

Beat: Miscellaneous

Canadian national kills 2 in Philippine courtroom before shooting self

-, 24.01.2013, 03:22 Time

USPA News - A Canadian national on Tuesday shot and killed two people at a Philippine courtroom before killing himself, local authorities said Wednesday. The suspect was identified as John Pope, 66, who arrived for a court hearing in Cebu City in the Philippines' Central Visayas at around 8 a.m. local time.

He was being tried for a `mischief,` which was filed by Dr. Rene Rafols. Pope, a resident of Cebu for 10 years, entered the court room before shooting and killing Rafols, as well as lawyer Julian Atias, Seniro Superintendent Mariano Natuel told local media. Following the fatal shootings, Pope entered another court room and shot Prosecutor Maria Theresa Casiño, who was injured but survived. Pope continued walking when police officers encountered him and opened fire, injuring the suspect. After falling to the floor, Pope fatally shot himself. Several complaints had been filed against Pope, who had been previously tagged as an undesirable alien. He was facing deportation from the Asian country, but he had appealed, which bought him more time in the country. Following the incident, court rooms around the country stepped up security measures.

Article online:

<https://www.uspa24.com/bericht-451/canadian-national-kills-2-in-philippine-courtroom-before-shooting-self.html>

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