

# U S Flu Deaths Likely

## Government gears up to fight outbreak

(AP) -- Federal officials warned on Tuesday that swine-flu related deaths were likely in the United States as the disease that killed scores in Mexico continued to spread across the world and governments intensified steps to battle the outbreak.

The number of confirmed cases in the U.S. was raised to 64, but states and cities were reporting more suspected cases. In New York, the city's health commissioner said "many hundreds" of schoolchildren were ill at a school where some students had confirmed cases.

President Barack Obama asked Congress for \$1.5 billion in emergency funds to fight the fast-spreading disease.

Cuba banned flights to



International travelers arrive at Bradley Terminal at Los Angeles International Airport Tuesday wearing masks as concern over catching swine flu increases.

Mexico, where public life is being altered dramatically by illness.

Richard Besser, acting director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, said in Atlanta: "I fully expect we will see deaths from this infection."

That was echoed by U.S. Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano. "It is very likely that we will see more serious presentations of illness and some deaths as we go through this flu cycle," she said.

Besser said the U.S. has 64 confirmed cases across five states, with 45 in New York, one in Ohio, two in Kansas, six in Texas and 10 in California.

Mexico City cracked down even further on public life, closing gyms, swimming pools and pool halls and ordering restaurants to limit service to takeout.

The new flu strain is a combination of pig, bird and human viruses for which humans may have no natural immunity.

## Housing Advocate Goes to the Extreme

### Calls for civil disobedience

A national housing advocate told a group of about 70 activists in Portland that being against the oppression and exploitation of homeless people was not enough.

Max Rameau has gained national attention for his work with Take Back the Land, a Miami-based radical community organization that finds empty foreclosed homes and then illegally moves homeless families into them.

Rameau spoke Sunday at Portland State University.

To date, he says his group has "liberated" nine houses in Florida and has four more in the works.

Rameau was in Portland for several days to swap ideas and strategies with organizations

ranging from the Portland homeless encampment called Dignity Village, to the social justice group Oregon Action.

His presence has sparked interest in the audacious approach to solving homelessness.

"I was hoping that it would spark dialogue and conversation on the possibilities in the Portland area for doing some kind of similar work," says Tim Shipp, a PSU student involved with Students for Unity, the group that brought Rameau to Portland.

Walidah Imarisha, an adjunct professor in PSU's Black Studies Department also was involved with Rameau's visit. He said that much of his discussion focused on addressing the

current housing crisis with more moderate strategies, but that there was genuine interest in replicating his more radical work.

Rameau said that in Miami several individuals from different organizations expressed a serious desire to begin moving homeless families into foreclosed homes.

The Florida city's chief of police even told ABC News that he has

little interest in putting a halt to Take Back the Land's activities.

During the question period he was asked if anyone was setting up similar operations in Portland.

"Hopefully you guys can talk about that when we're done," he replied.



Max Rameau

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