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Connecting - May 19, 2015

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Connecting

May 19, 2015

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Colleagues,

Good Tuesday morning.

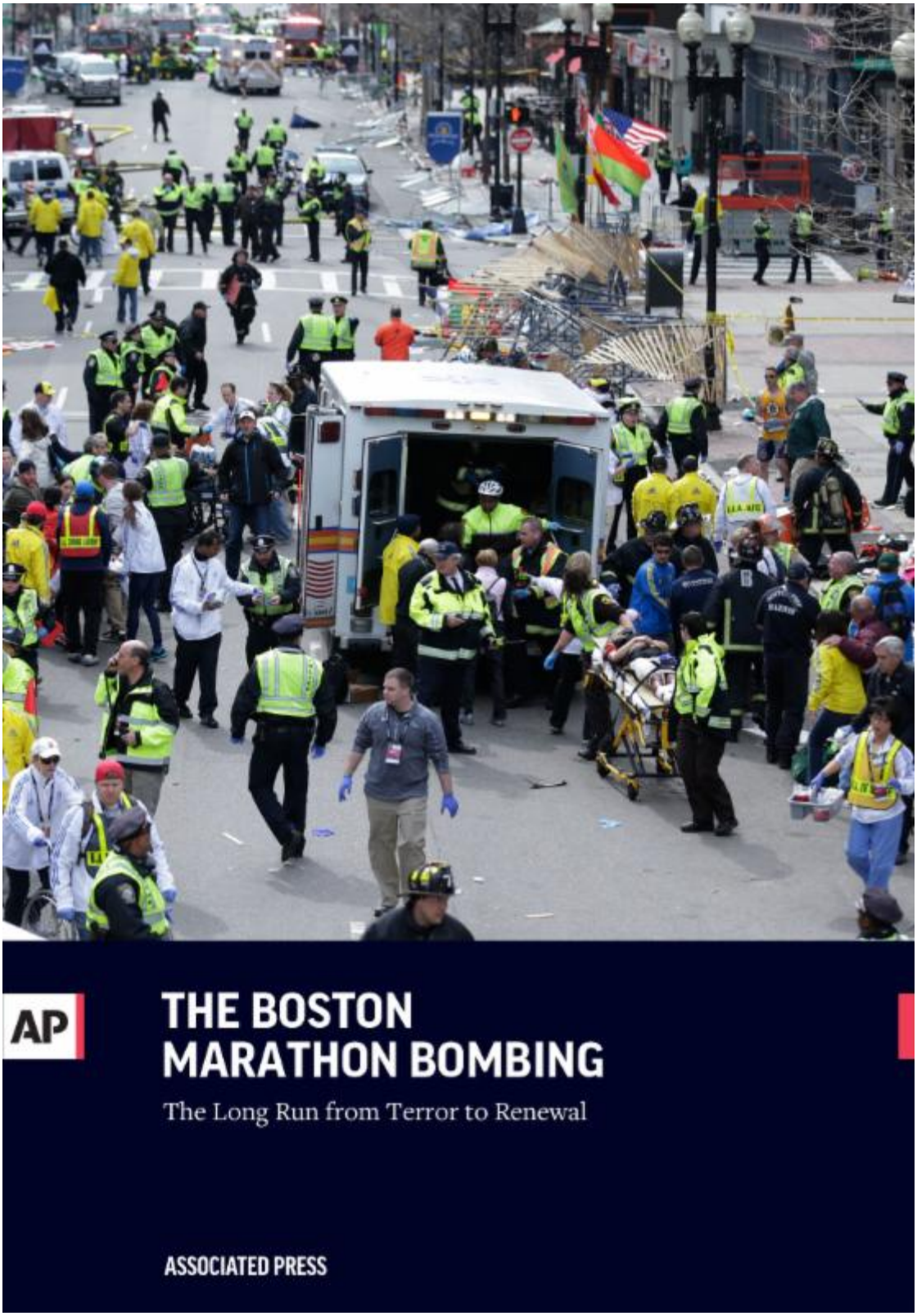
Today's Connecting leads off with the latest AP paperback and e-book: "The Boston Marathon Bombing: the Long Run from Terror to Renewal."

It includes a really quite incredible first-person essay at the front, describing in riveting detail what our AP reporters and photographers saw, from the day of the two bombings through last week's death sentence announcement. The introductory essay was written by Denise Lavoie and Bill Kole, with editor Chris Sullivan. It includes interviews with photographers Charlie Krupa and Elise Amendola and sports writer Jimmy Golen, who were at the scene of the bombing, as well as former reporter Bridget Murphy, who chronicled many victims' recovery.

As always, I look forward to hearing from you with your stories and memories of covering news past and present.

Paul

'The Boston Marathon Bombing' to feature AP reporters' stories behind the story



The Associated Press announces the publication this week of "The Boston Marathon Bombing: The Long Run From Terror to Revival."

The new AP Edition, published in partnership with Mango Media, goes beyond the blasts that killed three people and injured more than 260, the manhunt that shut down Boston and the closely watched trial of Dzhokhar Tsarnaev. The book offers the stories behind the

story, as related by the AP reporters and photographers who have provided comprehensive coverage.

When two pressure-cooker bombs packed with shrapnel exploded near the finish line on April 15, 2013, AP photographer Charlie Krupa broke out of a locked-down press room in order to cover the chaos on Boylston Street:

"EMTs. Firefighters. Everybody was triaging all these people in a cluster," he said. Medical attendants and volunteers worked frantically, using their own belts and shoelaces as tourniquets. "They were attending to people, getting them on stretchers and getting them off Boylston Street. It was like watching ants. Everyone knew what job they had to do." Something else registered through his lens: Although the panicked were peeling away in every direction, a quarter of the crowd was running toward the blast sites to help.

AP Legal Affairs Writer Denise Lavoie, who covered Tsarnaev's trial and sentencing, was struck by the intensity of the survivors' testimony in court:

"I knew these people had suffered terribly, but I didn't know how bad it was until I heard them describe in their own words what they went through," Lavoie said. "I was stunned by their composure on the witness stand. I don't know if I could have kept it together as well as they did."

Reporter Bridget Murphy and Krupa spent many hours at Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital watching amputees get ready for their first prosthetic limbs:

"I felt like they were giving us a gift by letting us be there while they were vulnerable," Murphy said. "A lot of them were very buoyant at the beginning. But as time went on and they were confronted with the reality of what their lives would be like from here on out, a lot of them got frustrated."

"The Boston Marathon Bombing" will be available as an e-book and in a paperback edition.

The book draws on AP's extensive reporting and rich photo archive, capturing not only the horror and confusion, but also the selfless actions of marathoners, spectators and first responders who rushed to assist the victims.

The volume is a testament to the strength of the people of Boston and how they overcame tragedy with an enduring belief in the American spirit.

Click **here** for link to the book.

What's in my get-away bag?

Robert Weller - What to take: Many things, remembering it was the 80s and early 90s, I always loaded up with Duracell Double A batteries and numerous Walkman cassettes. But

I also carried toilet paper, light bulbs, bug spray, when visiting places like Nigeria.

Of course the more stuff you brought the more you had to talk your way through customs, unless you had the help of someone you had hired for "protocol assistance."

One time I got caught short was covering the apparent suicide crash of an A-10 into the mountains near Vail in early April. The search lasted at least two weeks. Once they found it, a real needle in a haystack, we were offered without warning a chance to fly up above 13,000 feet in a chopper with the doors open. It was going to be cold so I had to borrow a sweatshirt (it was emblazoned with Maine).

I had been staying in the same motel with the searchers, including some Air Force PJs, who I met. As I watched them go out another chopper on a long line as we hovered at 13,000-plus feet it appeared that one had fallen.

We heard one pilot say to the other, "WTF." Then he turned off the interaircraft com system. A minute later he told us everything was fine. One of the PJs had just lost a yellow backpack, and hadn't tumbled thousands of feet to his death.

Then we got to see the crash site. Very luck the pilot had crashed near HATTS, the National Guard's helicopter high altitude training center.

We never find out, at least not definitely, why the pilot had flown more than 500 miles off course. It scared the hell out of people because some thought it was a revenge attack for the deaths at Waco.

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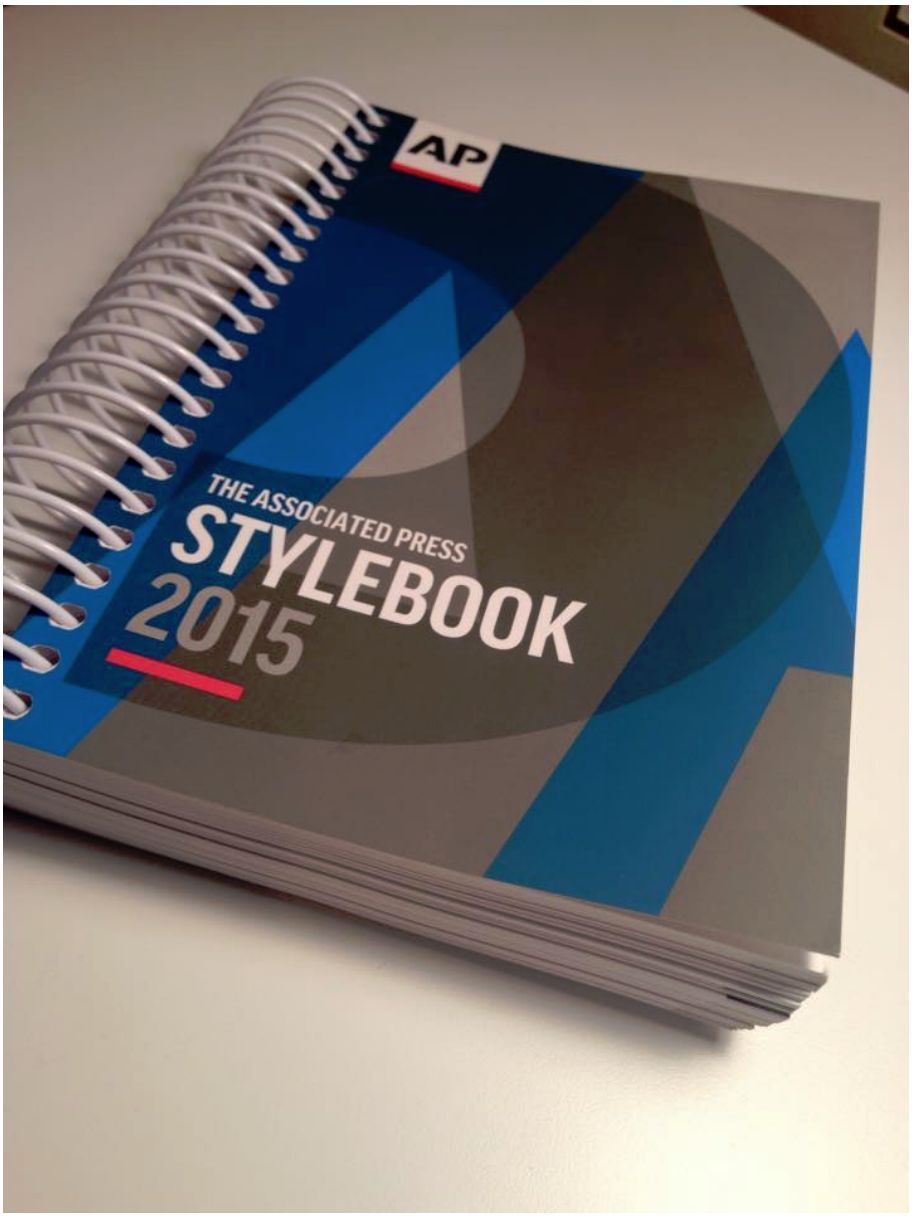
John Kuglin - My get-away kit varied with the calendar. When I was on the road in Montana (and later Wyoming) in winter, I carried insulated boots and a sub-zero rated parka and sleeping bag in case I got stuck in a snowdrift. Getting stuck was unlikely because I was driving a 4-wheel-drive Jeep Cherokee that would buzz along while the semis were in the ditches along the interstates. For a while, Dave Pyle and I were the only COBs who had Jeep Cherokees, until Dave decided it was too ``tinny.''

If I was seeing publishers in the fall in eastern Montana, I'd usually pack a shotgun to hunt pheasants with some of the members on the weekend. Ditto waders and fly fishing gear when visiting members who liked to fish. Sounds like I had a tough life, but I once sold LaserPhoto on the spot to a publisher at the Hagadone group after I pointed out a likely hole in a stream he should try and he caught a large cutthroat.

Selling in the field didn't always work. I once had a deal with a publisher from the Pioneer group to upgrade his paper to high speed if he shot his limit of pheasants after I found a place for us to hunt on a large wheat ranch near the Canadian border. He missed an easy shot that would have given him his third rooster. One of the two roosters he shot had an enormous tail; I told him it should count for two roosters. He didn't buy my argument.

First look at 2015 AP Stylebook



This year's AP Stylebook is larger than ever, clocking in at over 600 pages.

One of the biggest additions is an 84 page index to make it easier to find the entry you need. Shown here is our first proof of the 2015 Stylebook. It launches May 27.

A look From Behind the Niqab

Story and photos by Hassan Ammar

Across the Middle East and elsewhere, some conservative Muslim women only look out at the world around them from behind the niqab.

For most, the niqab is a choice. They do so out of their own interpretation of the Quran and the hadith, a collection of traditions and anecdotes about the Prophet Muhammad, believing that a woman's body should be covered out of modesty.

As a photographer for The Associated Press, I travel across the Middle East and often see women wearing the niqab. Back home in Lebanon, how a woman dresses remains a personal choice, as some wear bikinis out to the beach, while other Muslims wear head scarves or the niqab.

But with the rise of the extremist Islamic State group in neighboring Syria and Iraq, the militants have forced women in areas under their control to wear the niqab. Penalties for disobeying them can be incredibly harsh - even death.

That means those women now see the world differently than they did before. A niqab is a veil that entirely covers the face or only has a small, slit-like opening for the eyes, changing the way a woman wearing one views life around her. Women also have to lift them up slightly to be able to eat or drink anything.

In my travels, I decided to begin shooting images through a full niqab to offer a glimpse of what it must be like to look through them. In my hometown of Beirut, I shot pictures of its famous corniche that way, the bright colors of the Mediterranean dimmed through it. The same happened at the Giza pyramids in Egypt, where a sunny blue sky grew dark.

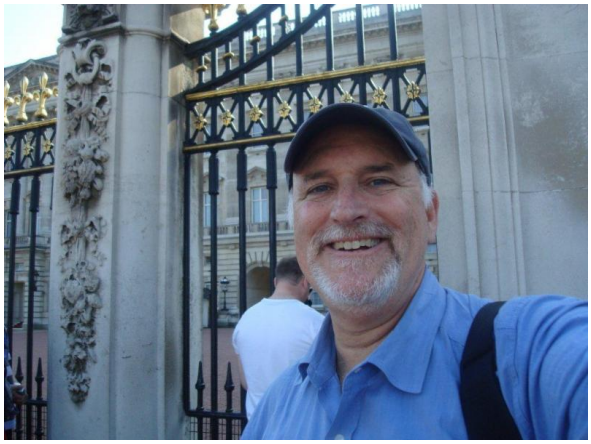
Despite that, some women say they welcome the anonymity and protection from

harassment the niqab offers.

Here are a series of AP photographs I shot of life viewed through the niqab across the Middle East.

Click **here** to view.

Welcome to Connecting



Warren Levinson (Email) - I joined the AP 5/6/79. Still here. (How did that happen?) All in New York. Thirty-six years, mainly doing radio, now some video, basically, a little bit of everything, as those of us who are left are all one big happy AP. Ten Olympic Games. More political campaigns, hurricanes and mob trials than I care to count. Still covering New York as a kind of foreign correspondent, because, face it, this is a foreign city to most of the country. Thanks for the newsletter!

Stories of interest

Louisville Courier-Journal closes D.C. bureau (Politico)

The Gannett-owned Louisville Courier-Journal became the latest regional newspaper to close its Washington, D.C., bureau this week.

"After a nearly continuous string of 150 years or so of covering Washington with its own correspondents, The Courier-Journal is closing its bureau in the nation's capital," Washington columnist James R. Carroll wrote in his final column for the paper.

"[T]he move is a sign of the continuing economic pressures on the nation's news organizations, particularly newspapers, that have led to many Washington bureau closings over the past decade or so," Carroll wrote.

The Louisville Courier-Journal, founded in 1868, is the largest newspaper in Kentucky and has been the recipient of 10 Pulitzer prizes. It was bought by Gannett in 1986 and, since

2008, has endured multiple rounds of buyouts and layoffs.

Click **here** for Carroll's final column.

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The ever-iconoclastic, never-to-be-ignored, muckraking Seymour Hersh
(Washington Post)

Almost everyone in the know is skeptical - if not downright dismissive - of Seymour Hersh's latest blockbuster story. Too thinly sourced, they say. Too conspiratorial. Even kind of crazy.

To which Sy Hersh has a ready reply: You can't handle the truth.

"The story is so f---ing awful people can't f---ing deal with it," says the investigative reporter, almost giddy over the fuss. "They're going f---ing crazy."

The story in question is Hersh's 10,000-word opus about the events surrounding Osama bin Laden's killing in 2011, published Sunday by the London Review of Books. The short version: Almost everything that has been said or written about this storied and massively documented event, including the White House's version, isn't true.

Click **here** to read more. Shared by Bob Daugherty.

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How to cover the '16 campaign: follow the money, but few are, says one reporter (Poynter)

Shane Goldmacher, the senior political correspondent for National Journal, has a "totally selfish reason" for covering campaign finance that has little to do with high-minded notions of holding people to account.
No, it's got a lot more to do with this: the distinct lack of competition from other journalists, he told a boot camp for presidential campaign journalists last week.

Huh?

Isn't this a seemingly golden age of political reporting, at least quantitatively, with high-traffic political sites like Politico and tons of cable TV and internet coverage? Even C-SPAN no longer has a de facto monopoly on bread-and-butter, off-the-beaten-track events.

Click **here** to read more.

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Waco paper's big challenge on biker gang shootout: learning about biker gangs (Poynter)

Waco Tribune-Herald

9 DEAD IN SHOOTOUT

5 gangs, police clash in Twin Peaks melee

Waco residents shocked by slayings

Steve Boggs, editor of the 30,000-circulation Waco Tribune-Herald, is overseeing coverage of a huge local story: the biker gangs shootout that left nine dead and at least 18 injured on Sunday.

But he's doing it in an initial vacuum of expertise: In an attempt to figure out who really was at the Twin Peaks restaurant where the trouble started, he's trying to learn about a murky subculture that the paper doesn't cover.

"One of our most experienced reporters, J.B. Smith, is doing a crash course on biker activity in Central Texas," Boggs told me Monday. Police reporter Olivia Messer served as the key general assignment reporter on the scene.

Click **here** to read more.

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The Daily News Still Awaits a Savior (New York Times)

When Mortimer B. Zuckerman paid $36 million in cash to rescue The Daily News from bankruptcy in 1993, he was convinced that he could make the paper successful. "I'm not suicidal," he said.

Maybe not, but he appears to be at least a little bit masochistic. Over the last 20-plus years, Mr. Zuckerman has watched circulation and advertising plummet, turning a marginally profitable asset into a big-time money loser. All the while, he has been engaged in a bruising asymmetrical newspaper war with a rival press baron, Rupert Murdoch, owner of The New York Post. In the face of all this, Mr. Zuckerman, 77, has been criticized, repeatedly, for taking The Daily News down-market in an effort to attract readers.

Mr. Zuckerman, who earned his fortune in commercial real estate, decided recently that enough was enough. This year, he put the paper up for sale, retaining the Wall Street firm

Lazard to help advise him in the process.

Click **here** to read more. Shared by Sibby Christensen.

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How journalism schools are adjusting to the digital age (Columbia Journalism Review)

David Remnick, the longtime editor of The New Yorker, recently recounted a meeting during the early days of online publishing when the veteran sports essayist Roger Angell said he would always "want to be able to describe, in English, how the hand fits over the baseball to throw a screwball." It's a worthy commitment, Remnick explained during an appearance at Columbia's journalism school in February, but one that shouldn't stunt useful innovation on digital platforms.

That is an interesting dilemma for a wordsmith like Angell and a powerhouse like The New Yorker. But perhaps Remnick hadn't considered that students in the audience at Columbia (me, for one), or just as easily at any journalism program, might be thinking, "How could I ever eloquently put into words the way you throw a screwball?"

Amid uncertainty and anxiety in news media, J-schools are devoting an increasing portion of their curricula to developing digital versatility, or at least familiarity. Some of these class offerings are still in a beta stage, but they're certainly a popular selling point. Indeed, with jobs scarce and tuitions soaring, clamor for modernized instruction grows from an urgency to convert a pre-professional degree into a paycheck. The challenge for journalism programs has always been balancing lofty intellectual and civic ambitions-what students ought to learn-with what the industry will ask of them. A digital upending has disturbed that balance, and the role of nurturing writing craftsmanship at J-schools risks being sold short.

Click **here** to read more.

The Final Word

The quiet night scene of Edward Hopper's most renowned painting sticks in the mind of anyone who sees it and feels familiar to anyone who's taken an art history class. It may seem straightforward, but this deceptively simple piece holds a lot of secrets.

Click **here** to read more.

Today in History - May 19, 2015

By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, May 19, the 139th day of 2015. There are 226 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 19, 1935, T.E. Lawrence, also known as "Lawrence of Arabia," died in Dorset, England, six days after being injured in a motorcycle crash.

On this date:

In A.D. 715, Pope Gregory II assumed the papacy.

In 1536, Anne Boleyn, the second wife of England's King Henry VIII, was beheaded after being convicted of adultery.

In 1780, a mysterious darkness enveloped much of New England and part of Canada in the

early afternoon.

In 1913, California Gov. Hiram Johnson signed the Webb-Hartley Law prohibiting "aliens ineligible to citizenship" from owning farm land, a measure targeting Asian immigrants, particularly Japanese.

In 1924, the Marx Brothers made their Broadway debut in the revue "I'll Say She Is."

In 1943, in his second wartime address to the U.S. Congress, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill pledged his country's full support in the fight against Japan.

In 1958, British actor Ronald Colman died in Santa Barbara, California, at age 67.

In 1962, actress Marilyn Monroe sang "Happy Birthday to You" to President John F. Kennedy during a Democratic fundraiser at New York's Madison Square Garden.

In 1973, Secretariat won the Preakness Stakes, the second of his Triple Crown victories.

In 1981, five British soldiers were killed by an Irish Republican Army landmine in County Armagh, Northern Ireland.

In 1992, in a case that drew much notoriety, Mary Jo Buttafuoco of Massapequa, New York, was shot and seriously wounded by her husband Joey's teenage lover, Amy Fisher. Vice President Dan Quayle sparked controversy by criticizing the CBS sitcom "Murphy Brown" for having its title character, played by Candice Bergen, decide to have a child out of wedlock.

In 1994, former first lady Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis died in New York at age 64.
Ten years ago: Republicans and Democrats tangled over President George W. Bush's judicial nominees and the Senate's filibuster rules, with Democrats accusing Bush of trying to "rewrite the Constitution" and Republicans accusing Democrats of "unprecedented obstruction."

Five years ago: President Barack Obama condemned Arizona's crackdown on illegal immigration and pushed instead for a federal fix he said the nation could embrace, showing solidarity with his guest of honor, Mexican President Felipe Calderon, who called Arizona's law discriminatory. Rioters in Bangkok torched the stock exchange and other landmark buildings after a deadly army assault on an anti-government encampment ended a two-month siege.

One year ago: The U.S. charged five Chinese military officials with hacking into U.S. companies' computers to steal vital trade secrets, intensifying already rising tensions. A federal judge threw out Oregon's same-sex marriage ban that had been approved by voters. April Jace, the wife of actor Michael Jace, was shot to death in their Los Angeles home; Michael Jace has pleaded not guilty to murdering her. Lucy Li, at age 11, became the youngest player to qualify for the U.S. Women's Open by winning the sectional qualifier at Half Moon Bay in California.

Today's Birthdays: PBS newscaster Jim Lehrer is 81. TV personality David Hartman is 80. Actor James Fox is 76. Actress Nancy Kwan is 76. Actor Peter Mayhew is 71. Rock singer-composer Pete Townshend (The Who) is 70. Concert pianist David Helfgott is 68. Rock singer-musician Dusty Hill (ZZ Top) is 66. Singer-actress Grace Jones is 63. Rock musician Phil Rudd (AC-DC) is 61. Actor Steven Ford is 59. Actress Toni Lewis is 55. Rock musician Iain Harvie (Del Amitri) is 53. Actress Polly Walker is 49. Actor Jason Gray-Stanford is 45. Gospel singer Israel Houghton is 44. Rock singer Jenny Berggren (Ace of Base) is 43. TV personality Kim Zolciak (TV: "Real Housewives of Atlanta") is 37. Country/rock singer Shooter Jennings is 36. Actor Drew Fuller is 35. Christian rock musician Tim McTague is 32. Rock musician James Richardson (MGMT) is 32. Actor Eric Lloyd is 29. Actor Nolan Lyons (TV: "Boardwalk Empire") is 14.

Thought for Today: "The most exciting happiness is the happiness generated by forces beyond your control." - Ogden Nash, American poet (born in 1902, died this date in 1971).

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