

German teen gave warning of his plans

by UPI

WINNENDEN, Germany -- The German teen who killed 15 people described his plans the night before in an online chat with another teen, police said Thursday.

Tim Kretschmer, 17, was specific in his message, CNN reported. He told the other teen to remember the name Winnendenn, Germany, the town where the massacre took place.

"Everyone laughs at me. No one recognizes my potential," he said. "I mean this seriously. I have got a weapon here and tomorrow I am going to go to my former school and give them hell."

The other teen apparently didn't believe Kretschmer would follow through.

"Laugh out loud, course you will," he said. "I need to see some pictures before I believe it."

Kretschmer opened fire Wednesday morning at the Albertville-Realschule, killing nine students and three teachers and targeting girls and women, CNN said. He killed three others before dying in a shootout with police.

Flags flew at half-staff across Germany and hundreds of remembrances were left at Albertville-Realschule school in Winnenden, about 12 miles from Stuttgart, The Times of London said.

Churches conducted services Wednesday on what German Chancellor Angela Merkel called "a day of mourning for all of Germany."

Police said they recovered 15 guns at the youth's home, The Times said. Kretschmer's father, Joerg, is being scrutinized as police decide whether he can be charged for failing to lock up the weapons.

The elder Kretschmer legally owned the firearms and kept them in a locked cabinet except for a 9mm Beretta pistol that the teen used, police said.

Copyright © 2009, by United Press International. All Rights Reserved.