

# Explosion devastates famed Gallery of Battles

United Press International  
VERSAILLES, France — A powerful terrorist bomb explosion ravaged three floors of the historic Versailles palace early Monday, destroying priceless works of art and injuring a custodian.

Police said several radical organizations claimed responsibility for the pre-dawn blast that devastated the famed Gallery of Battles and 10 rooms of the 17th century palace, one of France's most famous landmarks.

Experts making preliminary estimates said the blast caused over \$1.2 million in damages.

Police said the bomb consisted of several pounds of dynamite or plastic explosives and was planted on the ground floor Gallery of Stones during a public fireworks display Sunday evening.

Worst hit was the Gallery of Battles — a monumental colonnaded hall with dozens of oversized murals depicting famous battles in French history from the days of the Roman conquest to Napoleonic times.

A number of radical groups claimed responsibility for the explosion but investigators said it appeared to have been the work of the outlawed Breton Liberation Front.

The group has been charged with

numerous bombings in recent years to back its campaign for the autonomy of Brittany, once a free Celtic duchy.

A Breton Liberation Front communique released by the secret organization in Rennes, capital of Brittany, said the Versailles attack was carried out by "soldiers" of the Front's militant branch, the Breton Revolutionary Army.

The statement said, "The Breton people are oppressed, the Breton soil is occupied by French military camps, the Breton tongue and culture are rejected and destroyed by the French imperialist regime."

The explosion ripped a 30-foot wide hole in the gallery's ceiling, wrecked all its crystal chandeliers, shredded seven large murals, and made splinters of priceless antique furniture. One night watchman was slightly injured.

The concussion also ravaged seven Empire rooms reopened recently by President Valery Giscard d'Estaing in the left wing, and cracked walls and ceilings on the second and third floors of the white stone 17th century palace built by France's Sun King, Louis XIV, and greatly enriched by Napoleon.

"This is a crime . . . a frightful thing. It is a great loss," said Gerald

Van Der Kemp, chief curator of the palace.

"Damages are very, very heavy — perhaps going into the millions of francs," one police official lamented.

One guard told police the gate bell rang about an hour before the 2:05 a.m. blast. He said no one was at the gate, but saw the dark figure of a man in the distance standing motionless, gazing at the palace before disappearing into the darkness.

The chief custodian of the palace — France's No. 1 tourist attraction — said at first police officers on duty at first didn't believe him because there had been so many crank calls in the past.

Two clandestine leftist groups — the "International of Unemployed" and the "Revolutionary Workers Group" — claimed in telephone calls they had planted the bomb.

An anonymous telephone threat to police at 9 a.m. (3 a.m. EDT) Monday warned a time bomb would destroy the Grand Trianon palace — a red marble palace built by Louis XIV in the park of the Versailles castle.

Police searched the palace, used as the luxury residence for visiting chiefs of state, but found no explosives.



Battalion photo by Pat . . .

## Wellborn Road widened

The section of Wellborn Road between FM 60 and F & B Road is being widened to four lanes to better accommodate Bryan traffic to the University. Here a pneumatic roller is rolling the top lift of a six-inch sulphur-asphalt stabilized base

mix on a 2,700 test strip. The sulphur smell evident in the area will linger until a few rains wash it away, a highway department official said. The construction is scheduled to be completed by the end of July.

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**THERE IS SOMETHING MORE**

To many of my friends I was sort of a mystery, a person of extremes. A number of times people told me I needed to learn the word "moderation." Moderation never made much sense to me — if I was going to do something, I wanted to give it as much as I could. And in a few things, I did, which made it either very pleasant or unpleasant to my friends and relatives depending upon their acceptance.

As for my youth, it could be summed up in one word — tennis. I started playing tournament tennis when I was nine years old, and my entire life centered around it for ten years. I lived, walked and breathed tennis. In high school few people really knew me because all my time was consumed with tennis. It enabled me to travel all over the U.S., Canada, and Europe. When I was 18 years old, I won the Los Angeles City championship for high schools, was ranked in the top 20 in the United States in the 18 and under division, and had numerous scholarship offers from universities all over the country. I accepted an offer from the University of Houston where I played varsity tennis for four years.

College challenged many of the values and goals I had for myself. With tennis, I had given myself to it, but now it wanted more of me. I had yet to see the benefits and rewards from it. Sure I had the scholarship and stuff, but those weren't the kind of rewards I was seeking for. One time, having won a tournament by beating a couple of close rivals, I sat in the clubhouse and wondered if that was all there was to it. I even tried re-living the points in my mind, but that seemed too vain. I realized that there must be something more; tennis had deceived me. But not knowing how or where to find what I was looking for, I let myself drift with the flow that was on campus and with my friends, and learned to block out the questions and seekings in my mind.

While in college, I got into a number of things but they seemed to dry up faster and faster. For a year or so, when I lived on the 17th floor of the dorm I got into running down the stairs — running five miles — and running back up to my room; I had a touch with drugs; and I enjoyed diving, so I dove off the highest cliffs I could find in Austin. Before long all that got old, and then I found something wonderful — something that seemed to be what I was looking for all along. She was just like me. It sounded so good — Tom and Janet! — and it all made sense to me; that was what life is all about anyhow, right? So I gave myself to her and to our relationship. I was sure that I loved her and everything seemed so right.

One year later our relationship was shattered. I was beginning to wonder — maybe this is what life is all about. The things that I gave myself to either got old or disappointed me. I spent a semester just plugging it out in school, spending a lot of time trying to figure out which way to go while also trying to forget about it all. It seemed to me I had done everything that would be a neat way to live and all of it flopped. From jock, to student, to hippie, to girlfriend — I poured myself out for naught.

The end of that fall semester had come around, and I had determined I was going to go back home to California for the semester break and get back fully into tennis again. That seemed to be the best choice I had. While at home, an old friend told me about the Lord Jesus and what He was doing in his life. Bob had told me about Him before. He

and I had discussed it one summer, but something was different this time. His words pierced me — and all he was doing was relating his experiences, nothing in relation to me at all I went home that night and prayed by my bed. It was the first time I had ever prayed. Nothing extraordinary happened, but it was odd for I knew something had happened. Bob hadn't said anything on how to get the experience he had and I had never gone to church, so I didn't know what happened or what was suppose to happen, but I felt like God was now with me. He was so close I could touch Him.

When I went back to school for the spring semester many of my friends were shocked to find out I had become a Christian. They blew it off as another one of my escapades which I would get consumed with for a while and then go on to something else. But that was almost 5 years ago. Has He grown old or disappointed me? No! for I've found with Him I can't give myself enough. I'm captured by Him. His life is so sufficient and His presence so real. Each day He is dearer and more to me than the day before. It is not that everyday I have some superficial joy, and everything goes my way. It is much deeper than that. I met the Lord Jesus a few years ago, but now I'm getting to know Him more and more. I'm learning to live by His life. I've found the one to whom I can truly give myself.

Tom McArdle  
Graduate - Statistics  
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Paid for by Christian students on campus.  
Bible study Weds. noon  
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# Yemen troops rebel against Marxist government, bomb presidential palace

United Press International  
BEIRUT — Army and air force units and armed militia Monday rebelled against the Marxist government of South Yemen and bombed and shelled the presidential palace, the Iraqi News Agency said.

Ambulances sped through the capital of Aden carrying wounded to hospitals while billows of smoke rose from the palace. Militia in gov-

ernment vehicles patrolled the city and a curfew was in effect, the agency reported from Aden.

Rebel warjets bombed the palace of President Salem Robaya Ali in the Al Tawahi neighborhood, which is also the site of the defense ministry and other key buildings, and rebel gunners were shelling the building, the report said.

There was no word on the fate of Robaya Ali or whether the uprising was linked to the assassination Saturday of the president of rival North Yemen, Lt. Col. Ahmed Al Ghashmi, who was killed by a bomb delivered by a South Yemeni diplomat.

"The situation is by no means clear," the Iraqi agency reported.

It quoted sources as saying the uprising involved army units on the

Bab al Mandeb straits — near the border between North and South Yemen and astride the entrance to the Red Sea — as well as units in the Salaheddine barracks in Aden and in the 2nd and 3rd military districts.

In Paris, French radio reports quoted Iraq's Baghdad Radio as saying that fighting was raging near the Aden airport, which was shut down. Radio Aden halted its transmissions, and communications with the outside world were cut off, but the Iraqi agency apparently managed to get the story out through its embassy facilities.

North Yemen also cut off its communications to the outside Saturday after Ghashmi was killed in the capital of Sanaa by a bomb in a briefcase carried by an uniden-

tified Aden diplomat. North Yemen, a conservative state with close ties to Saudi Arabia, immediately blamed the action on "the criminal Ghashmi," a radical Marxist who maintains friendly relations with the Soviet Union.

North Yemen also cut off its communications with Aden, a leftist Beirut newspaper reported Monday. Monday reported heavy concentrations of troops on both sides of the border.

Ghashmi was buried in the Sanaa's Martyr's Cemetery Monday by a four-man presidential council headed by a judge, Karim Al Arshi.

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# Brezhnev attacks Western powers' disarmament policies

United Press International  
MOSCOW — Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev says the United States is trying "to play the Chinese card against" Moscow, warning that

the policy is shortsighted and could have dangerous consequences.

Brezhnev, speaking in Minsk Sunday, also accused the Western powers of having no real interest in disarmament.

Brezhnev attacked Western leaders for adopting a new long-term arms program at a NATO meeting in Washington that coincided with the U.N. General Assembly's special session on disarmament.

His speech broke no new ground and was apparently aimed at buttressing Moscow's established foreign policy.

Brezhnev said that "the leaders of a number of big NATO countries, especially of the U.S.A., evidently do not wish to take a constructive approach to the solution of disarmament problems."

He said the Chinese representative at the United Nations made such a sharp anti-Soviet speech at the disarmament conference that it would have been more appropriate at the NATO meeting.

Peking's line, he said, was "duly

appreciated in Washington, attempts were being made to play the Chinese card against the U.S.S.R."

"This is a shortsighted and dangerous policy," he said. "Chitects may bitterly regret Brezhnev's proposal on force reduction in central Europe, saying it was reasonable, realistic and that went more than halfway to NATO."

The Russians said they were prepared to withdraw three divisions together with military equipment including about 1,000 tanks a year. They called for the "necessity of parity between the Warsaw pact countries and NATO."

"We say to the NATO let us get down to business. No doubt, we already have an agreement. Now everything depends on the West's political will," Brezhnev said.

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