

2015-05-15

## Friday Hard News Call

### INFORMATION REGARDING CALLS PRESENTED AND/OR SUPPORTED BY 2013 RAINBOW ROUND TABLE

#### I TO ACCESS THE THREE WEEKLY CALLS via the Internet

**A BBS RADIO** Go To [www.bbsradio.com](http://www.bbsradio.com) ; click on Talk Radio Station #2; click on "64K Listen"

**Thursday:** 9 pm – 12:00 pm EST **Stargate Round Table** **Host: Marietta Robert**

**Friday:** 9 pm – 2 am EST **Friday Night Hard News** **Hosts: T & R**

**Saturday:** 4:30 pm – 2 am EST **History of our Galactic World & NESARA** **Hosts: T & R**

**Friday, Saturday:** From **10 – 11 pm EST**, for one hour, the call moves to the Conference Call Line [PIN below] and then returns to BBS Radio.

- Use the following phone numbers to ask questions or make comments during the radio show.  
530 – 227-7602 [line 1]  
530 – 413-4522 [line 2]  
530 – 530-413-5011 [line 3 & 4]

- **BBS Toll Free # in Canada, US** 1 – 888-429-5471 This number picks up whichever line is available.

**B Conference Call:** 1-860-970-0300

Thursday PIN #	87 87 87#
Friday PIN #	23 23 23 #
Saturday PIN #	13 72 9#

**C Skype:** **BBSradio2**

#### **D Archives for the 3 Programs listed above:**

- To access the **FREE BBS archives** for any of these programs:
  - Go to [BBSRadio.com/ Station 2](http://BBSRadio.com/Station2); scroll down; click on **Live Talk Radio Shows**
  - Scroll down to **Hard News on Friday with Tara and Rama**, and click on **"Library Archives"**
  - Click on those words and you will be taken to the listing of all program archives, the latest one being at the top.
  - Right hand click on "direct MP3 Link" and then you can download the program to your own computer, or click on "Listen" without downloading the archived program.

- The **2013 website also has an archive section:**  
<http://2013rainbowroundtable.ning.com/> look under the "Archives" tab for written notes.

#### II TO ACCESS OTHER CALLS SUPPORTED BY 2013 Rainbow Roundtable

**A Sunday, Mondays: 9 – 10:30 EST** **Cheryl Croci's Activation Calls**  
By telephone only: 1 – 860-970-0300; PIN 9467441#

**B Tuesdays, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> of each month:  
9:30 – 11:00 pm EST** **Ashtar on the Road**  
Hosts: Fran; Susan Leland channels Ashtar, Mother Sekhmet  
[www.Ashtarontheroad.com](http://www.Ashtarontheroad.com)

- Phone Number: 1 – 559 – 726 – 1300; PIN 972400 #
- Call is free [except for long distance charges]
- Can also listen to the call via Skype

**C Wednesdays: 7:00 – 9:00 EST** **The Friends of The Aboriginal Moabite Nation Call**  
By telephone only: 1– 712-432-0900 PIN 666238#  
Replay # [good for 1 week] 1-712- 432-0990 PIN 666238#

**Opening Meditation / Reading:**

**Rainbird**

**Housekeeping:**

**Rainbird**

**Thank you!**

- BBS:**
- A listener-supported radio program; we know the White Knights listen but they cannot contribute anything; part of our job is to pay for them too
  - **We need \$ 300 to cover this week!** Many, many thanks for helping keep us up-to-date. The more people contribute, the easier it is for all.
  - What we hear and learn feeds our minds and our souls! And, as LM Nada said, it is also part of our contribution to the work being done by Tara & Rama and to the changes going on.
  - Go to BBS.com/Radio 2; find the listing for Friday Night Hard News; find the **Paypal** button
    - BBS appreciates getting checks through the mail – no fees taken off by Paypal
  - **NO COST TO ACCESS THE ARCHIVES** for any of the T & R PROGRAMS, or the one for Thursday night: Stargate Round Table, hosted by MariettaRobert
  - Re: archives of the other programs on BBS: the money we pay to listen to someone else's archives is put towards our BBS bill!
  - The mailing address for those who do not like paying electronically:  
**BBS Network, Inc. [Attention: Don]  
5167 Toyon Lane  
Paradise, CA 95969**
  - A check to BBS means all of the money you send is received; using Paypal incurs a fee.

• **CUSTOMER SERVICE # - IN CASE YOU CANNOT HEAR – DON'T WAIT: CALL!! 1- 888-710-8061**

**T & R:** • Rent has been paid; still need food, gas money & something for bills.

- Can donate via the Paypal button on the website: [www.2013RainbowRoundTable.ning.com](http://www.2013RainbowRoundTable.ning.com)
- **Please notify them if you're sending something:** [koran999@comcast.net](mailto:koran999@comcast.net)
- Rama's mailing address for cheques, Money orders: Ram D Berkowitz  
1704-B Llano St, # 249  
Santa Fe, NM 87505
- **phone contact** is via MariettaRobert: 317-773-0061  
or by e-mail: [stargatemarietta@gmail.com](mailto:stargatemarietta@gmail.com)
- **Remember you can book a session with Mother, as well!**

**MR:** • Please remember to support MariettaRobert's show, too

**Introductory Notes:**

- **CONFERENCE CALL FROM 9 – 10 PM, est: 1 - 209 – 647 – 1600 PIN#: 353 863#**  
**Conference Call in HD: 1- 209-647-1600, 353 863#** [just for the Conference Call]
- **716-748-0044 - use this number to hear the call very clearly: Link is courtesy BBS!**
- **NOTE:** Please use the following audio link to listen to the entire program.

<http://bbsradio.com/podcast/16454>

**HARD NEWS**

**T: Sec of State** Kerry going to China – going to discuss the islands there, also the ones being built up to put airstrips – basically claiming all this stuff - "land reclamation project"  
• Gordon Chang wrote a book about **the coming collapse of China** and they are sqawking about a few islands?! The ultimate collapse of this group is that their fossil fuel

weapons do not work any more!

- All that is said that the Atlantean grid is fully functional and operating, although it seems not to be, given the size of utility bills paid by ordinary people.
- A young gal got in Jeb Bush's face and told him that his brother is responsible for why ISIL is hanging out over there [by starting the war in Iraq]
  - Jeb Bush's signature on the founding documents of PINAC [Project for a New American Century] will defeat any attempts by this Bush to separate himself from his family's historical support of overt nazi & fascist policy, including the revelation of torture detailed in the Senate's report which came out this week. PINAC lays out the blueprint for the Anglo - American imperialism which has turned the US internally into a garrison police state and an imperial force internationally deployed against any country deemed unfriendly to British or American financial interests. Its primary target was China, described as the potential great power competitor to the US but it is most famous for selling the war in Iraq.
  - there are 4 in this dynasty and the whole family represents the 13 families and the nazi new world order, the nazi fascist state – it's both / and.
- It was Meghan Kelly of Fox News [not Karen Finney] who asked the question of Jeb Bush "Knowing what you know now [not
  - he is trying to renege on this today & still tries to justify what happened then
  - Karen Finney is the one Keith and Shepherd Smith are working with; Karen said I'm not crazy either – just like what Meghan Kelly said about what he said. Karen will be a real whistle-blower – has a lot of guts!
- **Tom the Cat called** and said the 13-10 blue dog democrats who showed their asses today to the world – **the Vatican gave them \$1 Billion EACH for this treason**
  - DO NOT UNDERESTIMATE THE DOUBLE AGENT BLACK MAN IN THE WHITE HOUSE WHO KNOWS EXACTLY WHAT TO DO
- The threat of nuclear proliferation on Sunday with Valerie Plame at 8 pm – Al Jazeera; will probably will have Queen Noor on with her – both are partners in the project for zero nukes
  - Scooter Libby and Karl Rove are still walking free and
  - Don Seigelman is still in prison illegally;
  - Osama bin Laden had nothing to do with 9/11 – it was the Bush/Clinton crime family and the family Saud
- the new Israeli gov't is more right wing than the last gov't & they are all guilty of war crimes.

#### **Audio: Thom Hartman- The Big Picture**

**GREEN REPORT: Climate Change...Help For Hopelessness?** Per Espen Stoknes Ph.D., [BI Norwegian School of Management/What We Think About When We Try Not to Think About Global Warming](#)

[Climate Change...Help For Hopelessness?](#)

[The Big Picture RT](#)

**Published on May 19, 2015**

<https://youtu.be/gptWJ1IQKsI>

Per Espen Stoknes Ph.D., BI Norwegian School of Management/

*What We Think About When We Try Not to Think About Global Warming* joins Thom.

- Climate Change is THE biggest crisis facing humanity. So why are so many people so willing to turn a blind eye to reality of global warming?
- The speaker is both a psychologist AND an economist – showing how both can work together

for a more harmonious outcome.

**Boston bombing:** it was a black op coverup like Sandy Hook and the theater shooting in Aurora, Co; has to do with the 13 families and stealing

- If he lives, he will talk – he knows about the fake Al Queda story going on his home country: all the countries in the area – the T bros did not do the bombing; it was Navy Seal Team 3

The Black Ops did it in Aurora, CO too.

**Caller:** right about the Boston bombing – not done by the brothers; the Black Ops totally responsible for the Boston bombing; this young man will have an opportunity to speak

- Has heard that Sybil Edmonds will come forth – what do they know about it?

**T:** where did you hear this?

- **Veterans Today** was talking about the whole situation

**T:** Valerie will be witnessing on al Jazeera on Sunday - everything is coming out of the woodwork

- Does not think Jeb Bush will run

**T:** Oh no he's said he's running: what will stop him is shackles! He was one of the originators of PINAC and this is a front for the 13 families to go all the way through to the end: "eight heads in a duffle bag"

- These ones are going to be in orange jump suits – correct?

**T:** Some people don't get the luxury of just being in jail! That's how serious this is.

**Caller:** What does she know about the TX gov – has he got loose marbles?

**T:** Just a place holder; all he will do is cede to the oil companies – they are fracking the heaven out of that place - so many people without water FOR GOOD in Texas, it's horrific.

**Caller:** a sink hole – ½ mile wide

- Has to do with the lake in New Orleans and its sink hole: they had salt mines underneath which had been mined for decades; then the fracking and the drilling and putting the dirty water back in there, they popped like a cork and everything disappeared.
- Same thing is getting ready to happen in Seneca Lake in NY state
- Operation FERC – Federal Energy Regulation Commission – just giving a green light for the fracking
- 100s of sink holes have already come down in FL & who knows how many more in the US – we are in for a surprise in the US.

### Conference Call:

**R:** talked to **Anonymous 7 ½** today, a NM state trooper: getting very hot in the kitchen – the #1 issue about 2008 and

- we have Malcom X's son in the white house and the republicans don't like it
- for the first time in planet's history, we are on the right time line right now!

**T:** talks about the whole line of sheiks hanging out with Mr 19.5\* at the White House

- a lot of them have sold their soul to the energy thing / Luciferia. They have to start at Ground Zero like everyone else

**Caller:** what else did Anonymous 7 ½ say?

- that Mr Obama is doing all the right things to nail these folks; they are going to be found out for what they want to do which is create the neo nazi fascist state –

**R:** it is all about the larger story of a transhumanist agenda and an army of android soldiers with a slice of soul matrix – AIN'T GONNA WORK AS THIS IS NOT THE WAY THIS UNIVERSE WORKS. Didn't work the last time either

- he also told R about a secret Palanteer: in *The Lord of the Rings* a crystal ball that you can see into parts of middle earth and use it to find out what is going on

- the corporation is called Palanteer – tied in with google, yahoo, the vatican – has to do with who they are playing around with, the kind of technology that DARPA and Raefeon played with. The movie called “Men who stare at goats” about a group of psychic soldiers who stare at goats and kill them from a distance: want to do this with humans
- they are playing with this stuff but **they have already lost**
- 7½ said the Laws of God have already won; he carries a gun & taser & has taken the bullets out of all his ammunition - has no bullets in his gun!
  - He is literally 7'6" tall and black as all get out – no one would question him!

**The Last Word on May 14<sup>th</sup>** - Ivy Deidrich, guest – a 19 year old student

- She confronted Jeb Bush about the war in Afghanistan, etc and said that his brother created ISIIL – why are you saying you'd make the same decision to go to war?
- she is a member of the young Democrats
- she felt she had to hold him accountable for the lies he was telling
  - the audience Bush was addressing was handpicked: the Right to Rise PAC group
  - the ticket was free on line, but this made things difficult for people to learn about the event – it was a very white audience
  - He walked away from her, after saying “We agree to disagree”
- she really wanted to ask a followup question about US relationship and support of the Kurdish forces fighting in Iraq and Syria
- Laurence said Ivy should moderate one of the debates to get her questions answered.

**Caller:** what about the House Bill and the woman on Thom Hartmann's show – she was so shocked that people know nothing – it is about the preemptive use of 85 chemicals – who wrote it? How can we find out? Don't we have enough chemicals . . . ?

**T:** we have a bunch of nazi criminals in the Congress, that's how! It is to reduce the human population to UNDER 2% - planning to kill ONE BILLION OF US THIS YEAR!

- **They have to be removed and that is a glactic operation!!**
- To find out more: **e-mail Ring of Fire:** Mike Papantonio knows all about it:  
**Ringoffireradio.com**

**T:** thanks. Lyn – we have to keep on top of these issues- ringoffire.com

- Joni Mitchell – getting ready to leave hospital: wanted to put her in a nursing home and she refused – has Morgellan's disease – if there is any chance of finding out how to do anything, it would be through Charles Carnacom – **really need alternative healers and those who know how to deal with this on another level**

**Caller:** if they are talking about adding more chemicals

**T: those chemicals are already out there!**

**R:** whatever they are spraying, the **Violet Flame is a lot more powerful**

**T:** this is why they play so much Nassim Harimein – it helps to anchor the new dispensation – has to do with the Law of Attraction, or Immersion

**Caller:** this is why she does soul therapy

**T** brings up the interview with Thom Hartman and the psychologist who is also an economist and tricking yourself into another frame of reference

- these ones do not want anyone to have anything

- Ring of Fire hosts know all about NESARA and Obama – just cannot talk about it

**Caller:** repeat the source

- previous caller wanted to know the House Bill 31 and the Congress woman who was trying to get people notified that there is a preemptive use of 84,000 chemicals

- go to ringoffireradio.com – Mike P, Sam Seder, Bobby Kennedy Jr: ALL WHITE KNIGHTS!
- 3 million listen to every show – will **also be on Free Speech TV beginning May 18<sup>th</sup>**

**Previous caller** – had called in, talked to Sam Seder, told him her list – he said “we’re working on it”

**Caller: What does KOS say?**

- The latest: the 13 blue dog democrats who voted to give the WH authority to sign for the TTP – the Vatican gave them each ONE BILLION DOLLARS – they either take the money or they're dead. They have already taken other, smaller sums
  - when you are on Congress, you are very very wealthy – you are watched for what you do with your money
- Kim Yong Il has just murdered a number of his own gov't members: they were getting ready to squeal on what Il was doing – no one got to do or say anything: he just gave them a pill!
  - He is an asset of the CIA

**Caller:** asking about getting a list of our star brothers and sisters and which planets have the water and other unlimited sources: for example, Uranus has lots of trees – to get people excited about meeting the star brothers and sisters

**R: the galactic & solar tour narrated by commander Hatonn and commander Kla-La**  
RICHARD MILLER was a contactee

**T:** there are lots of people who think they know what they are talking about but they don't

**Caller:** Sheldon Nidle has a detailed compilation of the various civilizations “Your Galactic Neighbours” -

**T:** Mother may beg to differ with Nidle

**Caller:** in one of the webinars he described something she'd imagined since being a child

**T:** another factory fire: **72 killed in fire at footwear factory in Philippines [SEE BELOW]**

**T:** over 8000 Rohingya sitting in the ocean in a makeshift boat; have been there for 101 days and neither China, Malasia, Indonesia or Thailand will take them in; these people are being killed by Buddhists in Myanmar – Has no idea why – it is total hate!

- The Rohingya Muslims are stateless people – no one will give them citizenry
- Check out the origins of the Rohingya in the internet.

- All kinds of problems over there; as the Norwegian psychologist was describing in the interaveiw with Thom Hartman: the idea of distance: when something is far away, it's not our problem.

**Caller:** How many DUMBs are still open? [Deep Underground Military Bases]

- Thinks not as many as before – maybe double digits or less; does not know a number – all the ninjas and the beings up to the Arch Angels work with all the dimensions and affect living matter – the jinn are already pissed off in the Middle East with what the soldiers have done; the Jinn have come back to love, and the ones hanging out on the dark side have no where to go; same as the 13 families who want to blow up the planet because they can't have it!
- Why it is so **important to get behind Bernie Sanders**
  - all these different things will come to pass [we will see them, so we all know what has been going on]
  - Hillary is promising all things that he is promising: she is so bought and paid for!
    - Murdered Vince Foster; • set up the Waco situation; • set up the Ok city bombing;
    - turned Janet Reno into a pedophile; • she and Bill have 10s of millions donations

- from the Ukraine nazi gov't murdering the innocent people in east side of Ukraine
- JADE HELM is just another name for nothing else to lose: most of the ones in these groups have been paid off for something they did

**Caller:** why did Hillary do Waco?

- Waco 1994; Oklahoma City was 1995 – David Koresh killed some f
  - she's Hitler's granddaughter; her grandmother is a Dupont – every single weapon is produced by the Duponts; she's a 50' dragon and has been promised the world: she gets the inside jobs to do – when she was 25 she was set up to splice the film footage around the murder of JFK Sr

## **BBS**

**Mother Sekmet / Alcyone [M/A]**

Greetings in the light of the Most Radiant One, in the Office of the Christ and only in the Office of Christ, we invoke the loving energies of St Germain and the Violet Flame.

### **Greetings, Children of Ra**

- We all are all in such magnificent times, as we awaken together. It is already Sat Yuga yet there is that little sliver of the old story coming to conclusion as [it has] already happened.
  - She is here to attest to that one; they come from their past into our future
  - This moment we are in as we awaken, and the particles that are dancing in each one of our cells: how many particles, how many cells and then some, all vibrating in this frequency of divine radiance and not matter what the dark side does, it is uplifting the planet and her people, our people - they cannot change the process.
- There is only this process as we would call it: dimensions are shifting, changing; reality is changing. What is real? We cannot define real – it is the discovery about looking in the mirror and seeing what we are as “We the People” from every sector of 7 super universes have come to this sector to - let's say, our cells, our particles called us here at this time;
  - it is no accident – serendipity has a funny way of getting us altogether, with or without the instruction and yet and we get it, as we are flying by the seat of our pants!
  - Yet we have done this once before –and this time around, anyone who was part of it changes the dynamics of this
- At this time in this particular year, there is a quantum shift in everyone's field; as we can look at each other - it is like Bono said – makes no difference the colour of our eyes or the colour of our skin; we have a mission; it's called Earth – and as we discover ourselves in a new light, Terra Nova changes everything
  - there are places in ourselves and on the planet that we have never seen: we know less about the human brain than we do about the issues at hand
  - It is at this moment; all life is moving in higher octaves and the only way we can go is up. There are so many issues that need immediate attention; that is why we have asked them to show up and they are here – and she says it once again: invite them in for a cup of tea - it is how we can heal this story once and for all.
  - All we are saying is give peace a chance
- Everything we have been watching, seeing, experiencing in these last few moments: humanity is at a juncture; Gaia/Vyamus will always make it – will we? Of course, we will make it – as for her wayward children: she has that slice of the story covered.
  - The question is can we wake each other up without a club but with a feather – that is a

real test, as it gets past the question of race, creed, colour or species

- we are all telepathic; it is time we learned the language of Solex Mal – light, colour sound, vibration: it is the universal tongue of the 7 super universes. It is time we learned our own language, and it changes everything in this moment.
  - There are no borders – imagine all the people! This is what is happening; it is about the serendipity that they come and just say: let's do it! It is time!

**T:** . . . [she is reflecting to Mother about what she is watching]

- Yes this issue – it is why we bring this up

**T:** is watching Vice [with no sound] that Bill Maher is producing; they go through some things that wake people up – they are talking about people who need kidneys; who are the people giving away their kidneys? Healthy people from Bangladesh & other parts of the world who have to feed their children – they sell their kidney to people with a little more money than they do

- There is a micro loaning thing started by someone in India, and now it has been turned into a profit making thing – and now there are all members of families selling their kidneys as if there is not other resource; if that does not provide enough money, they kill themselves

- it is the most downward spiral of the last 13, 000 years has been about

**M/A:** and at this point they show up and bring the light of a trillions suns in and say "Good Morning! How about a cup of tea!"

**T:** we can tell that we are really at the end of this

**M/A:** We are there – and how these folks get 'er done, along with us – **check out [berniesanders.com](http://berniesanders.com)**; it is about how we do this with grace and peace and love, gratitude and joy

**T:** really appreciates Mother's good vibrations

**M/A:** first in Solex Mal and says Greetings in the Light of the Most Radiant One; Kadoish, Kadoish, Kadoish

**T:** Please help those people sitting in the middle of the Indian Ocean with no one helping them out! Thank you!

**R:** Greetings! It is a wild time to be alive! Such a joy in the midst of diversity as we watch Horus' folks come in now

- Kim Jung Il just killed a bunch of his folks because they were going to squeal on him!

**Audio: Bill Mahers**

## HBO Real Time Guests: Friday May 15, 2015





**The Interview:** **Ayaan Hirsi Ali** – author of *Heretic: Why Islam Needs a Reformation Now*

**The Panel:** **Heather McGhee** – President of Demos

**Charles Murray** – author of *By The People: Rebuilding Liberty Without Permission*

**John Waters** – filmmaker and author of *Carsick: John Waters Hitchhikes Across America*

**Mid-Show Guest:** **Hip hop artist and activist Killer Mike** – whose latest album with Run The Jewels is "Run the Jewels 2" and whose latest solo album is "R.A.P. Music"

**Audio:** [Listen Yankee! Why Cuba Matters](#)

Published [14 May 2015, 10:30 am](#)

<http://uprisingradio.org/home/2015/05/14/listen-yankee-why-cuba-matters/>

*GUEST: Tom Hayden is the author of Listen Yankee! Why Cuba Matters.*

*\*This segment was originally broadcast on April 1, 2015.*

When President Obama made his surprise announcement just months ago, on December 17th, 2014, he began by saying, "Today, the United States of America is changing its relationship with the people of Cuba." Those words marked a historic moment – the beginning of normalizing relations between the United States and Cuba, after more than half a century of hostilities and a crippling trade embargo.

While right wing Cuban American leaders balked at the announcement, many in the American left, and even in the mainstream, rejoiced, unable to believe it was actually happening. One person who was not as surprised was Uprising guest Tom Hayden.

Tom Hayden was a leader of the student, civil rights, peace and environmental movements of the 1960s, most notably with the group Students for a Democratic Society, and was one of the infamous "Chicago 8," on trial for activism during the Democratic National Convention in 1968. He went on to serve nearly 2 decades in the California legislature, has written for years in the Nation Magazine, and is the Director of the Peace and Justice Resource Center in Culver City, California.

He has authored and edited over 20 books and has taught at UCLA, Scripps College, Pitzer College, Occidental College and the Harvard Institute of Politics. He has been active on an array of political campaigns from ending sweatshop conditions, to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. His last two books were Inspiring Participatory Democracy: Student Movements from Port Huron to Today, and The Long Sixties: From 1960 to Barack Obama. His latest book, just out now is Listen Yankee: Why Cuba Matters.

- See more at: <http://uprisingradio.org/home/2015/05/14/listen-yankee-why-cuba-matters/#sthash.6pJYdmHU.dpuf>

<http://uprisingradio.org/home/2015/05/14/listen-yankee-why-cuba-matters/>

**Audio: Max Keiser**

Episode 757

May 14, 2015

<http://img.rt.com/files/episode/3f/08/90/00/kr1405.mp4?event=download>

In this episode of the Keiser Report, Max Keiser and Stacy Herbert discuss Obama's ignorance, his blissful strength as he pushes for TPIP - a trade deal about which he knows remarkably little if his speech to Nike is anything to go on. In the second half, Max interviews **Tina Louise Rothery**, who was a candidate for the Green Party in the General Election. They discuss the Conservative win, fracking and TTIP.

**Audio: Jon Stewart – The Daily Show**

**May 13, 2105**

<http://www.thecomedynetwork.ca/shows/thedailyshow?vid=610071>

**Interview with Reza Azlan:**

<http://www.thecomedynetwork.ca/shows/thedailyshow?vid=613416>

**Reading: Buddha in Redface** Ch 5 Consultation with Dr Jones

**Closing: Rainbird**

## INFORMATION RELATED TO THE NEWS

2015-05-14

### 72 killed in fire at footwear factory in Philippines

*Firefighters and police pull dozens of corpses out of the ruins of the 'sweatshop' in Manila*

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/asia/philippines/11604522/72-killed-in-fire-at-footwear-factory-in-Philippines.html>



**Philippine firemen try to put out a fire after it gutted a footwear factory in Manila Photo: Reuters By Agency**

Seventy-two people died in a huge blaze at a footwear factory in the **Philippines**, authorities said Thursday, as angry relatives and workers described sweatshop conditions including dismal fire safety standards.

Firefighters and police pulled dozens of corpses out of the ruins of the two-storey building in Manila on Thursday, a day after the blaze trapped the terrified workers with apparently few exits and no fire safety training.

"Many of those retrieved were reduced to skulls and bones," national police chief Leonardo Espina said during an emotional press conference, as local authorities confirmed 72 people had died.



**Relatives of workers wait outside the factory (Reuters)**

"Someone will definitely be charged because of the deaths. It doesn't matter if it's an accident, people died. Right now, we are investigating to clearly define what happened. For sure, someone will be charged."

Sparks from welding equipment used to repair a broken gate are believed to have caused the fire when they ignited flammable chemicals stored nearby.



**Police carry a body bag from the factory (Reuters)**

By early afternoon on Thursday, 72 bodies had been pulled from the gutted building, Valenzuela mayor Rex Gatchalian said.

He said he believed this would be close to the final death toll, as the figure matched the number of people missing.

The building, among a long row of factories in the rundown district of Valenzuela on the northern edge of the Philippine capital, made cheap slippers and sandals for the local market.

The footwear had names such as "Havana" that sound like well-known global brands, company employees said.

The factory workers toiled for below minimum wage while surrounded by foul-smelling chemicals and were not aware of fire safety standards, survivors and relatives said.

"The families can't help but be angry about what happened. We will never forget this," Rodrigo Nabor, whose two sisters were inside the factory and remain unaccounted for, told AFP.



**Firefighters attempt to control the fire at the factory (Reuters)**

Nabor was among relatives of factory workers waiting for body bags at a village hall that had been converted into a makeshift morgue.

"I've lost hope that they survived," said Nabor, 31, who works at a nearby plywood factory.

"I can't explain how I'm feeling. I didn't sleep at all last night. I just kept walking around the factory hoping for news."

Nabor said his sisters, Bernardita Logronio, 32, and Jennylyn Nabor, 26, often complained of foul-smelling chemicals in their workplace.

"They said they keep an electric fan on to drive some of the smell away," he said.



At least 72 people have died in the fire (Reuters)

Nabor said their pay depended on how many sandals they finished, which could be as little as 300 pesos (\$6.70) a day. Nabor's sisters each had a young child.

One survivor, 23-year-old Lisandro Mendoza, said he escaped by running out the back door, but that the company had not conducted any fire safety education or drills during his five months working there.

"We were running not knowing exactly where to go," said Mendoza.

"I was having lunch when I saw smoke coming from the front, then I just ran and kept running."

Mendoza said he worked 12-hour days, seven days a week, for 3,500 pesos (\$79), mixing chemicals.

"It's a very foul smell. I can still smell it even if I have one face mask on top of the another," he said.

Another survivor, Janet Victoriano, also described lax fire safety standards.

"I had never been involved in a fire drill ever," Victoriano, who had worked at the factory for five years, told DZMM radio.

Victoriano said she was able to escape because she was near the front door when the blaze started.

Deadly fires regularly rip through the poor areas of the Philippine capital, but mostly in shanty homes where there are virtually no fire safety standards.

In the deadliest fire in Manila in recent times, 162 people were killed in a huge blaze that gutted a Manila disco in 1996.