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Saturday, March 22

The Associated Press

Published: March 15, 2008

Today is Saturday, March 22, the 82nd day of 2008. There are 284 days left in the year.

Highlights in history on this date.

1594 - Paris opens its gates to King Henry VI, newly converted to Catholicism. He is said to have uttered "Paris is well worth a Mass!"

1622 - About 35 Virginians are killed in first massacre by Native Americans of European colonists in North America.

1794 - U.S. Congress passes law prohibiting American ships from supplying slaves to other countries.

Today in Americas

A mother's unconventional life is reflected within Obama

Spitzer's use of campaign funds now under scrutiny

Congress passes \$3 trillion budget

1882 - U.S. Congress outlaws polygamy.

1895 - Auguste and Louis Lumiere show their first movie to an invited audience in Paris; this is generally regarded as the first public display of a movie projected onto a screen.

1917 - United States becomes first nation to recognize new provisional government in Russia.

1945 - Arab League is founded in Cairo, Egypt.

1962 - Right-wing French terrorists attack government forces in Algiers.

1963 - United States attempts to mediate political dispute that threatens civil war in South Vietnam.

1978 - Karl Wallenda, the 73-year-old patriarch of The Flying Wallendas high-wire act, falls to his death while attempting to walk a cable strung between two buildings of a hotel in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

1987 - Chadian soldiers seize major Libyan ground and air base at Ouadi Doum in northern Chad after heavy fighting.

1989 - Delegates from 105 countries, meeting in Switzerland, adopt a draft U.N. treaty to control international transport of dangerous wastes.

1990 - A jury in Anchorage, Alaska, finds former tanker captain Joseph Hazelwood innocent of three major charges in connection with the Exxon Valdez oil spill, but convict him of a minor charge of negligent discharge of oil.

1991 - Police fire on pro-democracy protesters in Bamako, Mali, killing 30, in violence that

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Eliot Spitzer resigns

New York Governor Eliot Spitzer announced that he would leave office effective March 17.



Most E-Mailed

24 Hours | 7 Days | 30 Days

1. Ecuador president tells Bush to send troops or 'shut your mouth'
2. Gere sees Olympics boycott if China mishandles Tibet
3. Secularists in Turkey target Erdogan's party and seek to close it
4. Guatemalan farmers group takes Belgian tourists hostage
5. Bear Stearns gets a lifeline from Fed and a rival
6. Authorities seek release of Belgian tourists taken hostage in Guatemala
7. Hong Kong reports 1 new flu outbreak as worry shifts to mainland bird flu fears
8. Air France to submit bid for Alitalia despite Italian political uncertainty
9. Super 14: Force bounce back to beat Blues 27-17
10. Albania army depot blast injures 215, kills 4, damages airport

leads to the overthrow of dictator Gen. Moussa Traore.

1992 - Democratic party wins landslide victory in Albania's second democratic elections, ending rule by Communists and their successors.

1993 - Khmer Rouge guerrillas in Cambodia attack an ethnic Vietnamese fishing village, killing 35.

1994 - A Russian Airbus A-310 crashes in Siberia en route to Hong Kong after the pilot's teenage son takes the controls. All 75 people aboard die.

1996 - U.N. war crimes tribunal for the former Yugoslavia issues the first indictments for crimes against Serbs, charging three Bosnian Muslims and a Bosnian Croat with murder, torture and rape.

1998 - Albanians in the Yugoslav province of Kosovo hold elections for a shadow government.

1999 - U.S. envoy Richard Holbrooke meets with Yugoslav president Slobodan Milosevic in a last-ditch attempt to gain concessions on Kosovo, while Yugoslav police and army troops burn villages in the rebel province.

2001 - The United States orders the ouster of more than 50 Russian diplomats suspected of undercover intelligence activities.

2002 - Britain's High Court grants a quadriplegic woman the right to have her life support switched off. The decision marks the first time in Britain a person whose medical treatment offered her a normal life expectancy won the right to die.

2005 - The only man to challenge Hosni Mubarak for the presidency is charged with forging signatures to win approval for his party — an escalation in the government's confrontation with Ayman Nour, the most prominent figure in Egypt's fledgling reform movement.

2006 - Governments, not private companies, should take the lead in improving public access to safe drinking water, representatives of 148 countries conclude at the end of a forum in Mexico City on improving global water supplies.

2007 - A Katyusha rocket explodes 50 yards from U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon at a news conference in Baghdad's heavily guarded Green Zone, rattling the building and leaving a three-foot-wide crater outside but injuring no one.

Today's Birthdays:

Anthony van Dyck, Dutch artist (1599-1641); Robert Andress Millikan, U.S. scientist (1868-1953); Karl Malden, U.S. actor (1913--); Marcel Marceau, French mime (1923-2007); Stephen Sondheim, U.S. composer (1930--); William Shatner, Canadian-born actor (1931--); Damon Albarn, British rock singer (1968--).

Thought For Today:

Although human life is priceless, we always act as if something had an even greater price than life... But what is that something? — Antoine de Saint-Exupery, French author (1900-1944)

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Monroe's final sitting**

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Turnout uneven in Iranian elections

According to the evidence on the streets of Tehran, opponents of President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad turned out in greater numbers than expected to vote for the few reformist candidates in parliamentary elections Friday.

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