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Today In History - June 8

By The Associated Press,

Today is Friday, June 8, the 159th day of 2001. There are 206 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 8, A.D. 632, the prophet Mohammed died.

On this date:

In 1845, [Andrew Jackson](#), seventh president of the United States, died in Nashville, Tenn.

In 1861, Tennessee seceded from the Union.

In 1876, author George Sand died in Nohant, France.

In 1915, Secretary of State William Jennings Bryan resigned in a disagreement over U.S. handling of the sinking of the Lusitania.

In 1953, the Supreme Court ruled that restaurants in the District of Columbia could not refuse to serve blacks.

In 1967, 34 U.S. servicemen were killed when Israeli forces raided the Liberty, a Navy ship stationed in the Mediterranean. (Israel called the attack a tragic mistake.)

In 1968, authorities announced the capture in London of James Earl Ray, the suspected assassin of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr.

In 1978, a jury in Clark County, Nev., ruled the so-called "Mormon will," purportedly written by the late billionaire Howard Hughes, was a forgery.

In 1982, President Reagan became the first American chief executive to address a joint session of the British Parliament.

In 1995, U.S. Marines rescued Capt. Scott O'Grady, whose F16-C fighter jet had been shot down by Bosnian Serbs on June 2.

http://dailynews.yahoo.com/h/ap/20010607/us/history_379.html

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Ten years ago: A victory parade was held in Washington, D.C., to honor the veterans of the Persian Gulf War ([news](#) - [web sites](#)). Preakness winner Hansel won the Belmont Stakes.

Five years ago: Declaring racial hostility was behind recent church fires in the South, President Clinton ([news](#) - [web sites](#)) said in his weekly radio address he would devote whatever resources were needed to "smother the fires of hatred." China set off an underground nuclear test blast. Editor's Note won the Belmont Stakes.

One year ago: Two gunmen shot to death Brigadier Stephen Saunders, a British defense attache, in Athens, Greece; the elusive terrorist group November 17 claimed responsibility, saying it killed Saunders because of his role in NATO ([news](#) - [web sites](#)) airstrikes against Yugoslavia. Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist Jeff MacNally died in Baltimore, Md., at age 52.

Today's Birthdays: Retired Supreme Court Justice Byron White is 84. Former President Suharto ([news](#) - [web sites](#)) of Indonesia is 80. Former First Lady Barbara Bush is 76. Actor-comedian [Jerry Stiller](#) is 74. Actress Dana Wynter is 71. Comedian Joan Rivers is 68. Actress Millicent Martin is 67. Actor James Darren is 65. Actor Bernie Casey is 62. Singer [Nancy Sinatra](#) is 61. Singer Chuck Negron (Three Dog Night) is 59. Musician [Boz Scaggs](#) is 57. Actor Don Grady is 57. Rock musician Mick Box (Uriah Heep) is 54. Actress [Sonia Braga](#) is 51. Actress Kathy Baker is 51. Country musician Tony Rice is 50. Singer [Bonnie Tyler](#) is 48. Actor Griffin Dunne is 46. Dilbert creator Scott Adams is 44. Actor-director [Keenen Ivory Wayans](#) is 43. Singer Mick Hucknall (Simply Red) is 41. Musician Nick Rhodes (Duran Duran) is 39. Rhythm-and-blues singer Doris Pearson (Five Star) is 35. Actress [Julianna Margulies](#) is 34. Actor [Dan Futterman](#) is 34. Rhythm-and-blues singer Nicci Gilbert (Brownstone) is 31. Actress Kelli Williams is 31. Folk-bluegrass singer-musician Sara Watkins (Nickel Creek) is 20.

Thought for Today: "I do believe one ought to face facts. If you don't they get behind you and may become terrors, nightmares, giants, horrors. As long as one faces them one is top dog." - Katherine Mansfield, New Zealander author (1888-1923).

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