



Escorted by security forces, rescue workers pull an empty stretcher outside the Bardo museum Wednesday in Tunis, Tunisia. Authorities say scores of people are dead after an attack on a major museum in the Tunisian capital.

Museum attack in Tunisian capital kills 19; gunmen slain

By **BOUAZZA BEN BOUAZZA**
and **PAUL SCHEMM**
Associated Press

TUNIS, Tunisia — Foreign tourists scrambled in panic Wednesday after militants stormed a museum in Tunisia’s capital and killed 19 people, “shooting at anything that moved,” a witness said.

Two gunmen were slain by security forces following the deadliest attack on civilians in the North African country in 13 years, and the president said the young democracy was embroiled in a war with terror.

The militants, who wore military-style uniforms and wielded assault rifles, burst from a vehicle and began gunning down tourists climbing out of buses at the National Bardo Museum. The attackers then charged inside to take hostages before being killed in a firefight with security forces.

Authorities launched a manhunt for two or three accomplices in the attack. Prime Minister Habib Essid said the two Tunisian gunmen killed 17 tourists — five from Japan, four from Italy, two from Colombia, two from Spain, and one each from Australia, Poland and France. The

nationality of one dead foreigner was not released. Essid said two Tunisian nationals also were killed by the militants.

At least 44 people were wounded, including tourists from Italy, France, Japan, South Africa, Poland, Belgium and Russia, according to Essid and doctors from Tunis’ Charles Nicolle.

“I want the people of Tunisia to understand firstly and lastly that we are in a war with terror, and these savage minority groups will not frighten us,” said newly elected President Beji Caid Essebsi in an evening address to the nation. “The fight against them will continue until they are exterminated.”

Tunisians overthrew their dictator in 2011 and kicked off the Arab Spring that spread across the region. While the uprising built a new democracy, the country has also struggled with economic problems and attacks by extremists.

Essid identified the slain gunmen as Yassine Laabidi and Hatem Khachnaoui. Twitter accounts associated with the extremist Islamic State group based in Syria and Iraq were described as overjoyed at the attack, urging Tunisians to “follow their brothers,” according to Rita Katz of SITE, a U.S.-based orga-

nization that monitors militant groups.

The assault at the Bardo, Tunisia’s largest museum that is housed in a 15th century palace, began sometime after noon local time as scores of European tourists were visiting.

Josep Lluís Cusido, the mayor of the Spanish town of Vallmoll, said he saw people being gunned down on the plaza outside the museum before the gunmen moved inside.

“After they entered the museum. I saw their faces: They were about 10 meters away from me, shooting at anything that moved,” Cusido told Spain’s Caden Ser radio station.

“I managed to hide behind a pillar, there were unlucky people who they killed right there,” he said, adding that he and his wife spent nearly three hours in the museum until they got out uninjured.

Dozens of tourists scrambled from the museum linking arms or clutching children as Tunisian police and security forces pointed their weapons at the building. The museum, 2½ miles from the city center, is located near the national parliament building, which was evacuated.

Netanyahu win dashes hope for thaw with Obama

By **JULIE PACE**
AP White House Correspondent

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration signaled on Wednesday it could take a tougher stance toward Benjamin Netanyahu following his decisive Israeli election victory and campaign tack to the right, saying there will be consequences for his sudden reversal on the idea of an independent Palestinian state.

While senior American officials said the administration was still evaluating options, they suggested the U.S. could ease its staunch opposition to Palestinians turning to the UN Security Council to create a state.

“There are policy ramifications for what he said,” one official said of Netanyahu’s campaign rhetoric rejecting the creation of a Palestinian state. “This is a position of record.”

If Netanyahu holds firm to his opposition to a two-state resolution to the Mid-east conflict, it could force whoever sits in the Oval Office — now and in the next administration — to choose between the prime minister and a longstanding U.S. policy with bipartisan support.

Hours after the Israeli election results were final-



Barack Obama



Benjamin Netanyahu

ized, the White House quickly reaffirmed its support for the idea of two independent nations living side by side, a central tenet of peace negotiations led by presidents from both U.S. political parties. And the White House sharply chastised Netanyahu’s party for using anti-Arab rhetoric in the lead-up to the election.

“Rhetoric that seeks to marginalize one segment of their population is deeply concerning and it is divisive,” Obama spokesman Josh Earnest said.

Frustrated by both Israel and the U.S., Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas has become increasingly aggressive in efforts to secure a Palestinian state through other means, including the UN Security Council. The U.S. has veto power on the council and has repeatedly warned Abbas it would block his efforts to use that avenue.

But on Wednesday, a senior administration official

said only that the administration was evaluating its options on Security Council action and other possible responses, notably not repeating administration threats to block the Palestinians. A second official confirmed the U.S. could decide not to veto Security Council action.

The officials were not authorized to speak by name about internal deliberations and commented only on condition of anonymity.

Most Republican presidential hopefuls welcomed Netanyahu’s victory, but they were notably silent about whether they backed Palestinian statehood. Only Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker weighed in, saying the U.S. goal “must remain a two-state solution.”

Former Republican President George W. Bush made a two-state solution a cornerstone of his efforts to secure peace between Israelis and Palestinians. Obama also has pursued Palestinian state-

hood, most aggressively in a months-long push for peace that ultimately collapsed last year.

Hillary Rodham Clinton, the Democratic front-runner if she enters the 2016 campaign, did not comment on the Israeli elections. As Obama’s first secretary of state, she worked closely with Netanyahu and championed an independent Palestinian state.

Aaron David Miller, a longtime Middle East adviser to secretaries of state from both parties, said it was unlikely a U.S. president of either party would abandon support for Palestinian statehood in the near future.

“I suspect it is the fate of both Democratic and Republican presidents to be caught in a situation in which a two-state solution is too difficult to implement on the one hand and yet too difficult to abandon on the other,” said Miller, now a scholar at the Wilson Center in Washington.

Netanyahu announced his support for Palestinian statehood in 2009, shortly after Obama became president. He continued to publicly back that position even as he approved new settlements in East Jerusalem, raising questions about his level of commitment.

Frats under fire for bad behavior

By **MICHAEL RUBINKAM**
Associated Press

Racist chants. Nude photos of unconscious women. A criminal investigation into hazing. Fraternities around the country seem to be coming under fire as never before over behavior that would shock the frat boys of “Animal House.”

Despite a major national push to reduce drinking and sexual assault on campus and increase diversity, some fraternity chapters have failed to clean up their act. Universities — and the fraternities’ national offices — are quickly punishing the offenders amid yet more promises of reform.

Some critics blame popular culture, saying it is making fraternities essentially ungovernable.

“There’s this underlying acceptance that boys will be boys, this is fraternity life, and this is what you have to accept when you walk through the doors of a fraternity,” Ellen Kramer, legal director of the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence, said Wednesday.

Defenders of fraternities say that the organizations do a lot of good work on campus and that the focus on fraternity misconduct is misguided.

Bad behavior inside the walls of a frat house — or on campus generally — is nothing new, of course. Alcohol, immaturity and freedom from parents have been a potentially troublesome combination for generations of undergrads.

But the incidents at the University of Oklahoma and Penn State, in particular, have stunned many and happened despite heavy scrutiny of misconduct at colleges.

At Penn State, police are investigating allegations that members of Kappa Delta Rho used a private, invitation-only Facebook page to post photos of nude and partly nude women, some apparently asleep or passed out. A former member told police the page was used to share photos of “unsuspecting victims, drug sales and hazing,” according to court documents.

The Facebook posts were “very sad and very offensive,” Penn State President Eric Barron said Wednesday, adding that students could be expelled. Referring to Penn State’s fraternity system, Barron added: “It’s just unfortunately a large system with some very fine young men and some men who are not doing smart things.”

The page came to light Monday night, nearly a week after a University of Oklahoma fraternity was shut down when members were caught on video singing a racist song. The school expelled two students identified as ring-leaders. Sigma Alpha Epsilon disbanded its OU chapter and announced Wednesday it will require all its members nationwide to go through diversity training.

At the University of Houston, meanwhile, officials promised expulsion and criminal charges pending the outcome of a police investigation into hazing allegations. The Sigma Chi chapter and five members were suspended over what school President Renu Khator described only as disturbing allegations affecting “the health and safety of our students.”

Also this week, Sigma Alpha Mu said its chapter at the University of Michigan will be disbanded after some of its members helped trash two ski resorts during an alcohol-fueled weekend, causing hundreds of thousands of dollars in damage.

BRIEFLY

Serbia arrests eight Srebrenica suspects

SREBRENICA, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) — Machine guns cracked and grenades exploded from dusk to dawn as the Bosnian Serb soldiers slaughtered more than 1,000 men and boys crammed into a warehouse outside Srebrenica.

The carnage was among the worst of the 1995 Srebrenica massacre that killed more than 8,000 Bosnian Muslim men and boys in Europe’s bloodiest civilian slaughter since the end of World War II. It is the continent’s only postwar atrocity that the United Nations calls genocide.

On Wednesday, Serbia arrested eight men accused of taking part in the massacre of some 1,300 people at the warehouse on the outskirts of Srebrenica, a joint team of Serbian and Bosnian prosecutors told The Associated Press.

“It is important to stress that this is the first time that our prosecutor’s office is dealing with the mass killings of civilians and war prisoners in Srebrenica,” said Bruno Vekarić, the lead Serb prosecutor in the case.

Several people shot, 2 dead, in Goteborg

STOCKHOLM (AP) — Several people were shot inside a restaurant in the city of Goteborg late Wednesday and at least two of them have died, Swedish police said.

Police said in a statement that an automatic weapon is believed to have been used in the shooting. They had no details on any suspects.

The shooting happened in the Biskopsgården suburb of Goteborg, Sweden’s second largest city. The neighborhood has a history of gang violence, said police spokeswoman Ulla Brehm.

She said it was too early to speculate on the motive but said there were indications that the shooting was gang-related.

She said that at least two people were killed at the scene and several others taken to a hospital.

One witness told Swedish broadcaster SVT that two men entered the restaurant and started shooting with automatic weapons.

Police said the shooting happened inside a restaurant called Var Krog och Bar, which means “our tavern and bar” in Swedish, is a sports bar and club.

While other newspapers give you less, The East Oregonian

GIVES YOU MORE

Our new **CAPITAL BUREAU** covers the state for you

From left: Peter Wong, Hillary Borrund, Mateusz Perkowski