

World and Nation

Plane crashes in West Germany 6 die, 14 hurt as wreckage burns

MUNICH, West Germany (AP) — A small plane "dropped like a stone" into a busy part of the city Tuesday, killing six people, injuring 14 and setting a fire that consumed a McDonald's restaurant and a city bus, officials said.

Walter Hermann, press officer for Munich police, said all three occupants of the plane were killed along with a bicyclist and two people in the McDonald's parking lot. At least 10 of the injured were on the bus.

Police said the pilot was a student practicing landings in the single-engine Piper Cherokee, but a spokesman for air controllers at Munich's Riem Airport said he was experienced and approaching to land after a checkout flight.

About 30 people were inside the restaurant, but police said all got out safely. The restaurant, on the Wasserburgerlandstrasse in the Trudering section of Munich, was burned out.

Firefighters needed more than an hour to control the flames on one of Munich's busiest thoroughfares, slightly more than a mile from the airport and nine miles from downtown Munich.

Guenter Scholz, another spokesman for Munich police, said: "The airplane was practicing landings at Riem and had made several shortly before the accident."

He said the pilot was being tested by a government aviation security official and a woman also was aboard, but no details about her were available. Scholz said seven of those hurt were in critical condition.

"The plane dropped like a stone," said one police official, speaking on condition of anonymity. Accounts of the crash differed.

Hermann said one version had it that the plane struck the bus and then plowed into McDonald's at 3:30 p.m.

Scholz said, "The plane's wing hit the restaurant" and debris from the aircraft struck the Mathais Marhofer, a spokesman for air controllers at the airport, said in a telephone interview with the Associated Press late Tuesday. "Some of what I've heard on radio and television reports is all wrong."

The pilot "was not practicing touch-and-go landings," he said. "He was on an IFR (instrument) flight and crashed on his final approach." IFR stands for Instrument Flight Rules.

Marhofer would not identify the pilot's name, but said he "had more than 15 years of flight experience."

"He departed Landsberg at 3:15 p.m., crashed at 3:28 p.m., shortly after he was instructed to make a 360-degree turn to the right during his first simulated approach," the spokesman said.

Eight hospitalized, inquiries begin in freak bus accident

DENVER (AP) — Colorado's governor named a top-level team Tuesday to investigate the accident in which a two-ton boulder accidentally pushed off a mountainside by a state road crew smashed into a tour bus, killing seven people.

Eight people remained hospitalized, two in critical condition.

A state geologist who followed the boulder's "pinball game" path down the mountainside said the odds against the tragedy occurring were "astronomical."

"If the boulder had been traveling a little faster, or a little slower," said geologist Ed Belknap of the Colorado Highway Department. "Or if the bus had been going a little faster or a little slower..."

In addition to naming the investigation team, Gov. Roy Romer said he planned to "un-bureaucratize" the process for claiming damages against the state.

"I am chief executive... and my first response is, we caused an injury," Romer said Tuesday at a news conference. "What can we do to work out a fair way for compensa-

tion) within the limits of the law?"

"I am sick and tired of people who try to avoid liability when it is there," he said, adding that if the state's legal limit of \$400,000 on compensation for the accident is not enough he will ask the Legislature for more money.

Romer and his aides worked until midnight Monday calling families of accident victims, and they started again at 6 a.m. Tuesday.

He also declared a state of emergency so the state could use \$100,000 in contingency funds to transport relatives of the victims to Colorado.

Four investigations into the accident were under way Tuesday, counting the one by Romer's special panel.

Other agencies that have launched inquiries are the National Transportation Safety Board, the Colorado State Patrol and the Colorado Highway Department.

Reports from the State Patrol and Highway Department were expected before the end of the week.

Six people were killed instantly

when the boulder — 6 feet high and 4 feet across — rolled down a mountainside below 11,315-foot Berthoud Pass on Monday and ripped out the right side of a Gray Line tour bus.

Another person died at Denver General Hospital.

The 28 passengers and driver were taking Gray Line's \$30 "Circle Tour," a one-day tour that starts in Denver and loops through Rocky Mountain National Park before returning to Denver.

The bus was about 60 highway miles northwest of Denver when the boulder slammed into it.

The boulder, dislodged by a Colorado Highway Department maintenance crew working on the mountainside, rolled through several hundred feet of trees before it hit the highway and the bus.

"It was like a pinball game. The speed was variable. It would hit a tree and then slow down. Then it would start up again. It deflected back and forth," Belknap said after he followed the boulder's circuitous route.

Vice president swears in economist to take top post at Federal Reserve

WASHINGTON (AP) — Alan Greenspan was sworn in Tuesday as the new chairman of the Federal Reserve, succeeding Paul Volcker, who gained near-legendary status as the man who defeated double-digit inflation.

Greenspan, 61, was praised by President Reagan during the White House ceremony as "an economist's economist" who had gained wide respect for his accomplishments as chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers under President Gerald R. Ford and on various other government commissions.

The president said he was confident that Greenspan would suc-

ceed at the delicate task of keeping the economic recovery alive while guarding against a resurgence of inflation.

The economist is the 13th chairman since the central bank was created in 1913.

"Today, low inflation and economic growth can and must go hand in hand," Reagan said.

Greenspan was sworn in by Vice President Bush in an East Room filled with members of the president's Cabinet, past and current members of the Federal Reserve and representatives from American business.

In his remarks, Greenspan said he was only sorry that former Fed

Chairman Arthur Burns, "my mentor for 35 years," could not be present for the ceremony.

Burns died recently after heart surgery.

Greenspan spoke to his widow following the ceremony.

Both Reagan and Greenspan praised Volcker's accomplishments during his eight years as Fed chairman.

Volcker received sustained applause.

Greenspan joked that he wanted to thank in advance all the economic forces which would make his job easy over the next four years.

Feisty lady Clara Peller dead at 86

CHICAGO (AP) — Clara Peller, the lively, crusty octogenarian who became a national superstar by bellowing "Where's the beef?" in television hamburger commercials, died Tuesday at her home. She was 86.

Peller died in her sleep of a heart attack, her daughter, Marlene Necheche, said she was not sure of the exact cause of death.

Peller's colleagues in advertising described her as a warm, magnetic woman.

"She was the type of grandmother that you always remember fondly," said Denny Lynch, vice president of Wendy's International Inc. of Dublin, Ohio, a fast-food chain whose commercials catapulted Peller to fame in 1984.

In the Wendy's ads, the 10-year-old, white-haired Peller was shown as a hamburger patty served by fast-food chains.

"Where's the beef?" she demanded.

Recently killed women found among 7 bodies

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The bodies of two women strangled within the last 10 days were among the seven bodies found at a row house since Sunday, police said Tuesday, as city workers dug up a lot searching for other human remains.

Workers used shovels to search a vacant lot across the street from the North Philadelphia row house, after residents told police that the man who rented the apartment where six bodies were found had been seen digging there. The seventh body was found on the roof of the house.

Police Lt. James Hansen said the crew digging up the lot found only the remains of what appeared to be a dog.

Harrison "Marty" Graham, 28, who rented the \$90-a-month apartment for four years, told one

teen-ager he was burying dogs in the lot, police said.

Late Tuesday, Mayor W. Wilson Goode's office took over the handling of information involving the case, but didn't state a reason for its action. There was no indication of additional charges against Harrison, for whom a warrant for corpse abuse was issued Monday.

Homicide Capt. Robert Grasso on Tuesday released the first names of two women who had lived in the building, Mary and Renee.

Neighbor Patricia White, 43, told police she heard screaming recently and when she looked out a window she saw Graham dangling the woman identified as Renee by her hands out a third-floor window.

Graham hauled the woman back inside.

White said she never saw the woman again. Acting Medical Examiner Robert Cattaneo who examined four of the bodies Monday, refused to confirm whether the two women were strangled. Before the mayor's office took over, officers at the scene disclosed that information.

The examiner's office said it could take days to determine exactly how the seven people died, cause only skeletal or decomposed remains were found.

Graham had been evicted on Sunday from an apartment, considered a drug user's "show gallery."

Shortly after Graham was told to leave, he showed up to investigate reports of odors.

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