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Bomb linked to Islamic militant

PARIS (AP) — Hundreds of soldiers and police patrolled the streets of Paris today after a deadly bombing on a crowded commuter train, a newspaper said investigators suspect Islamic militants.

Almost 1,000 officers were on duty at train stations, airports and other public places in Paris in a return of anti-terrorism measures imposed after a wave of bombings by Algerian militants in the French capital last year.

Two people were killed and 35 seriously wounded, seven of them critically, when a bomb exploded on a commuter train as it was pulling into a station near the famed Latin Quarter on Tuesday night.

No one has claimed responsibility, but Le Monde said investigators consider Islamic militants prime suspects.

Prime Minister Alain Juppe told the National Assembly that there were "great similarities" between the bombing and last year's attacks. But Foreign Ministry spokesman Jacques Rummelhardt said "Algeria is just a hypothesis. Everything is possible."

A chemical analysis showed the explosive powder used in the latest bomb was identical to that in the 1995 bombs, said a Justice Ministry source.

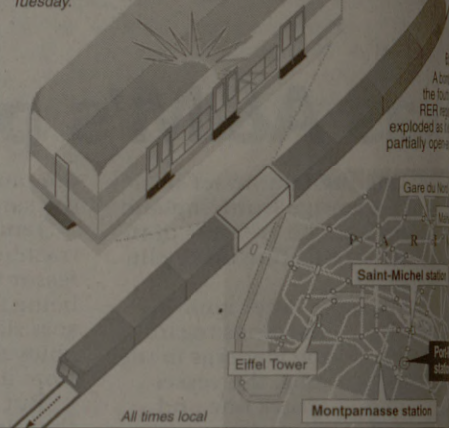
Le Monde quoted "an official source" as saying there had been numerous alerts of an attack in recent months.

An internal document written by France's counterespionage agency said an Algerian radical living in Afghanistan was preparing to "commit an attack against French interests," Le Monde quoted the document as saying.

Algerian Islamic militants consider France's tacit support of Algeria's army-backed government a major obstacle to their fight to establish an Islamic state in the former French colony in northern Africa.

Subway bomb

An explosion from a bomb placed under a seat tore apart a packed Paris subway car at rush hour Tuesday.



"Everyone had the impression these kinds of things were over," computer consultant David Coulon said in a bus stop in Paris, not far from the site of the blast. "It's anguishing because wherever we are there is no place to hide."

The bomb was in a 28-pound gas canister, Minister Jean-Louis Debre said today that black powder were found at the site.

"The government and I are determined to fight against terrorism in all its forms," President Jacques Chirac said. "No stone will be left unturned."

Wealthy buyers abuse HUD program

WASHINGTON (AP) — A government program to give the poor a roof over their heads is so riddled with problems that well-off people lived in houses meant for homeless families and low-income home buyers were bilked by government-approved middlemen, documents show.

Under the "Homes for Homeless" program, the Department of Housing and Urban Development leases houses whose owners have defaulted on federally guaranteed loans. The houses are made available for just \$1 a year to nonprofit organizations that work with the homeless.

The aim is to provide cheap, temporary housing to people try-

ing to get back on their feet.

But some HUD offices have done such a poor job of monitoring the groups that many have abused the program, letting friends, relatives or others live in the houses, according to internal HUD investigative documents and audits obtained by The Associated Press.

"It's just too easy to cheat," said D. Michael Beard, inspector general for HUD's Southwestern district. "We believe the program should be eliminated."

The agency is not ready to scrap the program yet. But under pressure from Congress, it said last month that no new leases would be issued as of

Jan. 1. More than 300 corporations — mainly privately held homeless coalitions and community service groups — hold leases on 1,289 homes around the country.

HUD acquired the properties through foreclosures of government-guaranteed home loans. The program receives no federal funding, although the department absorbs the cost of leasing the homes, which would otherwise be sold.

In Baton Rouge, La., HUD auditors found only one homeless person among the 43 tenants reviewed among 108 leases by the nonprofit group Net Inc.

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• SPRING STAFF APPLICATION •

Name: _____ Number of hours you will take in the Spring: _____
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 Major: _____ If you have another job, what is it?: _____
 Classification: _____ How many hours per week?: _____
 Will you plan to keep it if hired? _____

Please check the position(s) for which you are interested in applying. If you are interested in more than one position, number them in order of preference with 1 being your top choice.

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 Reporter

NIGHT NEWS DESK

Front and inside page Design
 Page Designer

WEB DESK

Web designer

AGGIELIFE DESK

Lifestyles and Entertainment
 Feature Writer
 Page Designer

SPORTS DESK

Sports Writer
 Page Designer

RADIO

Radio reporter

OPINION DESK

Columnist
 Editorial Writer

VISUAL ARTS DESK

Graphic Artist
 Cartoonist

OFFICE STAFF

Office Clerk (see application in Room 013 Reed McDonald)

COPY DESK

Copy Editor

PHOTO DESK

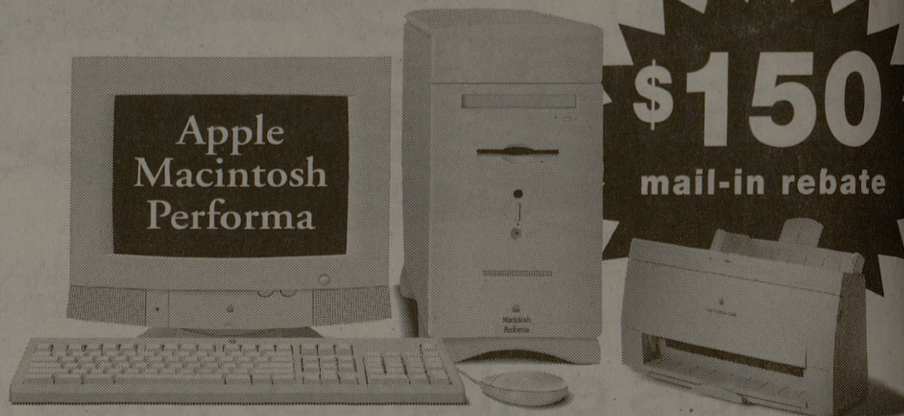
Photographer

Please answer these questions on a separate piece of paper. Please type your answers.

- 1) Why do you want to work at The Battalion, and what do you hope to accomplish?
- 2) What experience do you have that you feel qualifies you for the position?
- 3) What are some things about the section for which you are applying that you like and dislike? Please explain.
- 4) What classes have you taken that you feel will help you in your job at The Battalion?
- 5) Please attach samples of your work (stories you have written for other publications or classes, pages you have designed, or other art you have created)

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