

Smoke spread so fast at Japanese animation firm victims couldn’t open rooftop door

<p>Notes & Cues:</p>	<p>Article:</p> <p>The attack at Kyoto Animation on Thursday, in which a man shouting "Die!" poured a bucket of gasoline at the entrance to the building and lit it, took 34 lives and ranks as one of the worst mass killings in Japan for decades.</p> <p>Of those who died, 19 were found piled on top of each other on a stairway between the third floor and a door to the roof.</p> <p>Police said investigations had shown that smoke had apparently spread so fast that the victims were overcome before being able to open the rooftop door.</p> <p>Experts said that a spiral staircase acted as a chimney to funnel the smoke upwards through all three floors of the building. Survivors have described a "dark mushroom cloud" of smoke pouring up the staircase.</p> <p>The company late on Sunday issued a statement saying that the tragedy had left them at a loss.</p> <p>"All of these people were our talented, precious colleagues. Both for us here as well as the animation industry as a whole, this is a huge blow, " the statement added.</p> <p>Late on Saturday, police issued an arrest warrant for Shinji Aoba, 41, a loner from a city near Tokyo who is in hospital with serious burns. Police plan to arrest him once he recovers.</p>
<p>Summary:</p>	