

# Recovering from quake



AP/Wide World Photos

Volunteer rescue workers and firemen Feb. 8 remove an injured man from a collapsed building in Pereira, after a powerful earthquake rocked Colombia. The quake toppled buildings, killed at least 28 people, and injured 200. According to the Geophysical Institute of the Andes, the quake had a magnitude of 6.5 and was centered about 175 miles west of Bogota.

# Bombing suspect is linked to papal assassination plot

MANILA, Philippines (CNS) — Ramzi Ahmed Yousef, the man accused of masterminding the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center, also was involved in a scheme to assassinate Pope John Paul II, Philippine police sources said.

Yousef, identified in some reports as Iraqi and in others as Pakistani, was arrested in Pakistan and extradited to New York in early February. He pleaded not guilty to 11 counts related to the World Trade Center bombing, in which six people were killed and 1,000 were injured.

U.S. authorities described Yousef, 27, as a dangerous Muslim extremist and one of the world's most-wanted suspects. They said he supplied funds and technical expertise for international attacks and that his arrest could lead to arrests of other extremists.

Pope John Paul II visited the Philippines Jan. 12-16, and security was tight during his visit. On Jan. 13 news reports from the Philippines quoted the country's defense secretary as saying that two people were arrested in a Muslim extremist plot to assassinate the pope and

that police were searching for about 20 foreigners in the alleged conspiracy.

Police picked up Yousef's trail after a fire broke out Jan. 6 in a Manila apartment building in which he was believed to be making bombs.

In the United States, *The Washington Post* reported Feb. 10 that after the fire, Manila police arrested two Muslim men, and the next day stormed an apartment near the Vatican Embassy. *The Post* said police found fake security badges for the papal visit, diagrams of the pope's travel routes, bomb-making materials like those used in the World Trade Center explosion and a fingerprint, which matched Yousef's.

Philippine police said the bombing of a Tokyo-bound Philippine Airlines Dec. 11, which killed a Japanese passenger, was a test run for the wave of terrorism Yousef and his group planned to sow in the region.

A Philippine official said police were still hunting for Yousef's group of 20 Muslim extremists, including Pakistanis, Turks and Moroccans. The group also included Filipinos.

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