German Arrested In Terror Killings

AP — Dutch police said Friday they had captured a suspect in West Germany's political terrorist killings after a shootout with the young German and his female companion in a parking garage.

One Dutch policeman was killed and another seriously wounded in the shootout Thursday night The woman, identified as Brigitte Mohnhaupt, 27, escaped.

Captured was Knut Folkerts, 25, wanted in the killings of West German Federal Prosecutor Siegfried Buback April 7 and Frankfurt banker Jurgen Ponto Aug. 30. He and Miss Mohnhaupt were identified by authorities as members of German terrorist Red Army Faction.

West German police believe the Buback-Ponto killers were connected with the Sept. 5 kidnaping of Cologne industrialist Hanns-Martin Schleyer. But officials in Bonn said Friday they were not sure of Folkerts' involvement in the abduction.

The couple had been trailed in Holland since Monday, when they tried to rent a car in The Hague, and the director of the rental firm became suspicious of their identification papers. He called police, and one officer was shot in a street battle as the two escaped.

They rented a car elsewhere, and police were tipped they would turn it in at the garage in Utrecht. Folkerts and Miss Mohnhaupt opened fire when two of a dozen officers staking out the garage walked inside, police said.



BRIGITTE MOHNHAUPT

Escaped in Shootout

—AP Photos

rage still firing, police said. A witness said Folkerts ducked behind a parked car and opened up at other police officers but was quickly surrounded and seized. He was not wounded. The woman eluded her pursuers in the crowded streets.

Dutch authorities Friday moved Folkerts to a secret hideout and launched a massive search for Miss Mohnhaupt, who was released from a West German prison last February after serving a 4½ year term for having illegal weapons, carrying false identification papers and being a member of an outlawed group.

A Dutch Justice Ministry spokesman said it had not yet been decided whether to try Folkerts here or return him to West Germany. He said no request for extradition had been received.