

## LOCAL NEWS



STAR photo by Ingrid Torres

Three cranes flank the Humberto Vidal shoe store building in Río Piedras as demolition workers clear debris. Workers are scheduled to begin slicing slabs of concrete today from the roof and top two floors of the explosion-damaged building.

# Demolition crew removes debris

By the STAR Staff

Demolition workers on Monday continued removing debris and reinforcing columns at the Humberto Vidal Building in Río Piedras.

On Sunday, the engineers began work removing parts of air conditioning systems and office equipment from top floors and reinforced a third column.

Engineer Guillermo Toledo of the demolition company Empresas Toledo, Inc., said that additional columns were stabilized on Monday for safety reasons.

Toledo said structural engineers and inspectors will determine when the building is sturdy enough that demolition workers can start pulling off its top part.

"If everything is in order, I will start cutting [concrete] tomorrow," Toledo said Monday evening. In the meantime, Toledo said, workers have cleared debris from the top two floors and roof.

Meanwhile, attorney Guillermo Toledo, the demolition company's legal adviser invited attorneys for the victim's families to inspect the site.

The attorneys and their experts were slated to visit the crumpled building this morning .