

Fort Knox base gunman kills three before shooting self

The Associated Press

FORT KNOX, Ky. — A civilian Army base supply clerk, whose temporary promotion to supervisor recently ended, killed his boss and two co-workers and severely wounded two others Monday, authorities said.

Arthur Hill then drove 40 miles from Fort Knox to the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Louisville, walked to the bath-

room, and shot himself in the head with the .38-caliber gun used in the slayings, authorities said.

Hill was in critical condition, VA hospital spokeswoman Marla Highbaugh said.

Hill, 53, and all five victims were civilian employees at Fort Knox, which is home of the nation's gold repository and an Army tank training center.

One of those killed was Paul W. Higdon, 49, of Louisville, chief of the Training Support Center. His son, Jason, said Hill

had just learned that he was passed up for a promotion.

"He found out, I believe, this morning when he got to work," Jason Higdon said in a telephone interview from Louisville.

Laurie Viggiano, a Fort Knox spokeswoman, said she could not say whether there had been a vacant supervisor's position or whether Hill had been filling in for an employee on leave.

Hill reported to work Monday morning. The shootings occurred at least an

hour later, Army Lt. Col. Kevin Keller said.

Neither Hill nor the FBI would release further details of the shootings.

Jason Higdon said his father treated all of his employees well.

"The irony of all of it is he'd fight forever to let his people keep their jobs through all these military cutbacks," he said. "It's ironic ... one of his own workers."



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