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Governor



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Media Release

Update #6: Search for Missing Canadian Couple Last Seen in Baker City, Oregon

(Photo & Bulletin Link) Posted: April 11th, 2011 12:05 PM

Photo/sound file: [http://www.flashalertnewswire.net/images/news/2011-04/1002/43427/Rita and Albert Chretien 2010.jpg](http://www.flashalertnewswire.net/images/news/2011-04/1002/43427/Rita%20and%20Albert%20Chretien%202010.jpg)

Photo/sound file: [http://www.flashalertnewswire.net/images/news/2011-04/1002/43427/Chretien Van.JPG](http://www.flashalertnewswire.net/images/news/2011-04/1002/43427/Chretien_Van.JPG)

Photo/sound file: http://www.flashalertnewswire.net/images/news/2011-04/1002/43427/2011-05_Chretien.pdf

THE FOLLOWING NEWS RELEASE UPDATE FROM BAKER CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT INCLUDES A STATEMENT FROM THE CHRETIEN FAMILY:

Involved Person(s): Albert Paul Chretien - 59 years of age
Rita Eleanor Chretien - 56 years of age

This past weekend Oregon law enforcement officers continued to assist the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) in the search for missing British Columbia residents Albert and Rita Chretien. The couple was last seen at a convenience store in Baker City, Oregon on March 19, 2011, during a scheduled trip to Las Vegas, Nevada.

Weather conditions on Saturday improved allowing for an aerial search in Baker County. An Oregon State Police (OSP) airplane flew Highway 86, the Hells Canyon corridor, the lower portion of Burnt River Canyon, Highway 245 over Dooley Mountain and areas around Highway 7.

At this time the Oregon search has extended through Baker, Malheur, Grant and Harney counties in the Eastern and Southeastern portions of the state. Over 40 Law Enforcement officers and 18 Search and Rescue volunteers, from 6 separate Oregon agencies, have traveled over 3,500 miles of state highways and county roads during the search. Malheur County has flown approximately 13 hours over 2 days, traveling in excess of 1,000 miles over Southeastern Oregon. OSP has flown 3 hours over Baker County, traveling approximately 400 miles. Working closely with investigators in Baker City for several days, the two RCMP investigators have returned to Canada.

As the search enters its second week, 23 days after the Chretien's were last seen in Baker City, search efforts throughout Oregon have scaled back. However, state, county and city police patrols throughout Eastern and Southeastern Oregon will continue to watch for any signs of the couple and their vehicle. SAR and law enforcement resources will continue to be available to respond as needed, and Oregon investigators working in cooperation with the RCMP will continue to follow up on all tips and investigative leads.

The following is a statement provided by the couple's family members:

"The Chretien family and friends have been extremely touched and moved by the huge response that the disappearance of Albert and Rita Chretien has generated on both sides of the border. We wish to particularly thank all of the various law enforcement agencies in the United States and particularly in Baker City as well as the RCMP in Canada.

Since March 31st, friends and family have witnessed an around the clock effort to find them. We want to thank all the citizens of Oregon who have been praying, searching and providing tips to the authorities. It has moved us to tears at times with how willing people have been to stop their own lives to help out.

We have been blessed to know that the last place Albert and Rita was seen was Baker City - we feel like Al & Rita have been embraced just like they were part of the Baker City family. Thank you for all of your hard work and God bless." (Raymond & Jennifer Chretien)

The alert bulletin which was created and sent out to law enforcement agencies and other organizations across the western half of the United States continues to be distributed. A link to the bulletin is available to download on the Oregon State Police website, www.oregon.gov/OSP, and the Baker City Police Department website, www.bakercitypolice.com.

Law Enforcement is requesting that any anyone with information related to the Chretiens or their missing vehicle to contact the toll free US/Canada Tip Line at 1-877-987-8477 or:

Baker City Police Department / Baker County Sheriff's Office: 541-523-6415
Oregon State Police Southern Command Center dispatch: 541-664-4600

Updates will be provided daily as/if new information develops, and will also be posted online at:
www.bakercitypolice.com, or www.bc.rcmp.ca

www.oregon.gov/OSP

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