

U.S.: Few Clues To Boston Bombings In Russia

MOSCOW (AP) — The head of a U.S. congressional delegation said Sunday that its meetings in Russia showed there was "nothing specific" that could have helped prevent the Boston Marathon bombings, but that the two countries need to work more closely on joint security threats.

Rep. Dana Rohrabacher, a California Republican who led the six-member delegation, described discussions with Russian parliament members and security officials as productive. Some of the meetings, he said, were made possible by American actor Steven Seagal.

Seagal, who attended the news conference in the U.S. Embassy, is well connected in Russia. He met with Russian President Vladimir Putin in March, and last week paid a visit to Ramzan Kadyrov, the strongman who rules Chechnya, a province in southern Russia that has seen two brutal wars between federal troops and Chechen separatists since 1994.

Those wars spawned an Islamic insurgency that spread across the Caucasus region, including to neighboring Dagestan, now the center of the violence. Tamerlan Tsarnaev, who is accused of carrying out the Boston bombings with his younger brother, spent six months in Dagestan last year. Investigators have been trying to determine whether he had contacts with the militants there.

Rep. Steve King said Russian security officials told the delegation they believed that Tsarnaev and his mother had been radicalized before moving to the United States in 2003. "I suspect he was raised to do what he did," said King, a Republican from Iowa.

Egyptian Ruling Adds New Twist To Problems

CAIRO (AP) — Egypt's highest court ruled on Sunday that the nation's interim parliament was illegally elected, though it stopped short of dissolving the chamber immediately, in a decision likely to fuel the tensions between the ruling Islamists and the judiciary.

The Supreme Constitutional Court also ruled that a 100-member panel that drafted the new constitution was illegally elected.

The immediate impact of the ruling is limited. The Islamist-dominated upper house of parliament, called the Shura Council, will remain in place until elections are held for a lower house, likely early next year. The constitution, which was ratified in a nationwide referendum in December with a relatively low turnout of around 35 percent, will also remain in effect.

Still, the opposition said the verdict shows how Islamists' victories at the ballot box are tainted. They argued that the ruling further challenges the legitimacy of the disputed constitution, which was pushed through the panel by Islamists allied to President Mohammed Morsi.

The two sides are squaring off for what may be a major confrontation on the streets by the end of this month.

Bulger Murder Trial Set To Begin In Boston

BOSTON (AP) — James "Whitey" Bulger is no longer the feared man who swaggered around South Boston and later became one of the nation's most-wanted fugitives.

At 83, the bright platinum hair that earned Bulger his nickname is all but gone and his reputed status as the leader of a violent gang has passed.

But as Bulger's long-awaited trial gets underway, it's clear that the passage of time has done little to diminish Boston's fascination with Bulger.

"He's a survivor. He's had a very long shelf life in a profession where that is not typical," said Dick Lehr, who has co-written two books about Bulger, including the biography "Whitey: The Life of America's Most Notorious Mob Boss."

"The many faces of Whitey make him intriguing," Lehr said.

Damaging Storms Move Through East, South

BY CLARKE CANFIELD
Associated Press

PORTLAND, Maine — Damaging winds flattened trees and utility wires and knocked out power in parts of northern New England on Sunday, flights were delayed in New York City and there were reports of a tornado in South Carolina as the East Coast weathered the remnants of violent storms that claimed 13 lives in Oklahoma.

Heavy rain, thunderstorms, high winds and hail moved through sections of the Northeast on Sunday afternoon, knocking out power to more than 40,000 in Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine. The National Weather Service issued a rare tornado warning as a line of thunderstorms raced through New Hampshire into western Maine. The National Weather Service said a tornado warning was issued as radar indicated a possible tornado moving from Kingfield, Maine, to Bingham, Maine. The tornado was not immediately confirmed.

In northwestern South Carolina, authorities checked unconfirmed reports of a tornado, said Jessica Ashley, a shift supervisor for Anderson County's 911 center. The fire department responded to a report of roof damage to a home and callers said trees were blown over. No injuries were reported.

The weather service said thunderstorms and winds in excess of 60 mph in Vermont produced 1-inch-diameter hail and knocked down numerous trees and wires. In northern Maine, radar picked up a line of thunderstorms capable of producing quarter-sized hail and winds stronger than 70 mph. Forecasters warned of tornadoes.

The prediction for stormy weather in the New York City region produced delays at major airports. La Guardia Airport and Newark Liberty Airport in New Jersey had delays of up to 90 minutes, while John F. Kennedy International had delays of about 30 minutes. Outside Washington, delays were up to nearly two



ROBERT COHEN/ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH/MCT
A row of destroyed homes in St. Charles County, Missouri, on Saturday, after an overnight storm.

hours at Dulles Airport.

Patrick Herb, 34, was traveling from Dulles with his 1- and 3-year-old to his home in Wisconsin, and had his departure time for a connecting flight in Detroit moved back three times. He described the mood at Dulles as "frustration and fatigue."

"The communication is honestly one of the most frustrating parts of travel," Herb said. "I'm sort of pessimistic it will get off on time."

In the southern part of the United States, thunderstorms, high winds and hail were expected as part of a slow-moving cold front. Heavy rains could spawn flash flooding in some areas, the weather service said.

Meanwhile, residents in Oklahoma cleaned up after the storms there killed 13 people, including three veteran storm chasers. Tim Samaras; his son, Paul Samaras; and Carl Young were killed Friday. The Storm Prediction Center in Norman, Okla., said the men were involved in tornado research.

Jim Samaras told The Associated Press on Sunday that his brother Tim was motivated by science.

"He looked at tornadoes not for the spotlight of TV but for the scientific aspect," Jim Samaras said. "At the end of the day, he wanted to save lives and he gave the ultimate sacrifice for that." Oklahoma Gov. Mary Fallin

toured damage in El Reno, about 30 miles from Oklahoma City. She said the death toll could rise as emergency workers continue searching flooded areas for missing residents.

The state Medical Examiner's Office spokeswoman Amy Elliott said the death toll had risen to 13 from Friday's EF3 tornado, which charged down a clogged Interstate 40 in the western suburbs. Among the dead were two children — an infant sucked out of the car with its mother and a 4-year-old boy who along with his family had sought shelter in a drainage ditch.

In Missouri, areas west of St. Louis received significant damage from an EF3 tornado Friday that packed estimated winds of 150 mph. In St. Charles County, at least 71 homes were heavily damaged and 100 had slight to moderate damage, county spokeswoman Colene McEntee said.

Northeast of St. Louis, the town of Roxana, Ill., also saw damage from an EF3 tornado. Weather service meteorologist Jayson Gosselin said it wasn't clear whether the damage in Missouri and Illinois came from the same twister or separate ones.

Five tornadoes struck the Oklahoma City metro area on Friday, the weather service said. Fallin said Sunday that 115 people were injured.

The storms formed out the prairie west of Oklahoma City, giving residents plenty of advance notice. When told to seek shelter, many ventured out and snarled traffic across the metro area — perhaps remembering when a tornado hit Moore on May 20 and killed 24 people.

Oklahoma Highway Patrol Trooper Betsy Randolph said roadways quickly became congested with the convergence of rush-hour traffic and fleeing residents.

"They had no place to go, and that's always a bad thing. They were essentially targets just waiting for a tornado to touch down," Randolph said. "I'm not sure why people do that sort of stuff, but it is very dangerous."

California Wildfire Explodes In Size To More Than 25,000 Acres

GENARO MOLINA/LOS ANGELES TIMES/MCT
A helicopter puts out a hot spot on the Powerhouse fire at Elizabeth Lake, California, Sunday.

BY CHRISTOPHER WEBER
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A fire that destroyed six homes and threatened hundreds of others exploded in size over the weekend as it burned dangerously close to two communities north of Los Angeles and into unoccupied desert wilderness.

Erratic wind spread the blaze in the Angeles National Forest to nearly 41 square miles early Sunday, triggering the evacuation of hundreds of homes in Lake Hughes and Lake Elizabeth, officials said.

Crews continued to protect more than 1,000 homes at the edge of the rural hamlets of Lake Hughes and Lake Elizabeth in Angeles National Forest.

Nathan Judy of the U.S. Forest Service told The Associated Press that six homes burned overnight, and teams were waiting to assess at least 10 more structures that may have been damaged.

At least 10 other structures were damaged.

Patty Robitaille, 61, grabbed personal photos and documents before fleeing her Lake Hughes home with her pit bull, Roxie, as flames approached Saturday night. She said her home was among the first in the direct path of the fire.

"Driving away, you could see the

town burning up," she told the Los Angeles Times. "I don't think there's going to be much left."

Mark Wadsworth, 64, said he was confident his house in Lake Elizabeth survived. He spent Sunday parked in his truck atop a ridge, watching plumes of smoke rise from the canyons below.

"I've got nowhere to go, so I'm just waiting for them to open the roads again and let me back in," said Wadsworth. "I didn't want to go to a shelter."

The Red Cross opened evacuation centers in Palmdale and Lancaster. At Palmdale's Marie Kerr Park Recreation Center, more than 100 residents awaited word on when they could return home.

The fire chewed thick brush that hadn't burned in about a dozen years as wind pushed flames up and down steep slopes. The fire was 20 percent contained.

A huge plume of smoke could be seen from much of various parts of northern Los Angeles County throughout Saturday, and air-quality officials warned against strenuous outdoor activity.

The blaze broke out Thursday just north of Powerhouse No. 1, a hydroelectric plant near the Los Angeles Aqueduct, forcing about 200 evacuations in the mountain community of Green Valley.

Evacuations remained in effect for several campgrounds and two youth probation camps. Several roads were closed.

The cause of the fire was under investigation.

Elsewhere in the West, crews fighting two large uncontained wildfires in New Mexico focused Sunday on building protection lines around the blazes amid anticipation that a forecast of storms could bring moisture to help reduce the intensity of the fires.

Still, the forecast thunderstorms also bring the possibility of lightning that could start new fires and gusty winds that could help spread the blazes.

A fire burning in New Mexico's Santa Fe National Forest 25 miles from Santa Fe had grown to more than 11 square miles by Sunday morning.

Thick smoke from the fire covered Gallinas Canyon and Las Vegas, N.M.

The fire near the communities of Pecos and Tres Lagunas had prompted the evacuations of about 140 homes, most of them summer residences.

Crews also cleared out campgrounds and closed trailheads in the area as they worked to prevent the fire from moving toward the capital city's watershed and more populated areas.

Business AD-vantage

Where You Find Business & Professional EXPERTS!

A NEW BREED OF YELLOW PAGES

<p>APPLIANCE SALES/ SERVICE</p> <p>Larry's</p> <p>APPLIANCE</p> <p>920 Broadway, Yankton 665-9461</p> <p>LG Amana www.amana.com</p> <p>MAYTAG</p>	<p>AUTO BODY REPAIR</p> <p>Justras Body Shop 2806 Fox Run Parkway Yankton, 665-3929</p> <p>Riverside Auto Body www.riversideautobody-gonegreen.com 402-667-3285</p>	<p>CLEANING</p> <p>Steamway CLEANING & RESTORATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning • Duct Cleaning • Fire/Smoke • Water Restoration • Mold Testing & Remediation <p>665-5700 1-800-529-2450</p>	<p>DECORATING</p> <p>Yankton Paint & Decorating 406 Broadway • 665-5032 "Since 1964"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carpet • Vinyl • Wood • Ceramic & Laminate Flooring • Window & Wall Treatments <p>Benjamin Moore and Pratt & Lambert Paint</p>	<p>FUNERAL & CREMATION</p> <p>Wintz & Ray FUNERAL HOME and Cremation Service, Inc. Yankton • 605-665-3644</p> <p>Garden of Memories Cemetery</p> <p>Wintz FUNERAL HOME Harrington, Coleridge & Crofton 402-254-6547 wintzrayfuneralhome.com Trusted For Generations</p>	<p>HEATING & COOLING</p> <p>Larry's</p> <p>HEATING & COOLING</p> <p>920 Broadway, Yankton 665-9461</p> <p>Carrier Turn to the Experts</p>	
<p>ARCH SUPPORT</p> <p>Boston Shoes To Boots 312 West 3rd, Yankton, SD 605-665-9092</p>	<p>BANKING</p> <p>Services Center Federal Credit Union 609 W. 21st, Yankton, SD</p> <p>First Dakota National Bank 225 Cedar St., 665-7432 2105 Broadway, 665-4999</p>	<p>COMPRESSOR REPAIR</p> <p>EAGLE AIR Compressor Repair Inc. Repair of ALL Brands 31018 434th Ave., Yankton Dan Matcha, Owner 605-660-7188</p>	<p>ELECTRICAL</p> <p>Johnson Electric, LLP Commercial • Residential • Trenching 605-665-5686</p> <p>L&S Electric Harry Lane, Contractor 665-6612 • 661-1040</p>	<p>INTERNET</p> <p>Your Gateway To Yankton's Virtual Community</p> <p>www.yankton.net</p> <p>PRESS & DAKOTAN 319 Walnut, Yankton 605-665-7811 • 1-800-743-2968</p>	<p>MEDICAL CLINIC</p> <p>Lewis and Clark Family Medicine 2525 Fox Run Parkway, Ste. 200 Yankton, SD • (605)260-2100</p>	
		<p>PETS</p> <p>Canine Grooming Center, L.L.C. 718 Douglas, Yankton, 665-8885</p>	<p>Also online at www.yankton.net</p>			<p>WORLD BIBLE SCHOOL</p> <p>FREE BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSE PO Box 242, Yankton • 665-6379</p>