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OPINION | OTHER THOUGHTS

D-Day Numbers Tell Their Tale

MCCOOK DAILY GAZETTE (June 6): With America now attempting to wind down its longest-lasting war, attention is focused on a single soldier who may or may not have been a deserter, in exchange for five captives who definitely were terrorists.

As we debate the implications of the exchange of those six individuals, a look at the raw, nameless numbers from the D-Day invasion, which occurred 70 years ago, can bring things into perspective.

While about 4,500 Americans died from all causes in Iraq and more than 2,300 have died in Afghanistan since those wars began more than a decade ago, researchers have detailed 2,499 American fatalities on D-Day alone, and 1,915 from other Allied nations, for a total of 4,414.

Since history of wars is written by the winners, the number of German casualties at Normandy isn't known, but is estimated between 4,000 and 9,000 men.

According to an online question-and-answer website for historians and history buffs — http://history. stackexchange.com:

More than 425,000 Allied and German troops were killed, wounded or went missing during the Battle of Normandy, including more than 209,000 Allied casualties, nearly 37,000 dead among ground forces and a further 16,714 deaths among the Allied air forces.

Today, 27 war cemeteries hold the remains of over 110,000 dead from both sides: 77,866 German, 9,386 American, 17,769 British, 5,002 Canadian and 650 Poles.

Hollywood and historians have told and retold the story of D-Day in the 70 years since the event, each retelling reflecting the age in which its audience lives. The young men who hit the beaches, jumped from the planes and landed in gliders are now in their 90s, their numbers fewer and fewer by the day. While most can no longer tell their stories, the numbers tell a tale of their own.

CORRECTION

In Kelly Hertz' column on Friday, it was reported that the first Ribfest in Yankton was in 2008. This was incorrect. The first Ribfest took place in 2007.

ON THIS DATE

By The Associated Press Today is Monday, June 16, the 167th day of 2014. There are 198 days left in the vear

Today's Highlight in History: On June 16, 1944, George Stinney, a 14-year-old black youth, became the youngest person to die in the electric chair as the state of South Carolina executed him for the murders of two white girls, Betty June Binnicker, 11, and Mary Emma Thames, 7. (George Stinney's family, who maintains his innocence, is seeking to overturn his

conviction.) On this date: In 1567, Mary, Queen of Scots, was imprisoned in Lochleven Castle in Scotland. (She escaped almost a year later but ended up imprisoned again.)

In 1858, accepting the Illinois Republican Party's nomination for the U.S. Senate, Abraham Lincoln said

life under the name Sara Jane Olson. Thabo Mbeki took the oath as president of South Africa, succeeding Nelson Mandela.

Ten years ago: Rebuffing Bush administration claims, the independent commission investigating the Sept. 11 attacks said no evidence existed that al-Qaida had strong ties to Saddam Hussein. Al Lapin Jr., cofounder of the International House of Pancakes in 1958, died in Los Ange-les at age 76.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama met with South Korean Presi-dent Lee Myung-bak at the White House; afterward, Obama declared North Korea a "grave threat" to the world and pledged the U.S. and its allies would aggressively enforce fresh penalties against the nuclear-armed nation. Sen. John Ensign of Nevada, a leading Republican mentioned as a potential presidential candidate, ad-mitted he'd had an extramarital affair with a campaign staff member. Federal health regulators warned consumers to stop using Zicam Cold Remedy nasal gel and related products because they could permanently damage the sense of smell One year ago: Riot police firing tear gas and water cannons repelled thousands of anti-government protesters attempting to converge on Istanbul's central Taksim Square while Prime Minister Recep Tayipp Erdogan defended the crackdown at a rally of his supporters. Justin Rose captured his first major championship and became the first Englishman in 43 years to win the U.S. Open, shooting a clos-ing 70 at Merion Golf Club in Ardmore, Pennsylvania, for a 1-over 281 total. Connecticut accountant Erin Brady won the Miss USA pageant in Las Vegas Today's Birthdays: Actor Bill Cobbs is 80. Author Joyce Carol Oates is 76. Country singer Billy "Crash" Craddock is 76. Songwriter Lamont Dozier is 73. Rhythm-andblues singer Eddie Levert is 72. Actress Joan Van Ark is 71. Actor Geoff Pierson is 65. Rhythm-and-blues singer James Smith (The Stylistics) is 64. Boxing Hall of Famer Roberto Duran is 63. Pop singer Gino Vannelli is 62. Actress Laurie Metcalf is 59 Model-actress Jenny Shimizu is 47. Actor James Patrick Stuart is 46. Actor Clifton Collins Jr. is 44. Golfer Phil Mickelson is 44. Actor John Cho is 42. Actor Eddie Cibrian is 41. Actress China Shavers is 37. Actress Sibel Kekilli (TV: "Game of Thrones") is 34. Actress Missy Peregrym is 32. Actress Olivia Hack is 31. Singer Diana De-Garmo ("American Idol") is 27. Poprock musician Ian Keaggy (Hot Chelle) is 27 Thought for Today: "We seldom stop to think how many people's lives are entwined with our own. It is a form of selfishness to imagine that every individual can operate on his own or can pull out of the general stream and not be missed." — Ivy Baker Priest, for-mer U.S. Treasurer (1905-1975)



Capitol Notebook

Why Silence Isn't **Golden In Elections**

BY BOB MERCER State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — There is only one thing to be said if

you voted in South Dakota's primary elections. Thank you. There weren't very

many of you. Republicans had 236,689 people registered for the June 3 elections and 75,497 of them actually voted.

Democrats and independents had a combined 272,254 people registered (Democrats allow independents to vote in their primaries) and 30,366 of them actually voted.

Those are turnouts of 31.9 percent for Republicans and 11.15 percent combined for Democrats and independents.

There wasn't much at stake, of course: Only the Republican and Democratic nominations for gover-

nor; the Republican nomination for a U.S. Senate seat: and oodles of nominations in both parties for the Legislature and county courthouse offices

The 10-point victory by state Rep. Susan Wismer of Britton over Joe Lowe of Piedmont in the Democratic primary for governor came down to turnout.

But even in her home region, Democratic turnout wasn't spectacular. Marshall County was 39 percent. Day was 35.9; Roberts 30.6; and Brown only 13.9.

Those four counties provided Wismer with a 2,000-vote margin over Lowe. She won by about 3.000 votes.

Lowe suffered from unrealized expectations for turnout in reservation areas.

He finished on top in less than half of the dozen key counties in Indian Country. Lowe won 140-131 in Dewey; 44-40 in Jackson; 139-131 in Moody; and 204-174 in Todd.

Wismer meanwhile won 323-279 in Charles Mix; 121-118 in Shannon; 115-87 in Mellette; 184-183 in Brule; 64-59 in Buffalo; 114-64 in Corson; and 16-15 in Jones.

Michelle Malkin

They tied 36-36 in Bennett County. The U.S. Senate campaign for former Gov. Mike Rounds used turnout in his home region around Pierre to great advantage. He won the Republican nomination with 55.54

percent. In his home ground of Hughes County, he received 68.81 percent. In neighboring Stanley County, where he actually lives now, he received 66.36.

Monday, 6.16.14

In Sully County to the north, he got 64.24. And in Hyde County to the east, he took 55.92.

Republican turnout in Hughes was 53.13 percent, well above the state average for Republicans. Republican turnout in Stanley was 54.19; Sully 64.61; and Hvde 51.20.

Republican turnout also exceeded 50 percent in several other counties within the broader Rounds home area, such as Lyman and Potter, and in Walworth, Hand and McPherson as well.

Rounds took 50 percent or more of the vote in all of those counties, including a whopping

73.44 percent in McPherson. In some legislative and county races, small

turnout was the story. Shawn Bordeaux won the District 26A House seat over Joshua Wilson 360-263. They are both Democrats from the Mission area. No other candidates filed.

Rep. Dean Schrempp of Lantry won re-election to the District 28A House seat over former Rep. Tom Van Norman of Eagle Butte 377-206. They are both Democrats. No other candidates filed

Shannon County, where Democratic and independent turnout was 3.45 percent, elected two county commissioners in primaries.

Art Hopkins of Kyle defeated Bryan Kehn of Batesland 32-13. Arlin Whirlwindhorse of Kyle edged Eugenio White Hawk of Manderson 31-26. They are Democrats. No other candidates filed.

They are proof: Every vote — and candidate matters.



Bob

MERCER



Sally Whiting Jo Ann Wiebelhaus Brenda Willcuts Jackie Williams

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the slavery issue had to be resolved, declaring, "A house divided against it-self cannot stand."

In 1883, baseball's first "Ladies' Dav" took place as the New York Gothams offered women free admission to a game against the Cleveland Spiders. (New York won, 5-2.)

In 1903, Ford Motor Co. was incorporated. In 1911, IBM had its beginnings as

the Computing-Tabulating-Recording Co. was incorporated in New York State.

In 1933, the National Industrial Recovery Act became law with Presi-dent Franklin D. Roosevelt's signature. (The Act was later struck down by the U.S. Supreme Court.) The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. was founded as President Roosevelt signed the Banking Act of 1933. In 1943, comedian Charles Chap-

lin, 54, married his fourth wife, 18year-old Oona O'Neill, daughter of playwright Eugene O'Neill, in Carpinteria, California.

In 1959, actor George Reeves, TV's "Superman," was found dead of an apparently self-inflicted gunshot wound in the bedroom of his Beverly Hills. California. home: he was 45.

In 1963, the world's first female space traveler, Valentina Tereshkova, 26, was launched into orbit by the Soviet Union aboard Vostok 6; she spent 71 hours in flight, circling the Earth 48 times before returning safely.

In 1978, President Jimmy Carter and Panamanian leader Omar Torrijos exchanged the instruments of ratification for the Panama Canal treaties.

In 1987, a jury in New York acquit-ted Bernhard Goetz of attempted murder in the subway shooting of four youths he said were going to rob him; however. Goetz was convicted of illegal weapons possession. (In 1996, a civil jury ordered Goetz to pay \$43 million to one of the persons he'd shot.)

In 1999, Vice President Al Gore formally opened his candidacy for the Democratic presidential nomination. Kathleen Ann Soliah, a fugitive member of the Symbionese Liberation Army, was captured in St. Paul, Minnesota, where she had made a new

FROM THE BIBLE

Yet I will rejoice in the LORD; I will take joy in the God of my salvation. Habakkuk 3:18. Portals of Prayer, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis

YOUR LETTERS

Profiling!

Kathy Taybor, Dante "Punish the deed, not the breed" is the statement owners

of pitbulls want the public to respect. Why is it that news reports only give the breed of dog if its a pitbull? In two recent "Daily

Records," it was reported "a dog" was involved in a police

breed specified? This is profiling! Negative reports does not solve anything. If any canine is involved in an accident, any and all breeds should be reported. Pitbulls can be and are

one.

call. Why isn't the breed given?

wonderful dogs. I know. I have

Why is it pitbull is the only

Who's Afraid Of Tom Tancredo?

BY MICHELLE MALKIN

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Panicked liberals and crony Republican elitists agree: Tom Tancredo would be bad for their Big Government and Big Business rackets. That's exactly why I support him in Colorado's June 24 GOP primary election for governor.

A fear-mongering ad campaign by the leftwing group "ProgressNow," which is funded by billionaire George Soros, hyperventilated last week that "Tancredo believes Obamacare is a scam." Gasp!

"Scam" is putting it politely, of course. Billions of dollars have been wasted on defunct and dysfunctional Obamacare health exchanges. Criminals, illegal aliens and con artists have been hired as "navigators" to sign up Obamacare enrollees (a.k.a. future Democratic voters). And millions of Americans of all backgrounds, including my family, have had their plans canceled thanks to the costs and regulatory burdens of the law. Workers have seen their wages and hours cut; employers, especially small and family-owned businesses, have been forced to drop coverage.

It's absurd to call Tancredo's dead-on diagnosis of Obamacare "radical." But the pile-on against Tancredo isn't just coming from out-oftouch Democrats.

Here in Colorado, many corporatist Republicans who support the suicidal push for illegal alien amnesty claim Tancredo "can't win" because his "divisive," unrelenting stance on securing America's borders (gasp again!) will scare away Hispanic voters. This attack on Tancredo is nonsense on stilts.

The latest Pew poll revealed this month that immigration policy doesn't even rank among the top three concerns of Hispanic voters. Their top issues: education, jobs/economy and health care. A related Pew survey just reported that majorities of Hispanic and Asian-American voters both agree that another mass amnesty would reward illegal behavior and lead to more illegal immigration. Gasp! That's exactly what Tancredo's been saying for nearly 20 years.

As he told me this week, "This primary battle for the Republican nomination for governor is shaping up to be a classic fight between the political elite and the rank-and-file conservatives in the party. The party bosses hate my candidacy because it represents a threat to their power and to the crony capitalists who want the government to supply them with cheap labor.

Bingo. Tancredo is a patriot who stands firmly in the mainstream - and voters of all backgrounds, including hardworking, law-abiding Democrats and independents, stand with him on this. Standing with Facebook's amnesty crusader Mark Zuckerberg, radical Labor Secretary Thomas Perez and the open-borders crowd looking to cash in at the expense of American workers is what's truly fringe.

In the bizarro worlds of both Soros-funded operatives and U.S. Chamber of Commercetypes, it's somehow "far right" to advocate for the rule of law. These elites decry "fringe"

conservatives like Tancredo and myself who believe it's a fundamental duty of the government to protect the states from invasion. Yes, I said "invasion." That's straight from Article IV, section IV of the fringe document known as the U.S. Constitution. And what other word best describes what's happening along the border, in the southwestern states and at military bases across the country this very moment?

Long before so many Johnnies-come-lately started waking up to the dire national security, public safety, public health and economic threats posed by unbridled, uncontrolled immigration. Tom Tancredo was leading the fight on Capitol Hill. Karl Rove threatened him over his successful opposition to the ruinous Bush amnesty, telling him he'd "never darken the White House doorstep" again. Ahem, talk about "divisive."

Tancredo's willingness to call out both establishment Republicans and Democrats when they're leading us down the grim path of self-immolation is his greatest strength. And not just on immigration. Whether he's defending the Second Amendment or the Tenth, whether he's skewering political correctness, the "cult of multiculturalism" or Common Core, or whether he's defending property rights and entrepreneurs, he spares no one and pulls no punches. He doesn't care a whit what the liberal media think. He does what he thinks is right, not what's politically expedient.

Many chin-pulling Republican bosses here in Colorado say Tom's a "bomb-thrower." What they mean is "unapologetic truth-teller." And we need more like him in office, not the same old sycophants and milquetoasts who'd rather lose than be perceived as "lightning rods." Instead of following the establishment GOP lemmings who credited President Obama with being a "nice guy," for example, Tom bluntly said in 2010 that the corruptocrat in chief was "the greatest threat to our way of life.'

That's not so "radical" anymore considering Obama's unleashing of five top Taliban commanders from Gitmo; wanton release of tens of thousands of criminal illegal aliens; reckless inaction as scores of veterans died while his Veterans Affairs bureaucrats cooked the books; and callous dismissal of the bloodstained Fast and Furious and Benghazi scandals as "manufactured."

All of the GOP gubernatorial candidates in Colorado would be better than job-sabotaging, rights-infringing Democratic incumbent John Hickenlooper. But Tancredo is leading the pack in all of the polls. He has the strongest name recognition and grassroots following. And he's got all the right enemies. What sets Tom apart is his lifelong independence and his proven record of bucking establishment politics. Nobody ever will accuse him of straddling the fence, sugarcoating his message or selling out. No wonder the powers that be in the bipartisan halls of power are scared.

Michelle Malkin is the author of "Culture of Corruption: Obama and his Team of Tax Cheats, Crooks and Cronies" (Regnery 2010). Her e-mail address is malkinblog@gmail.com.