



Kathy Plonka/The Spokesman-Review via AP
Six-year-old Rafe Adams prays with his mother and sister during a prayer vigil held for Coeur d'Alene pastor Tim Remington at Candlelight Christian Fellowship in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, Monday.

Man arrested for shooting Idaho pastor

COEUR D'ALENE, Idaho (AP) — An Idaho pastor who was shot six times last weekend has regained consciousness and is talking with his family, an associate said Tuesday.

The man suspected of shooting Pastor Tim Remington, 30-year-old Kyle Odom, was arrested and in custody Tuesday evening in Washington D.C., Coeur d'Alene police said. No further details on the arrest were immediately available.

Odom, a former Marine from Coeur d'Alene, is suspected of shooting Remington a day after Remington led the prayer at a weekend campaign rally for Republican presidential candidate Ted Cruz.

Authorities say there's no indication Remington's appearance with Cruz had anything to do with the shooting, as they work to figure out what motivated the attack outside his church in broad daylight.

"However, it does appear that this was a pre-planned attack," Coeur d'Alene Police Chief Lee White said Monday. "And I will tell you that some details surrounding Mr. Odom's planning are disturbing."

He did not elaborate. Meanwhile, several news outlets in Spokane received letters on Tuesday that purported to be from Odom, Coeur d'Alene police Detective Jared

Reneau said. The letters, postmarked Monday, contained a sheet of paper that read "The Truth About Kyle Odom," but had nothing else written on them, Reneau said.

"We are trying to confirm their authenticity," Reneau said.

Remington, 55, regained consciousness Monday night in a Coeur d'Alene hospital, said John Padula, outreach pastor for The Altar Church, where Remington is the senior pastor.

"He's whispering and talking to his family a little bit," Padula said Tuesday. "He's doing absolutely amazing. He gave me a thumb's up last night when I went in."

Remington, who is married and has four children, has no feeling in his right arm, Padula said.

Remington and his wife have been with The Altar Church for nearly two decades, and they have specialized in the treatment of drug and alcohol addiction.

Police said Odom drove to the Spokane, Washington, area on Interstate 90 after the Sunday afternoon shooting, according to information from traffic cameras. He then turned south before they lost his trail.

Odom had no connection with the church before showing up before services early Sunday morning, Padula said.

Mixed legacy for 'Just Say No'

Associated Press

SEATTLE — For a generation of Americans, first lady Nancy Reagan was most closely associated with a single phrase: "Just Say No."

Three decades after the anti-drug campaign's heyday, its legacy is mixed. Experts say the slogan brought new attention to drug abuse and helped focus research on how to prevent it. But the motto was also part of a larger escalation of the drug war that relied on fear-based rhetoric, public moralizing and skyrocketing incarceration rates.

"Overall the larger prevention community is thankful for large campaigns like 'Just Say No,' for the broad, population-level awareness they raise," said Derek Franklin, who heads the Washington Association for Substance Abuse and Violence Prevention. "However, the sort of shaming attitude and questionable moral divide it created was something we wouldn't do today."

Further evidence of changing attitudes can be found in the movement to legalize marijuana, which is now permitted for medical use in 23 states and for recreational use in Colorado, Washington State, Oregon, Alaska and Washington, D.C.

Reagan, who died Sunday at 94, made "Just Say No" the hallmark of her tenure in the White House. She said she first became aware of the drug problem when she learned that the children of some of her friends were using drugs. Her own daughter, Patti Davis, later wrote of experimenting with pills and cocaine.

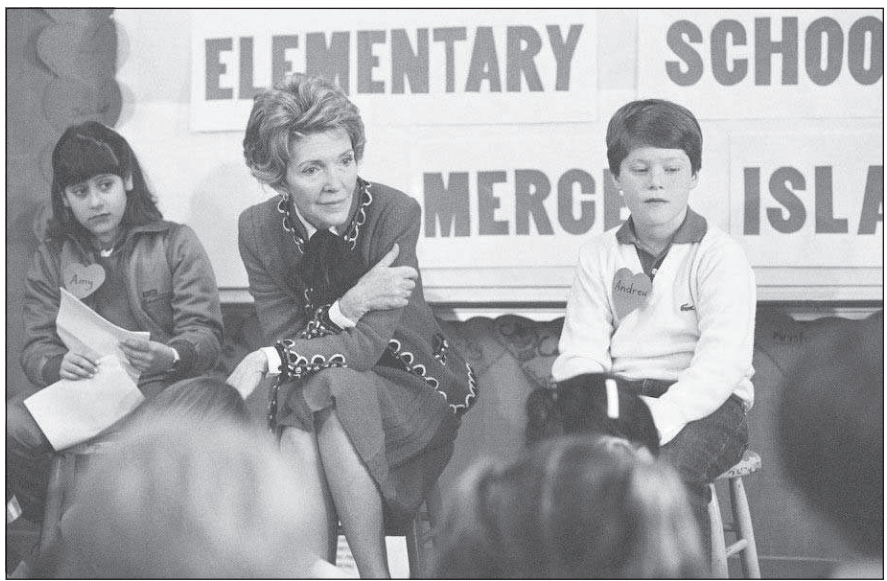
As Reagan once recalled, the idea emerged during a visit with schoolchildren in 1982 in Oakland, California. "A little girl raised her hand and said, 'Mrs. Reagan, what do you do if somebody offers you drugs?' And I said, 'Well, you just say no.' And there it was born."

At the time, Allan Cohen was the executive director of the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation, which had a federal contract to help states and local communities develop drug-abuse prevention programs.

Cohen's organization had promoted and adopted the program the first lady visited in Oakland, called Oakland Parents in Action, which taught children skills for refusing drugs offered by their peers.

The message instantly resonated. By 1988, there were more than 12,000 "Just Say No" clubs around the country. Most were at least loosely based on the ideas developed in Oakland, Cohen said.

One of them was at Clyde Riggs Elementary in Portland, Tennessee.



AP Photo/Barry Sweet, File
In this 1984 file photo, first lady Nancy Reagan sits with fourth- and fifth-graders at Island Park Elementary School on Mercer Island, Wash., where she participated in a drug education class.

Helen Berry, the mother of a student there, was volunteering to help assemble a bulletin board one day in 1985 when a teacher showed her some "Just Say No" pamphlets.

"It was like a light bulb came on," Berry recalled. "I said, 'Wow, this is really important.'"

She went on to lead the school's "Just Say No" club for 25 years, bringing in emphysema patients to warn about the dangers of smoking and quizzing pupils about how long marijuana can stay in the body.

"I just thought it was an outstanding program for kids to see what drugs can do," Berry said. "I've had kids come up to me today who are in their 30s and say, 'Mrs. Berry, I want you to know I never touched a cigarette.'"

Many researchers remain skeptical of the campaign's effectiveness, associating it with the first lady's calls to be intolerant of drug users or with the famous television commercial that featured an actor dropping an egg into a frying pan and saying, "This is your brain on drugs. Any questions?"

It's apparent now that efforts to scare people into abstaining from drugs failed, they said.

"You think of 'Just Say No,' you think of eggs in a frying pan," said Caleb Banta-Green, a researcher at the University of Washington's Alcohol and Drug Abuse Institute. "Just because you remember it doesn't mean it worked. Addiction is a medical condition, but we still have a fundamental misunderstanding of what addiction is, and 'Just Say No' spread that misunderstanding."

Michelle Miller-Day, a professor at Chapman University in California, said the refrain might have been a simplistic

message, but its popularity also focused the attention of researchers on the social context of drug use and on developing programs that would help youngsters refuse drugs or at least delay experimentation.

She worked with a colleague from Penn State University, Michael Hecht, to develop "Keepin' It REAL" — for Refuse, Explain, Avoid and Leave, a research-validated curriculum that the popular anti-drug program DARE adopted in 2009 as it was under fire about its effectiveness.

Cohen said there's no way to quantify the impact of "Just Say No," but it's unfair to conflate the campaign — a prevention effort aimed at middle or elementary school children — with criticism of the larger drug war or mass incarceration. And while the message may have seemed simple, the Oakland-developed curriculum was actually comprehensive, he said.

The issues "of criminal justice overreach or overstatement of the moral horrors of drug use were not much related to what the first lady was doing," Cohen said. "The greatest legacy was the promotion of preventive approaches, which at that point had almost been totally ignored."

These days, researchers have come up with better prevention programs, said Christopher Ringwalt, a prevention researcher at the University of North Carolina.

But schools aren't necessarily using them. An emphasis on testing has squeezed prevention education out of many classrooms, he said.

"It's frustrating for people like me," Ringwalt said. "Attention has turned elsewhere."

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BRIEFLY

Despair, confusion in Greece as refugees face closed border

IDOMENI, Greece (AP) — Despair and confusion spread through the camp at the Greek-Macedonian border Tuesday as thousands of stranded refugees were forced to acknowledge that the route through Europe that had carried their hopes and dreams was now shut.

The dozens of people crammed together at the front of the line to the border crossing looked at the closed gate and razor wire in disbelief. One young Syrian muttered he had been in the tent at the crossing for five days without sleeping. It was

his 15th day at the Idomeni refugee camp.

One woman broke down, crying and screaming as she held her baby in her arms while a man tried to calm and comfort her. Refugees asked reporters what had happened in Brussels, and asked what they could or should do next.

European Union leaders who held a summit with Turkey said early Tuesday they hoped they had reached the outlines for a possible deal with Ankara to return thousands of migrants to Turkey, and said they were confident a full agreement could be reached at a summit next week.

They also said the "irregular flows of migrants along the Western Balkans route have now come to an end."

Nobody has crossed through the Idomeni border gate since early Monday morning. The nail in the coffin for the main Balkan migration route came late Tuesday evening, when Serbia's Interior Ministry said Slovenia will demand valid EU visas at its borders as of midnight Tuesday. That means Serbia will act accordingly and close its borders with Macedonia and Bulgaria for those who do not have valid documents.

Nearly 14,000 people, who all risked their lives to get to Greece, have waited for days and weeks in the cold, rain and mud at the overflowing refugee camp in Idomeni, ripping branches off trees to use as firewood.

ability to continue a wave of bloodshed.

African Union ground forces succeeded in ousting al-Shabab fighters from Somalia's capital in 2011 and protecting the weak government. Since then, however, they have been unable to stop other violence: assaults on AU forces, including one that killed up to 200 Kenyan soldiers in January, frequent suicide attacks on civilians in Mogadishu, and an unsuccessful attempt last month to bring down an airliner with a bomb.

The forested military training camp, located 200 kilometers (125 miles) north of Mogadishu, was al-Shabab's main planning base, a Somali intelligence official said Tuesday.

Somalia's intelligence service cooperated with the U.S. in its airstrike, said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he is not authorized to talk to the media on this matter.

U.S. forces had been watching Raso Camp for several weeks, said Navy Capt. Jeff Davis, a Pentagon spokesman. It appeared that their training was ending and the operational phase of a suspected attack against African or U.S. personnel was about to start, he said.

About 50 U.S. special operations forces rotate in and out of Somalia, advising and assisting military forces sent by five countries belonging to the African Union. The airstrike appears to have caused more casualties than any other attack against al-Shabab, said J. Peter Pham, the director of the Atlantic Council's Africa Center.

Previous U.S. airstrikes have killed al-Shabab leaders, including Ahmed Abdi Godane, who had been the group's top commander, in 2014. And yet the group, far from being vanquished, came back with ferocity.

Al-Shabab vowed to avenge Godane's death.

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From left to right: Joe Young, Andrea Munkers, Cindy Dougherty, Shelby Moody, Shane Leasy and Erin McLaughlin. Not pictured: Jeanne King.

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Despite U.S. airstrikes, Somali extremist group still active

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP) — By U.S. accounts, it was a devastating airstrike against Islamic militants in Somalia, with more than 150 fighters killed in a training camp. But the weekend attack probably won't diminish al-Shabab's