

Tense standoff at Dakota Access protest encampment

By JAMES MACPHERSON and BLAKE NICHOLSON
Associated Press



ABOVE: Protesters of the Dakota Access pipeline encampment sits Wednesday on private property near Cannon Ball, N.D., owned by the pipeline developer, Texas-based Energy Transfer Partners. Both the local sheriff and Energy Transfer Partners have said the protesters are trespassing and must leave.
UPPER RIGHT: Actor-activist Mark Ruffalo, left, poses with Dallas Goldtooth, of the Indigenous Environmental Network, outside the state Capitol in Bismarck, N.D., Tuesday. Ruffalo traveled to North Dakota to support the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe.
LOWER RIGHT: Civil rights activist Jesse Jackson sits atop a horse Wednesday while visiting the protest camp against the Dakota Access oil pipeline.

CANNON BALL, N.D. — The prospect of a police raid on an encampment protesting the Dakota Access pipeline faded as night fell Wednesday, with law enforcement making no immediate move after protesters rejected their request to withdraw from private land.

Unmarked aircraft that had been monitoring protesters were withdrawn late in the day, and some activists who had been on hand for a possible confrontation headed back to a larger protest camp on federal land.

Law enforcement officials said they were ready to remove about 200 protesters who this weekend set up teepees and tents on land owned by the pipeline company.

Cass County Sheriff Paul Laney told reporters that authorities don't want a confrontation but that the protesters "are not willing to bend."

"We have the resources. We could go down there at any time," he said. "We're trying not to."

Morton County Sheriff Kyle Kirchmeier said authorities would continue to try for a peaceful resolution but that "we are here to enforce the law as needed."

Protesters vowed to stay put, at one point chanting "Stand in peace against the beast."

"We're going to hold this ground," said protester Mekasi Camp Horinek.

"I'm here to die if I have to. I don't want to die but I will," said Didi Banerji, who lives in Toronto but is originally from the Spirit Lake Sioux reservation in North Dakota.

Activists fear the nearly 1,200-mile pipeline could harm cultural sites and drinking water for the Standing Rock Sioux tribe.

Energy Transfer Partners, which is building the \$3.8 billion pipeline, said Tuesday that the protesters were trespassing and that "lawless behavior will not be tolerated."

Protests supporting the Standing Rock Sioux tribe's opposition to the pipeline have been ongoing for months, with more than 260 people arrested so far in North Dakota. The pipeline is to carry oil from western North Dakota through South Dakota and Iowa to an existing pipeline in Patoka, Illinois, where shippers can send it on to Midwest and Gulf Coast markets. Energy Transfer Partners has said the pipeline is nearly complete other than the work in south central North Dakota.

Local sheriff's officials had said earlier they didn't have the resources to immediately remove activists from the private land, which is just north of the main protest camp on federal land near Cannon Ball, a town about 50 miles south of Bismarck. But officers called for reinforcements, and those were arriving from other states.

One notable clash came on Sept. 3, after construction crews removed topsoil from private land that protesters believe contained Native American burial and cultural

sites. Authorities said four security guards and two guard dogs were injured. The tribe said protesters reported that six people were bitten by security dogs and at least 30 people were pepper-sprayed.

The state and pipeline company dispute that any sacred grounds have been disturbed during the construction.

North Dakota's Emergency Commission approved \$6 million in emergency funding for law enforcement costs related to the protest — but as of Wednesday,

nearly all of that had been used up. The Department of Emergency Services plans to ask for more, Fong said.

The protest has drawn the attention of activists and celebrities, including actress-activist Shailene Woodley and Green Party presidential candidate Jill Stein.

Civil rights activist Jesse Jackson and actor Mark Ruffalo were at the protest camp Wednesday. Jackson said he was there "to pray together, protest together and if necessary go to jail together."

Adopted and brought to U.S., South Korean man to be deported

By ANDREW SELSKY
Associated Press

SALEM — A South Korean man flown to the U.S. 37 years ago and adopted by an American couple at age 3 has been ordered deported back to a country that is completely alien to him.

"It is heartbreaking news," said Dae Joong (DJ) Yoon, executive director of the National Korean American Service & Education Consortium, who had been in contact with Adam Crasper.

Crasper remains confined in an immigration detention center in Tacoma, Washington, pending his deportation.

Crasper waived an appeal during the hearing Monday because he is desperate to get out of detention, his Seattle attorney, Lori Walls, told The Associated Press on Wednesday.

"I'm sure he doesn't have any idea what he can do in Korea," Yoon said in a phone interview from his group's offices in Annandale, Va.

Crasper's plight mirrors those of thousands of others. Yoon's group says an estimated 35,000 intercountry adoptees lack U.S. citizenship. It is backing legislation in Congress to address that.

Seven years after Crasper and his older sister were adopted, their parents abandoned them. The foster care system separated Crasper when he was 10 from his sister.

He was housed at several foster and group homes. When Crasper was 12, he moved in with Thomas and Dolly Crasper, their biological son, two other adoptees and several foster children.

There, he was physically abused, Crasper has said. In 1991, the couple was arrested on charges of physical child abuse, sexual abuse and rape. They denied the charges. Thomas Crasper's sentence included 90 days in jail, and Dolly Crasper's included



In this March 19, 2015, file photo, Korean adoptee Adam Crasper poses with daughter, Christal, 1, in the family's living room in Vancouver, Wash.

three years of probation.

Adam Crasper got into trouble with the law after he broke into his parents' home — it was, he said, to retrieve the Korean Bible and rubber shoes that came with him from the orphanage — and later it was for stealing cars and assaulting a roommate.

Federal immigration officials say they became aware of Crasper after he applied for a green card. His criminal convictions made him deportable.

Becky Belcore, who was adopted at age 1 and brought to the United States from South Korea, said she was with Crasper in the courtroom, located inside the detention center. She said the facility seems worse than jail because visitors cannot touch or hug detainees and must talk to them on a telephone.

"He has been in detention for almost nine months," Belcore said in a phone interview from her home in Chicago. "He's been separated from his children. It is really hard for him." Walls said Crasper is married and has four children.

Belcore said Crasper was wearing what looked like hospital scrubs, the uniform for detainees, and that Immigration Judge John C. O'Dell appeared matter-of-fact as he

announced his deportation verdict.

In an email, Walls said Adam was eligible for a deportation reprieve called "cancellation of removal," but the "judge decided he did not deserve this relief."

"He will be deported as soon as Immigration and Customs Enforcement makes the necessary arrangements," Walls said. "Adam, his family, and advocates are heartbroken at the outcome."

Kathryn Mattingly, a spokeswoman with the Executive Office for Immigration Review of the U.S. Department of Justice, said in an email that she could not provide confirmation or details of the hearing without an alien registration number for Crasper and possibly a privacy waiver. Walls said she would seek permission from Crasper later to provide that information.

Belcore said she feels lucky that her adoptive parents obtained her U.S. citizenship.

"A lot of times, parents simply didn't know that they were supposed to do it," she said.

"It seems so wrong and so inhumane" for Crasper to be sent to South Korea, Belcore said. "Without knowing the language and the culture, it will be so difficult to survive."

Two earthquakes rattle Italy

ROME (AP) — A pair of strong aftershocks shook central Italy late Wednesday, crumbling churches and buildings, knocking out power and sending panicked residents into the rain-drenched streets just two months after a powerful earthquake killed nearly 300 people.

But hours after the temblors hit, there were no reports of serious injuries or signs of people trapped in rubble, said the head of Italy's civil protection agency, Fabrizio Curcio. A handful of people were treated for slight injuries or anxiety at area hospitals in the most affected regions of Umbria and Le Marche, he said. A 73-year-old man died of a heart attack, possibly brought on by the quakes, local authorities told the ANSA news agency.

"All told, the information so far is that it's not as catastrophic" as it could have been, Curcio said.

The temblors were



The Church of San Sebastiano stands amidst damaged houses in Castelsantangelo sul Nera, Italy, Wednesday following an earthquake.

actually aftershocks to the Aug. 24 quake that struck a broad swath of central Italy, demolishing buildings in three towns and their hamlets, seismologists said. Several towns this time around also suffered serious damage, with homes in the epicenter of Visso spilling out into the street.

The first struck at 7:10 p.m. and carried a magnitude of 5.4. But the second one was eight times

stronger at 6.1, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Because many residents had already left their homes with plans to spend the night in their cars or elsewhere, they weren't home when the second aftershock hit two hours later, possibly saving lives, officials said.

"It was an unheard-of violence. Many houses collapsed," the mayor of hard-hit Ussita, Marco Rinaldi, told Sky TG24.

Poll: Clinton appears on cusp of commanding victory

NEW YORK (AP) — Hillary Clinton appears on the cusp of a potentially commanding victory over Donald Trump, fueled by solid Democratic turnout in early voting, massive operational advantages and increasing enthusiasm among her supporters.

A new Associated Press-GfK poll released Wednesday finds that Clinton

has grabbed significant advantages over her Republican rival with just 12 days left before Election Day. Among them: consolidating the support of her party and even winning some Republicans.

Overall, the poll shows Clinton leading Trump nationally by a staggering 14 percentage points among likely voters, 51-37. That margin is the largest national

lead for Clinton among recent surveys. Most have generally shown her ahead of Trump for the past several weeks.

The poll finds that Clinton has secured the support of 90 percent of likely Democratic voters, and also has the backing of 15 percent of more moderate Republicans. Just 79 percent of all Republicans surveyed say they are voting for their party's nominee.



GOOD SHEPHERD WOMEN'S CENTER

Good Shepherd Health Care System is proud to introduce Allison Khavkin, M.D., OB/GYN

"I provide women with preventative healthcare services as well as treating both short- and long-term medical conditions. I take a holistic approach to caring for my patients understanding your specific needs—while keeping your quality of life at the forefront of your care."

Welcoming New Patients

Good Shepherd Women's Center

541.667.3801

620 NW 11th Street, Suite 103
Hermiston, OR 97838

