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Public Papers of the Presidents

May 20, 1999

CITE: 35 Weekly Comp. Pres. Doc. 955

LENGTH: 60 words

HEADLINE: Statement on the Shooting at Heritage High School in Conyers, Georgia

BODY:

Today's shooting at Heritage High School in Georgia was deeply troubling to us all. In the wake of these terrible incidents, all Americans must come together and do everything we can to protect children from violence. I applaud the Senate for today's historic vote to close the gun show loophole and keep guns out of the hands of criminals and children.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: June 21, 1999


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Yahoo! News

Politics Headlines

Wednesday November 3 5:59 PM ET

Clinton 'Shocked' At Recent Shootings

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - President Clinton said Wednesday he was shocked and sorrowed by this week's shootings in two U.S. cities where gunmen shot to death at least nine people.

"I join with all Americans in expressing shock and profound sorrow at the shootings which have occurred over the last two days in Honolulu and Seattle," Clinton told reporters.

One day after a Xerox technician opened fire and killed seven of his co-workers in Hawaii, at least two people were killed and two injured in Seattle Wednesday when a gunman in camouflage clothing opened fire in a shipyard.

Clinton said the federal government had offered assistance to local officials.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with the victims and with their families," he said.

The president, who has been pushing for tougher gun controls, said 13 children get shot and killed every day in the United States -- a level that was too high.

"I don't want to diminish the agony of these two incidents, that are truly awful ... But I think we have to acknowledge the fact that we have been willing to tolerate a much higher level of violence than we should have," he said.

"I don't think we understand fully just how much more violent the United States is than other countries."

Clinton said although the murder rate in the United States was at a 32-year low and the crime rate was also improving, more work was needed.

"Every time one of these things happens, all I can say is, what we are doing is working, but we haven't done it enough, and we need more efforts in the directions that we're going," he said. "We do not have to tolerate this level of violence."

Full Coverage

See a Yahoo! special report on **Seattle Shootings**

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- [Fugitive Gunman Keeps Seattle Tense](#) - AP (11/04/99)
- [Clinton alarm over US violence](#) - BBC (11/04/99)
- [The trail grows cold as police continue search for gunman](#) - Seattle Times (11/04/99)
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- [City of Seattle](#) - government, community, business, and visitor information
- [Description of suspect](#) - from KIRO - Seattle
- [Harborview Medical Center](#) - where two of the victims are recovering
- [Seattle Police Department](#) - includes an overview of the force and information about crime in the city

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- [Witness describes the shooting](#) - CNN (11/04/99)
- [Seattle gunman kills two](#) - NPR (11/03/99)

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Video

- [President Clinton: US more violent than other countries](#) - BBC (11/04/99)
- [Wallingford Shooting Eyewitness](#) - SeattleInsider.com (11/03/99)

- [SeattleInsider.com](#) (11/03/99)

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Shooting Suspect's Private Life

- Lived With Dad, Brother; Mom Died 12 Years Ago
- Joined High School Rifle Team In Sophomore Year
- Kept To Himself, Collected Rare Fish

HONOLULU

Wednesday, November 03, 1999 - 01:05 PM ET



Reuters

1975 yearbook photo of suspect Byron Uyesugi as a sophomore at Roosevelt High School in Honolulu.

(CBS) Hawaii shooting suspect Byran Uyesugi tends to be very quiet and keeps to himself, reports **Correspondent Terry Hunter of CBS Affiliate KGMB-TV** in Honolulu. But he may have actually been reaching out for help.

Uyesugi lived on Easy Street with his father and brother, raising fish in back yard tanks and collecting guns. Neighbors described him as **"a good boy"** and

"a real nice kid."

His family is so private that when his mother died a dozen years ago, neighbors said it was several months before they found out about her passing.

Hiro Uyesugi remembers his son losing his temper only once during 15 years at the Xerox Corp., when he kicked an elevator door a few years ago and had to undergo anger management counseling.

But nothing in his son's history hinted at the bloodshed that erupted at Xerox's offices on Tuesday, when police say he walked into a second-floor meeting room and shot seven co-workers to death.

"I'm going to bring him

"I'm going to bring him another gun so he can shoot himself."
Hiro Uyesugi, the suspect's father

Registered guns in Byran Uyesugi's possession:

- Colt .45 (semi-automatic pistol)
- Glock 9mm (semi-automatic pistol)
- Four (4) .38 caliber Smith & Wesson Revolvers
- Two (2) .45 caliber Springfield pistols (semi-automatic)
- 9mm Browning (semi-auto pistol)
- .223 Remington Bolt Pistol



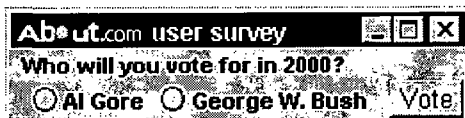
another gun so he can shoot himself," the elder Uyesugi snapped when questioned by reporters.

In high school, the suspect became a member of the rifle team in his sophomore year. His neighbors knew nothing of his 17 piece gun collection, but they were aware of his interest in collecting goldfish and his ability to build fine furniture.

- .357 Ruger revolver
- .45 Ruger pistol
- 7mm Remington Pistol (semi-automatic)
- .44 Ruger (handgun)
- .22 Ruger (handgun)
- .41 caliber Smith & Wesson Revolver
- Smith & Wesson Revolver type unknown

The shooting suspect is not married and has no children.

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Wednesday November 03 11:52 AM EST

How Helpful Are Hawaii's Strict Gun Laws?

*By Heather Maher**ABCNEWS.com*

At first glance, the workplace massacre in Hawaii doesn't do a whole lot to advance the argument for gun control. [Click here](#) for a rundown of recent shootings.

Hawaii has the strictest gun laws in the country. It's the only state that requires firearms to be both licensed and registered, and is one of just seven states that has banned the "Saturday Night Special" handgun.

There's a 14-day purchase waiting period. The state even regulates second-party sales.

But the suspect in the shooting rampage at a Xerox building in Honolulu not only has a criminal record, he also reportedly has 17 weapons registered in his name.

Does this mean gun-control laws don't work?

Honolulu's Low Crime Rate

Absolutely not, says a representative of one of America's largest gun-control advocacy groups. Naomi Paiss of Handgun Control Inc. says Hawaii's tough gun laws have given Honolulu "by far the lowest violent crime of any city its size in the United States."

And besides, "gun control has never been proposed as a solution to every horrendous crime," she insists.

"The citizens of Honolulu obviously derive from their gun laws a better level of general protection," she said, "but short of banning private ownership of firearms, which we do not support, you're not going to avoid every horrendous gun crime."

Daniel Polsby, a professor at George Mason University Law School who teaches a course on the Second Amendment, said wondering why crimes like this happen in states with strict laws just "proves that relying too much on gun-control laws is bound to lead to disappointment."

Massacres are still uncommon in American life, he pointed out, despite the massive media attention that follows multiple shootings.

An Argument for More, and Less

A spokesman for the National Rifle Association called the shooting "a horrible tragedy" and added, "the most appropriate comment is one of concern and respect and mourning for the community."

Though he acknowledged Hawaii's aggressive gun-control stance, the NRA's Bill Powers said he

doesn't think Hawaii's strict laws have necessarily failed.

"The laws should have stopped him. All the laws couldn't stop him, but they should have," said Powers.

For Alan Gottlieb, founder of the Second Amendment Foundation, the laws are the problem. "We give Hawaii an 'F' on our gun freedom index. Hawaii is an impossible state. Every gun owner complains about the red tape in getting a gun."

The latest shooting proves that all the laws in the world "[won't] stop someone from committing a crazy act," he said.

No, says Paiss. She says it proves that Hawaii could use another gun law, like one Connecticut just passed.

On Oct. 1, that state became the first state to allow police and the courts to remove guns from people who present a danger to the community.

If the suspect in the Xerox shootings was "clearly disturbed," said Paiss, those guns the suspect reportedly owns might have been taken away.

No guns, no dead.

ABCNEWS.com's Willow Lawson and Geraldine Sealey contributed to this report.

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Violence Policy Center



Fact Sheet on Hawaii Gun Laws and Statistics on Gun Violence in Hawaii

Press Release Index

For Release:
Tuesday, November 2, 1999

Contact:
Paul Lavrakas
Violence Policy Center

This fact sheet provides background information for journalists covering today's shooting at a Honolulu, Hawaii office building.

Hawaii Firearm Laws¹

- A permit is required to purchase any firearm. All firearms must be registered. Separate permits must be obtained to purchase a handgun.
- Since 1995, all applicants for a firearm permit must complete a firearms safety or hunter education course.
- No permit may be issued to a first-time applicant before a waiting period of 14 days has elapsed, but the permit must be approved or denied within 20 days.
- A "may-issue" concealed handgun licensing system is in place under which the chief of police of the appropriate county may issue concealed carry permits to carry concealed handguns to individuals who demonstrate a reason to fear injury to person or property.

Firearm-Related Death in Hawaii

- In 1996 Hawaii ranked **49th** in rate of firearm-related **death**, with a rate of 4.40 per 100,000. In 1996 the national rate of firearm-related **death** was 12.94 per 100,000.²
- In 1996 Hawaii ranked **44th** in rate of firearm-related **homicide**, with a rate of 1.81 per 100,000. In 1996 the national rate of firearm-related **homicide** was 6.02 per 100,000.³
- In 1996 Hawaii ranked **48th** in rate of firearm-related **suicide**, with a rate of 2.12 per 100,000. In 1996 the national rate of firearm-related **suicide** was 6.29 per 100,000.⁴
- In 1998 there were 24 murder victims in Hawaii. Of these, four were killed with handguns and two were killed with rifles.⁵

1) *Hawaii Revised Statutes*, and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, *State Laws and Published Ordinances*, 1998

2) National Center for Health Statistics Compressed Mortality File 1996, accessed through the *CDC Wonder* system from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention web site at wonder.cdc.gov.

3) National Center for Health Statistics Compressed Mortality File 1996, accessed through the *CDC Wonder* system from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention web site at wonder.cdc.gov.

4) National Center for Health Statistics Compressed Mortality File 1996, accessed through the *CDC Wonder* system from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention web site at wonder.cdc.gov.

5) *Crime in Hawaii*, 1998.

The Violence Policy Center is a national non-profit educational foundation that conducts research on violence in America and works to develop violence-reduction policies and proposals. The Center examines the role of firearms in America, conducts research on firearms violence, and explores new ways to decrease firearm-related death and injury.

NRA-ILA Research & Information
11250 Waples Mill Road, Fairfax, VA 22030

1-800-392-8683
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HAWAII

A synopsis of state laws on purchase, possession and carrying of firearms. (As of September, 1997)

PLEASE NOTE: In addition to state laws, the purchase sale and (in certain circumstances) the possession and interstate transportation of firearms is regulated by the Gun Control Act of 1968 as amended by the Firearms Owners' Protection Act. Also, cities and localities may have their own firearm ordinances in addition to federal and state laws. Details may be obtained by contacting local law enforcement authorities, and by consulting the State Laws and Published Ordinances of Firearms, available from the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

QUICK REFERENCE CHART

	<i>Rifles and Shotguns</i>	<i>Handguns</i>
Permit to Purchase	Yes	Yes
Registration of Firearms	Yes	Yes
Licensing of Owners	No	No
Permit to Carry	No	Yes

STATE CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS

"A well regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed." Article 1, Section 15.

REGISTRATION

All firearms and ammunition must be registered with the chief of police of the county of one's place of business, one's residence, or one's place of sojourn. 1 This includes firearms of any description, whether usable or unusable, serviceable or unserviceable, modern or antique, or ammunition of any type and description. Exempt from this registration are all unserviceable firearms and destructive devices registered with the Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

Every person arriving in the state is required to register their firearms within 3 days after arrival of the person or of the firearm, whichever arrives later. Exempt from this registration are (1) any device that is designed to fire loose black powder or that is a firearm manufactured before 1899; (2) any device not designed to fire or made incapable of being readily restored to a firing condition; or (3) all unserviceable firearms and destructive devices registered with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms. There is no registration fee. No alien shall be allowed to bring a firearm of any description into the state.

The Department of the Attorney General receives duplicate copies of all registrations.

POSSESSION

It is unlawful for a person to own, possess or control any firearm or ammunition if he is a fugitive from justice or has been convicted of a felony or of the illegal use, possession or sale of any drug, any person who is less than 25 and has been adjudicated by the family court to have committed a felony, two or more crimes of violence, or illegal sale of drugs; addicted to alcohol, committed to a mental institution or has been diagnosed as having mental disorders unless the person has been medically documented to be no longer adversely affected by the addiction, abuse, dependence or mental illness; or any person under a restraining order by any court.

It is unlawful for a minor under 18 to possess a rifle or shotgun. However, a person 16 or over, and any person under 16 while accompanied by an adult, who has procured a hunting license may carry and use any lawfully acquired rifle or shotgun, and suitable ammunition therefore, while engaged in hunting, or while going to and from the place of hunting, or while engaged in target shooting at a range.

No person may possess a firearm owned by another without a permit. However, any handgun which is registered and lawfully possessed may be loaned to another, even though he be a minor, at a target range for a period not longer than to allow the other person to use it for target shooting.

Each chief of police may issue permits to aliens 18 or over for use of rifles and shotguns for a period not exceeding 60 days after the alien had first procured a hunting license.

The chief of police may issue permits to aliens 21 or over for use of firearms for a period not exceeding 6 months, upon a showing that the alien is in training for a specified organized sport-shooting contest to be held within the permit period.

The manufacture, possession, sale, barter, trade, gift, transfer, or acquisition of detachable ammunition magazines with a capacity in excess of ten rounds for pistols is prohibited.

After July 1, 1992, it is unlawful to bring or cause to be brought into the State an assault pistol. No assault pistol may be sold or transferred on or after July 1, 1992, to anyone within the State other than to a licensed dealer of the State of Hawaii or the chief of police of any county except that any person who obtains title by bequest or intestate succession to an assault pistol registered within the State shall, within 90 days, render the weapon permanently inoperable, sell or transfer the weapon to a licensed dealer or the chief of police of any county, or remove the weapon from the State. "Assault Pistol" means a semiautomatic pistol which accepts a detachable magazine and which has two or more of the following characteristics: (1) an ammunition magazine which attaches to the pistol outside of the pistol grip; (2) a threaded barrel capable of accepting a barrel extender, flash suppressor, forward hand grip, or silencer; (3) a shroud which is attached to or partially or completely encircles the barrel and which permits the shooter to hold the firearm with the second hand without being burned; (4) a manufactured weight of fifty ounces or more when the pistol is unloaded; (5) a centerfire pistol with an overall length of 12 inches or more; or is a semiautomatic version of

an automatic firearm.

PURCHASE

No person shall acquire the ownership of a firearm, either by purchase, gift, inheritance, bequest, or in any other manner, whether procured in Hawaii or imported, until he has first procured from the chief of police of the county of his place of business, residence, or sojourn a permit to acquire.

Each chief of police may issue permits within his jurisdiction to citizens of the U.S. who are at least 21 and to duly accredited official representatives of foreign nations. No permit shall be issued to an applicant earlier than 14 calendar days after the date of application. Permits to acquire a pistol or revolver require a separate application and permit for each transaction. Permits issued to purchase any rifle or shotgun entitles the permittee to make subsequent purchases of rifles or shotguns for a period of one year from the date of issue and does not require a separate application and permit for each transaction. Effective July 1, 1995, no person shall be issued a permit for the acquisition of a pistol or revolver unless the person has completed a firearms safety training course. The permit shall be void unless used within 10 days after the date of issue.

In all cases where possession of a firearm is acquired from another person in Hawaii, the permit shall be signed by its holder and shall be delivered to the person who is transferring title to the firearm.

The transferor is required to provide information on the permit including the name of the person to whom the firearm, rifle or shotgun was transferred and a description of the firearm, including serial number, and then deliver or send the permit by registered mail to the chief of police within 48 hours. In case receipt of the firearm is obtained by any method from sources outside Hawaii, the person to whom the permit has been issued is required to fill out the permit and deliver or mail the permit by registered mail to the chief of police within 48 hours after taking possession of the handgun.

Any person acquiring a firearm under the permit is required to register it within five days of acquisition. There is no charge for permits.

A rifle or shotgun whether usable or unusable, serviceable or unserviceable, modern or antique, registered or unregistered, may not be transferred to any alien or any person under 18. However, each chief of police may issue permits to aliens 18 or over for use of rifles and shotguns for a period not exceeding 60 days after the alien had first procured a hunting license.

CARRYING

The possession of all firearms and ammunition is restricted to the possessor's place of business, residence, or sojourn, but it is lawful to carry firearms and ammunition in an enclosed container or other suitable container from the place of purchase to the purchaser's home, place of business, or place of sojourn, or between these places when moving, or between these places and a place of repair or a target range.

It is unlawful to possess or carry a loaded firearm on any public highway without a permit to carry. Exemptions:

1. Law enforcement officers, mail carriers, and members of military forces.
2. Persons employed by the state, its subdivisions, or the U.S. whose duties require being armed while they are performing those duties or going to and from their respective places of duty.
3. Regularly enrolled members of any organization duly authorized to purchase or receive the firearms from the U.S. or from the state, provided they are at, or going to or from their places of assembly or target practice.

"In an exceptional case, when the applicant shows reason to fear injury to his person or property, if the respective chief of police may grant a license to carry a concealed firearm on his person within the county where the license is granted to a U.S. citizen or duly accredited official representative of a foreign nation age 21 or older."

Where the urgency of the need has been sufficiently indicated to the respective chief of police, he may grant to an applicant of good moral character who is a citizen of the U.S. of the age of 21 or older, who is engaged in the protection of life and property, a license to carry a handgun unconcealed on his person within the county where the license is granted.

Licenses to carry are valid for one year. There is a license fee of \$10.00. A license will not be issued to a person who is prohibited from owning or possessing a firearm, or to a person adjudged insane or appearing to be mentally deranged, nor will a license be issued unless it appears that the applicant "is a suitable person to be so licensed."

- All permits and licenses may be revoked for good cause by the issuing authority or by the judge of any court.

The Attorney General receives a report of all permits and licenses issued.

MACHINE GUNS

The manufacture, possession, sale, barter, trade, gift, transfer or acquisition of any machine gun is prohibited. Exempt are law enforcement officers, mail carriers, members of military forces, and persons employed by the state, its subdivisions, or the U.S. whose duties require being armed, while they are performing those duties or while going to and from their respective places of duty. These provisions also apply to rifles with barrel lengths under 16 inches and shotguns with barrel lengths under 18 inches.

ANTIQUES AND REPLICAS

Firearms "designed to fire loose black powder" are not required to be registered. All other provisions are applicable to antiques and replicas.

MISCELLANEOUS

It is unlawful to willfully alter, remove, or obliterate the name of the make, model, serial number, or other mark of identification of any firearm or ammunition. Possession of such a firearm creates a legal presumption that the possessor has committed the unlawful act.

It is unlawful for any person, including a business entity, to possess, sell or deliver any handgun which was not duly registered prior to July 1, 1975, if the frame or receiver has a melting temperature of less than 800 degrees F. Exempt are antique firearms, defined as being manufactured in or before 1898 and any replica if such replica is not designed or redesigned for using rimfire or conventional centerfire fixed ammunition, or uses fixed ammunition which is no longer manufactured in the U.S. and which is not readily available in the ordinary channels of commercial trade.

A license to sell and manufacture firearms may be canceled or suspended, and all firearms seized or purchased, on or by order of the governor during any time of a national emergency or crisis until such time as the national emergency or crisis has passed, or until such time as the licensee and the government of the U.S. or the government of Hawaii may agree upon some other disposition.

Any person violating the provisions pertaining to automatic firearms, assault pistols, sawed off shotguns and rifles shall be imprisoned for a term of not less than two years nor more than 5 years without probation.

It is unlawful for any person on any public highway to carry on the person, possess, or to carry in a vehicle any loaded or unloaded firearm without a license to carry.

It is unlawful to store or keep any firearm on any premises under the person's control if the person knows or reasonably should know that a person under 16 is likely to gain access to the firearm without the permission of the parent or guardian of the minor unless the person (1) keeps the firearm in a securely locked box or other container or in a location that a reasonable person would believe to be secure; or (2) carries the firearm on the person or within such close proximity that the person readily can retrieve and use it as if it were carried on the person. These permits are extremely difficult to obtain. We have been advised that the Honolulu Police will not approve a license for any reason.

It is unlawful for any person, including a business entity to possess, offer for sale, hold for sale, sell, give, lend or deliver any electric gun.

It is unlawful to manufacture, possess, sell, transfer, or acquire a detachable ammunition magazine with a capacity in excess of 10 rounds which is designed for or capable of use with a pistol.

A person may lawfully possess handguns and ammunition while going to or from the possessor's place of business, residence, sojourn and to or from a target range or to or from a place of hunting so long as the firearms are in an enclosed container 3 or

other suitable container. A person who is lawfully licensed to hunt may carry unconcealed and use a lawfully acquired pistol or revolver while actually engaged in hunting game mammals.

CAUTION: State firearm laws are subject to frequent change. The above summary is not to be considered as legal advice or a restatement of law. To determine the applicability of these laws to specific situations that you may encounter, you are strongly urged to consult a local attorney.

A SYNOPSIS OF STATE LAWS ON PURCHASE,
POSSESSION AND CARRYING OF FIREARMS.

Compiled by:

NRA Institute for Legislative Action

11250 Waples Mill Road

Fairfax, Virginia 22030

<http://www.nra.org>

NS 01070 Rev. 7/97 5M

Posted: 1999-11-02

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November 3, 1999

ATF information about Honolulu shooting for White House Press Office:

ATF agents arrived immediately at the scene of the crime. ATF agents were involved in negotiating the surrender of the suspect and are continuing to work with local police. All 17 guns were registered to the alleged killer. The alleged killer used a Glock 9mm in the shooting. ATF will trace all the firearms.

To: Jason Schechter - WH Press - 456-6423
Stetti Warren - 456-6704
Deanne Benos - 456-7028

Fr: Maria Ibanez
Treasury Public Affairs
622-2960



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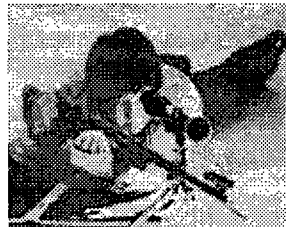
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ATF - Bill Cancellla

Posted on: Wednesday, November 3, 1999

Suspect had collection of weapons



Byran Uyesugi, was on the Roosevelt High School rifle team.

By Robbie Dingeman
Advertiser Staff Writer

There were at least 17 guns registered in Byran Uyesugi's name, including a 9mm handgun like the one used to kill seven men at the Xerox office building.

"At the scene of the tragic, tragic incident, approximately 20 9mm casings were recovered," Honolulu Police Department Deputy Chief Mike Carvalho said.

Uyesugi is a 1977 graduate of Roosevelt High School, and the school's 1975 yearbook indicates he belonged to the riflery team. He is shown in a picture lying on the ground, and the caption reads: "Utilizing the spotting scope, resolute rifleman Byran Uyesugi focuses on the target."

At Uyesugi's Nuuanu home yesterday, his father Hiroyuki Uyesugi turned over 18 weapons that belonged to his son. "In cooperation with the father of the suspect, our officers recovered from the residence of the suspect over 11 handguns, five rifles and two shotguns belonging to the suspect," Carvalho said.

After Uyesugi, 40, surrendered in Makiki, another weapon was found in the van he drove, Carvalho said.

To buy a firearm in Hawaii, gun owners must register with the police department in their county.

They must pay a \$24 fee for their initial permit, which covers an FBI fingerprint/background check; provide specific information on make, model, caliber, etc. of the weapon; and produce a photo ID and proof of U.S. citizenship and Hawaii residency.

They must also fill out a firearm application questionnaire that rules out applicants who are convicted felons, those treated for alcohol or drug addiction, those admitted to psychiatric facilities or suffering mental illness and those restrained by a court order from contacting, threatening or physically abusing someone else.

To register handguns, owners must show proof of completing a gun safety course. And, if they were convicted of drunken driving, they need to show a substance abuse assessment from the District Court Drivers License Division. Officials say Hawaii has one of the stricter gun laws in the country, but there is no limit on the number of weapons a person can register.

The yearbook from Uyesugi's senior year also shows him lifting weights in two photos but lists no other clubs or interests next to his senior photo.

None of the handful of teachers there when he attended school remembered him yesterday.

Police declined to comment on reports that Uyesugi was denied a firearms permit in 1994 after being arrested in 1993 for third-degree criminal property damage after arguing with co-workers at Xerox. The case was dismissed in 1994.

Hiroyuki Uyesugi said that his son had kicked an elevator door at work, then was required to undergo anger management counseling for two weeks.

His only police record of a conviction is for a May 25, 1984, arrest for driving under the influence of alcohol. In March 1985, he pleaded guilty, paid a \$200 fine, performed 72 hours of community service and had his driver's license suspended for 90 days.

Police sources said he had been under psychiatric care but did not provide details.

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Posted on: Wednesday, November 3, 1999

Faces, family, memories emerge from list of victims

Advertiser Staff

They all arrived for work before 8 a.m., taking the usual routes from places such as Hawaii Kai, Waipio Gentry, Kaneohe and Mililani. On this morning, the last day of their lives, they would become part of the story that flashed across TV screens and front pages across America.

John Sakamoto, Ford Kanehira, Peter Mark, Ron Kataoka, Melvin Lee, Ron Kawamae, and Jason Balatico — the seven victims of yesterday's shooting at Xerox Engineering Systems.

A picture of who they were began to emerge as information about the shooting circulated.

John Sakamoto, 36

Sakamoto, who was raised in Hawaii Kai, was described by a neighbor as "a good kid and a great fisherman."

Pointing over to the garage of Sakamoto's parents' home, he sighed: "That boat over there is his. He loved fishing. He took that boat out all the time."

The neighbor said Sakamoto was married with children, though he was not sure how many or how old. He said the Sakamoto family have been his neighbors for more than 25 years.

"It's so shocking and unexpected," he said. "It's bad enough to lose a son under these circumstances, but when it becomes so public. ... I cannot imagine what (the parents) are feeling."

Ron Kataoka, 50

Kataoka, a longtime employee of Xerox, lived in Mililani. Last night, a woman accompanied by a girl at his home — at the end of a cul-de-sac in a quiet neighborhood — said she wasn't interested in talking.

His mother, Flora Kataoka of Wahiawa, described her only son last night by telephone as "a good boy."

Ronald Kawamae, 54

Only three weeks ago Kawamae mourned the death of his 75-year-old father at a twilight funeral service at Nuuanu Memorial Park Mortuary.

Yesterday the longtime Xerox Corp. employee was the one who was being mourned.

When they heard the news of his slaying, his relatives were still recovering from the death of George Keiji Kawamae, a well-known member of Hawaii's construction industry.

That his son would become the victim of the worst mass killing in Hawaii's history was almost too much for them to fathom.

"This is a double tragedy," said his aunt, Nancy Shimokawa.

Kawamae was an avid golfer.

"I'm in shock. I'm just numb," said his son, Reid, from his Hawaii Kai home. A driver for TheBus, Reid tried to page his father after he heard about the shooting on news broadcasts shortly after 8 a.m..

When his father didn't respond, he drove to the Xerox Corp. building and was ushered into a "hospitality suite" in a neighboring building, where he joined other anxious family members.

"It was not good," he said. "People were crying."

At about 2 p.m., officials told him his father was among the victims. "I just went into shock," he said.

That's how the Kawamae family have been feeling since they heard about Ronald's untimely death.

"How could this have happened?" asked his aunt, Alice Chinen. "He was a wonderful man."

Kawamae was born and raised in Kaimuki. After graduating from Kaimuki High School, he worked as a civilian employee at Pearl Harbor.

Besides his son, he is survived by grandson Reinton and aunts Alice Chinen, Nancy Shimokawa and May Toya.

Melvin Lee, 58

Lee went off to work yesterday as he had for the past 32 years.

He kissed his wife, Ann, and said goodbye to his son and daughter, who were living at home.

That was the last they ever heard from the field service manager at Xerox.

A few years from retirement, Lee was looking forward to golfing and spending more time with his family. He had three children, one age 30 who is married and has a son of his own.

Another, 17-year-old son is a senior at Pearl City High School, and a 14-year-old daughter is a Pearl City High freshman.

The only one in the family who doesn't golf is wife Ann.

"Today was just like any other day," Ann Lee said outside her Waipio Gentry home yesterday. "It was a weekly group meeting. I didn't even hear anything until someone told me about it while I was at work."

Hours later, her fears were confirmed. Lee was one of the seven people gunned down allegedly by Byran Uyesugi, a technician at Xerox. Uyesugi was part of Lee's team, she said.

Lee's neighbor of 19 years, Bob Bretschneider, expressed shock.

His family and the Lees spent many happy times ringing in the new year with fire crackers. His daughter and Lee's son went to school together. They played together as toddlers.

Lee and Bretschneider served on the community association board together.

"We're all kind of in shock," Bretschneider said. "We're all rallying around the family until this gets squared away. He (the gunman) destroyed seven people's lives."

Peter Mark, 46

Mark and his wife Karen had two children.

"He was just like a local boy," his cousin Kendall Mark said. "He dressed in aloha shirts. Casual guy, easy to talk to."

Peter always spoke well of his job, where he worked for about 20 years, his cousin said. He was into outdoor activities — a nature buff.

"He got along with basically everyone. If you had a problem and you mentioned it to him, he'd be there to help," Kendall Mark said.

Brant Nishizuka knew him since the eighth-grade. "Peter was always an energetic, friendly guy ... basically real fun-loving and devoted family man. ... It's just too bad."

Jason Balatico, 33

A neighbor of Balatico described him as "a very nice guy."

Ford Kanehira, 41

A woman who answered the phone at the residence of Ford Kanehira of Haaopu Way in Kaneohe said the family was not speaking to the media.

Advertiser staff writers Yasmin Anwar, Suzanne Roig, Ken Kobayashi, Stacy Kaneshiro, Dave Koga and Dayton Morinaga contributed to this report.

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Posted on: Wednesday, November 3, 1999

Students' visit to nature center disrupted

By Scott Ishikawa
and Frank Cho
Advertiser Staff Writers

Two elementary school classes had field trips to Hawaii Nature Center interrupted by yesterday's standoff between suspected Xerox gunman Byran Uyesugi and police at the top of Makiki Heights Drive.

About 30 first-graders and eight adults from Iliahi Elementary School in Wahiawa had arrived at the visitor center at 9:15 a.m. There also were 58 Hickam Elementary fourth-graders being led by Hawaii Nature Center officials at nearby Puu Ualakaa State Wayside Park above Makiki.

But at 10 a.m., police telephoned the center that Uyesugi was in the area. The suspect had parked the Ford Aerostar he was driving on the grassy curb of Makiki Heights Drive about 500 feet south of the Hawaii Nature Center building.

"At that time, our phones began ringing off the hook," said Marcia Murakami, a Hawaii Nature Center coordinator. "Concerned parents and the media were calling to see if the kids were all right. It was a tense situation for the adults, but the children were never in any danger."

The Iliahi students, who were outside at a nearby stream when the standoff began, were brought back into the main building. Eleven hikers also were asked to remain at the center.

Craig Daima, whose daughter was part of the class trip, said a plainclothes police officer entered the building and instructed the children to stay inside because "something bad was happening outside."

"The children were probably too young to understand the

situation to be frightened, which might have been a good thing," said Daima, who noted the children ended up playing games and making boats out of tulip pods and headbands.

Police finally decided to evacuate everyone from the building at 1:30 p.m., accessing a rear hiking trail to reach nearby Maunalaha Road. Police said the trail was not steep, and they used rope to create temporary handrails for the children.

The fourth-graders from Hickam were ordered by Honolulu Police officers down from the trails shortly before 10 a.m.

"We listened to the local HPD. They told us what to do and we complied," said George Gregory, who was helping supervise the Hickam group. "The kids were fine. Once we told them why it was being canceled, they (the children) understood."

Some of the children, while waiting for transportation, had their pictures taken with police officers from the department's specialized services division, who escorted them out of the park, said Mary Roney, a staff member at the center.

After the evacuation, the children were taken back to school, where they were released to their parents.

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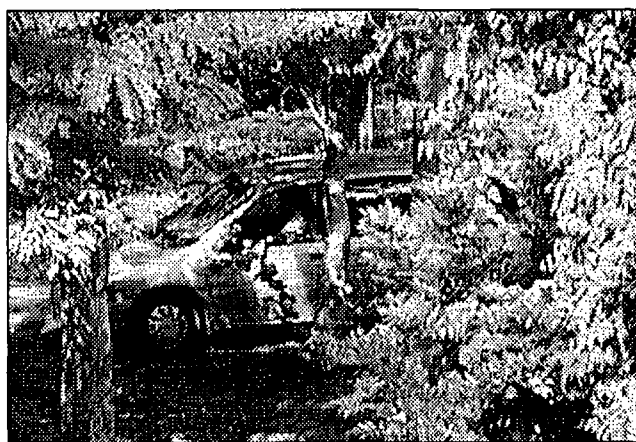
News

CRIME AND PUNISHMENT

APBnews.com

Gunman kills 7 in Honolulu office

Suspect surrounded by police after slayings at Xerox facility



Shooting suspect Byran Uyesugi sits in a Xerox van Tuesday as he holds police at bay at Tantalus Park in Honolulu.

Eraig T. Kojima / APF

MSNBC STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

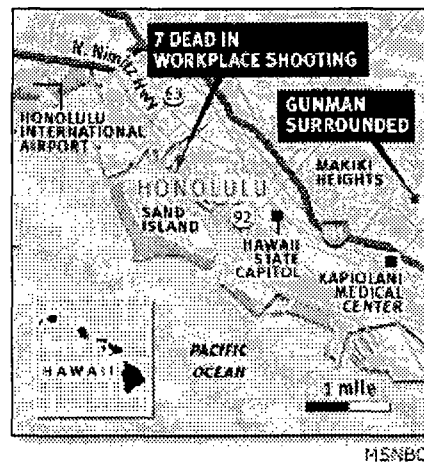
HONOLULU, Nov. 2 — Police have surrounded a gunman who opened fire at a Xerox facility in Honolulu on Tuesday and killed seven co-workers before fleeing in a company van, officials said. The mayor said police had cornered the suspect as he paced in front of the van three miles from the shooting scene.

© COMPLETE STORY →

IN A TELEVISED interview, Mayor Jeremy Harris withdrew earlier comments he made that the man appeared to have surrendered and said: "Police have him surrounded. A trained negotiator is on his way to the scene. The situation is under control. The public is no longer in jeopardy."

By late morning in Makiki Heights, a residential neighborhood near the shooting scene, negotiators were talking with the suspect through a bullhorn. He could be seen pacing back and forth outside the van.

In the afternoon, negotiations were continuing and someone had gotten into the van with the suspect.

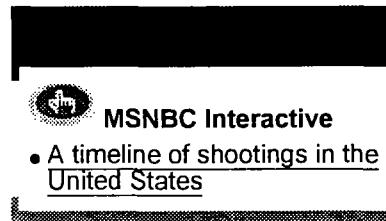


The gunfire erupted shortly after 8 a.m. (1 p.m. ET) in an industrial section of Honolulu, far from the Waikiki tourist district. Five victims were found dead in a conference room and two other bodies were found nearby. All had been shot with a 9 mm handgun, authorities said.

Ambulance teams that went into the building found a "grisly" scene, said Richard Soo of the city fire department.

Police identified the gunman as 40-year-old Byran Uesugi, who joined Xerox Corp. in 1984. As a customer service engineer, he traveled to various sites to service and repair printers and copiers, Xerox said.

"It appears as though it was a disgruntled employee who snapped," the mayor said.



John Teruya, owner of the New Eagle Café, which is next door to the building, told MSNBC that none of his employees or customers were aware that the shooting had

occurred until police vehicles arrived with sirens and lights.

He said the Xerox facility is a repair and distribution center, where technicians pick up their parts before making customer calls.

"Apparently they had a meeting this morning and he walked in and opened fire," he said.

Asked if he knew the victims, Teruya replied, "Unfortunately, we do."

TENSE STANDOFF

Police cordoned off a half-mile area around the vehicle, which is near the Hawaii Nature Center. About 60 fourth-graders and 12 chaperones were on a nature hike when police told them to get to higher ground. About 10 homes were also evacuated.

A school bus with two rifle-toting police officers then took the students to safety. A separate group of first-graders on a field trip also was evacuated in the afternoon.

Xerox employees were taken across the street from the building to be questioned by police and helped by counselors. Another Xerox building, in downtown Honolulu, was evacuated in case the gunman headed that way.

All seven victims were male Xerox employees who were shot on the second floor of the two-story building, authorities said. They ranged in age from 33 to 58. Their bodies won't be moved until police are finished with their investigation.

"It's a shock for all of us. We have such a safe community with almost no violent crime," the mayor said. "To have someone snap like this and murder seven people is just absolutely appalling."

STRICT GUN LAWS

Uesugi was a member of his high school rifle team and had up to 17 weapons registered in his name. "This could have been much, much worse," the mayor said.

Hawaii has fairly strict gun laws. Sales records, registration and state licenses are required for all firearms buyers. The state runs background checks on buyers and a waiting period of up to 15 days is required to purchase a gun. A child firearm access prevention law is also in force.

The shooting was the latest of several workplace killings across the United States this year.

- [Click here to look at gun laws state-by-state.](#)

In Pelham, Ala., Alan Miller, 34, was charged with killing two co-workers at their office Aug. 5, then killing a third person at a company where he used to work.

Just one week earlier, frustrated investor Mark Barton, 44, killed nine people and wounded 13 others at two brokerage firms in Atlanta, then killed himself. He had earlier killed his wife and two children.

The Associated Press and Reuters contributed to this report.

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BREAKING NEWS: 7 reported dead after Honolulu shooting; suspect cornered in van

Police barricaded the Xerox building where seven were reported killed this morning.

The Honolulu Advertiser

Children reported safe near scene where shooting suspect cornered

Some 40 first-graders from Iliahi Elementary School were reported out of harm's way in the Hawaii Nature Center this morning.

Parents are asked not to go to the center, located near where police are negotiating with the suspect in a shooting at the Xerox building this morning.

The children were among a group of about 50 people at the nature center awaiting a way to evacuate safely.

An employee opened fire at a Xerox Corp. building near downtown Honolulu Tuesday, killing seven co-workers before fleeing.

Two hours after the shooting, the man, Byran K. Uyesugi, 40, sat quietly in a minivan at a nature center in a deeply forested hillside above Honolulu. He was surrounded by police who were trying to get Uyesugi to give up.

Witnesses at the scene said Uyesugi was sitting passively behind the driver's seat, talking in a conversational voice to police.

"We are hopeful we're going to be able to negotiate a peaceful settlement," Deputy Police Chief Mike Carvalho said. The seven men were found dead at the building on North Nimitz Highway, near downtown and about five miles from Waikiki.

The shooting began shortly after 8 a.m. and the shooter fled in a Xerox company van.

Honolulu Fire Department spokesman Richard Soo said ambulance teams that went into the building found a "grisly" scene. All those shot were killed, police said.

"It sounded like he was unloading his gun. It wasn't a single shot. Think I might have seen the guy they're talking about," said Dale Ajifu, a Xerox technician.



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 i n s i d e **LOCAL NEWS**» **Mirikitani, insurer
squabble over policy**

City Councilman Andy Mirikitani says a van he owns was insured when it hit a pedestrian; his insurance company says the policy had lapsed because of non-payment. The woman who was hit filed a complaint with police.

» **Unions to continue
wage talks**

A state judge extended a restraining order against the state, thus allowing four public employee unions to negotiate pay raises for their members. A hearing has been set for January to decide whether the order halting the state from freezing the pay is made permanent.

 ISLAND LIFE» **Evening elegance: Have
a fling with formal wear**

Embroidery, beading, faux fur, metallics, feathers. If ever there was a season for glitz and glam, this is it. And that goes for both men and women. The rules of formal wear cover both the traditional and the trendy.

» **Guys' guide to dress-up
decorum**

The glossary of men's attire: White tie is full dress tails; black tie is black tuxedo or dinner jacket with cummerbund; black tie optional is a dark business suit with dress shirt.

 SPORTS» **Bown is player of the
week, yet again**

It's the third time Heather Bown has won the WAC volleyball honor this year.

» **National Scores** **BUSINESS**» **Monthly visitor count
inches up**

September arrivals to the Islands went up 0.2 percent over the same period last year, thanks to North American and European visitors. Hotel occupancy also was up.

» **Stocks and Mutual
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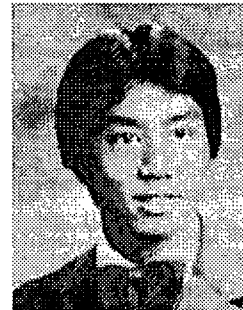
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Posted on: Tuesday, November 2, 1999

BREAKING NEWS: 7 reported dead in Honolulu shooting; suspect cornered



The suspect, Byran Uyesugi, was on the Roosevelt High School rifle team.



Byran Uyesugi's 1975 Roosevelt High School graduation picture.

Advertiser Staff

An employee opened fire at a Xerox Corp. building near downtown Honolulu Tuesday, killing seven co-workers before fleeing.

Two hours after the shooting, the man, Byran K. Uyesugi, 40, sat quietly in a minivan at a nature center in a deeply forested hillside above Honolulu. He was surrounded by police who were trying to get Uyesugi to give up. Witnesses at the scene said Uyesugi was sitting passively behind the driver's seat, talking in a conversational voice to police.

"We are hopeful we're going to be able to negotiate a peaceful settlement," Deputy Police Chief Mike Carvalho said.

The seven men were found dead at the building on North Nimitz Highway, near downtown and about five miles from the popular tourist area at Waikiki. The shooting began

shortly after 8 a.m. (1 p.m. EST) and the shooter fled in a Xerox company van.

Honolulu Fire Department spokesman Richard Soo said ambulance teams that went into the building found a "grisly" scene. All those shot were killed, police said.

"It sounded like he was unloading his gun. It wasn't a single shot. Think I might have seen the guy they're talking about," said Dale Ajifu, a Xerox technician.

Ajifu was downstairs in the warehouse when he heard the shots. He had just gotten into work a few minutes before.

Police said Uyesugi worked in Xerox's technical services division. Sam Anoulack, another Xerox employee, said Uesugi had worked in the building for around 10 years.

Police said Uyesugi had 17 weapons registered to him, including a 9 mm pistol that was apparently used in the shootings.

He said all seven victims were men, Xerox employees who were shot on the second floor of the two-story building.

"It appears as though it was a disgruntled employee who snapped," Honolulu Mayor Jeremy said. Several co-workers, who would not identify themselves, said Uyesugi was expecting to be fired.

"It's a shock for all of us. We have such a safe community with almost no violent crime. To have someone snap like this and murder seven people is just absolutely appalling," the mayor said.

Another Xerox building, in downtown Honolulu, had been evacuated as a precaution in case the gunman headed that way.

The site of the shootings is miles from the Waikiki tourist district.

Calls to Xerox headquarters in Stamford, Conn., were referred to Rochester, N.Y., where company manufacturing plants are located.

"This is a tragic event," the company said in a statement. "Our foremost concern is for the safety and security of our employees and for the comfort of the families of the victims."

By 11:30 a.m., Red Cross crisis counselors had arrived at the scene of the shooting and were assisting employees.

Shortly after the shooting, Xerox employees and others from nearby businesses gathered outside the building.

Arther Clayton, a 26-year-old project manager at White

Environmental Consultants, was pulling into the parking lot shortly after the shootings. He said he saw shocked employees gathering outside and a manager coming out to tell them <P>what happened.

"He just came out and said, 'Six people dead. Then he knelt down and started to cry,'" Clayton said. "I didn't even know these people, but it's shocking this would happen to people who were going to work just like anybody else. I just can't imagine the looks on their faces when this guy walked in with a gun."

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November 2, 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT

FROM: Brian Reich

SUBJECT: Shooting in Honolulu – 6pm Update

A gunman opened fire Tuesday morning at a Xerox building in Honolulu, Hawaii, killing seven and wounding none. The shooting took place at approximately 8:10am local time (1:10pm EDT) when the gunman, armed with what is believed to be a 9mm pistol (*9mm shell casings were found at the scene*), entered a second-floor conference room and opened fire killing five. As he left the building, the suspect continued shooting, killing his other two victims.

The suspect fled the scene (originally in a Xerox van and later in his own personal vehicle), and was arrested at approximately 12:30pm local time (5:30pm EDT) by SWAT team members who had surrounded the suspect's vehicle in a residential neighborhood close to the site of the shooting. Authorities had also summoned trained negotiators to ensure a peaceful ending to the standoff.

The suspect has been identified as Byron K. Uyesugi, a former customer service engineer for Xerox who joined Xerox Corp. in 1984 and traveled to various sites to service and repair printers and copiers. The 40 year-old Asian male is known to have 17 different weapons registered under his name. *NOTE: Uyesugi was turned down for a firearms permit in January 1994, after he was arrested for criminal property damage at work – an arrest that followed an argument with co-workers at Xerox.* Xerox employees 148 people in Honolulu – the facility that was the scene of the massacre is the central maintenance supply facility for the area, providing technicians with materials to fulfill their daily appointments.

The seven victims, all male, ranged in ages from 33-58.
The shooting is the worst mass killing in Hawaii history.