National Farm Workers Association, which later became the United Farm Workers of America.

He fought for the smallest of causes: respect, fair wages, medical coverage and humane living conditions for hundreds of thousands of farm workers.

This month, some students in Tolleson, Phoenix and Yuma schools learned about Chavez through a special program from Cesar E. Chavez Foundation that aims to teach youngsters about the labor and civil rights leader.



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John Pearce creator and producer of the show is deeply affected at a very young age at the powerful lost of America's role model, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King. John inspired and raised by his father the Reverend Dr. Jim Pearce a sharecropper who pulled himself up by the grace of God, thus becoming a successful Pastor and obtaining a Doctorate degree.

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In addition to accomplishing a worldwide media production feat, John Pearce earned a Professional Degree in "Political Science" from

the historic Black college of Florida A&M University.

Robert Phillips, a major and heavy Political player, though low-keyed, would often visit Washington D.C. on behalf of Portland, Oregon's population; an all out decent human being is a Bachelor of Science from Oregon State University and a Master of Social Work from Portland State University.

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## GOP Visitors Support Easing Cuba Sanctions

(AP) - Two Republican lawmakers promised Thursday to try to ease U.S. restrictions against Cuba, saying tourism and trade can do more to undermine Fidel Castro's hold on the country than current U.S. policy.

Rep. Jeff Flake of Arizona said he will attempt to get Congress to eliminate funding for enforcement of the U.S. travel ban against Cuba, allowing more Americans to travel to the communist island.

"I don't think that for the next four years we can maintain this policy," Flake told a group of international journalists.