

TODAY

It's Saturday, Jan. 9, the ninth day of 2021. There are 356 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

In 2020, Chinese state media said a preliminary investigation into recent cases of viral pneumonia had identified the probable cause as a new type of coronavirus.

In 1788, Connecticut became the fifth state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

In 1793, Frenchman Jean Pierre Blanchard, using a hot-air balloon, flew from Philadelphia to Woodbury, New Jersey.

In 1861, Mississippi became the second state to secede from the Union, the same day the Star of the West, a merchant vessel bringing reinforcements and supplies to Federal troops at Fort Sumter, South Carolina, retreated because of artillery fire.

In 1913, Richard Milhous Nixon, the 37th president of the United States, was born in Yorba Linda, California.

In 1916, the World War I Battle of Gallipoli ended after eight months with an Ottoman Empire victory as Allied forces withdrew.

In 1945, during World War II, American forces began landing on the shores of Lingayen Gulf in the Philippines as the Battle of Luzon got underway, resulting in an Allied victory over Imperial Japanese forces.

In 1951, the United Nations headquarters in New York officially opened.

In 1958, President Dwight D. Eisenhower, in his State of the Union address to Congress, warned of the threat of Communist imperialism.

In 1987, the White House released a January 1986 memorandum prepared for President Ronald Reagan by Lt. Col. Oliver L. North showing a link between U.S. arms sales to Iran and the release of American hostages in Lebanon.

In 2003, U.N. weapons inspectors said there was no "smoking gun" to prove Iraq had nuclear, chemical or biological weapons but they demanded that Baghdad provide private access to scientists and fresh evidence to back its claim that it had destroyed its weapons of mass destruction.

In 2009, the Illinois House voted 114-1 to impeach Gov. Rod Blagojevich, who defiantly insisted again that he had committed no crime. The Illinois Senate unanimously voted to remove Blagojevich from office 20 days later.

In 2015, French security forces shot and killed two al-Qaida-linked brothers suspected of carrying the rampage at the satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo that had claimed 12 lives, the same day a gunman killed four people at a Paris kosher grocery store before being killed by police.

Ten years ago: Federal prosecutors brought charges against Jared Loughner, the man accused of attempting to assassinate Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, D-Ariz., and killing six people at a political event in Tucson the day before. British movie director Peter Yates, who sent actor Steve McQueen screeching through the streets of San Francisco in a Ford Mustang in "Bullitt," died in London at 81.

Five years ago: Actor Angus Scrimm, 89, the "Tall Man" in the "Phantasm" horror films, died in Tarzana, California.

One year ago: The Democratic-controlled House approved a resolution asserting that President Donald Trump must seek approval from Congress before engaging in further military action against Iran. At his first campaign rally of 2020, Trump told an Ohio crowd that he had served up "American justice" by ordering a drone strike to take out Iran's top general.

Today's Birthdays: Actor K. Callan is 85. Folk singer Joan Baez is 80. Rock musician Jimmy Page (Led Zeppelin) is 77. Actor John Doman is 76. Singer David Johansen (aka Buster Poindexter) is 71. Singer Crystal Gayle is 70. Actor J.K. Simmons is 66. Actor Imelda Staunton is 65. Nobel Peace laureate Rigoberta Menchú is 62. Rock musician Eric Erlandson is 58. Actor Joely Richardson is 56. Rock singer-musician Dave Matthews is 54. Actor-director Joey Lauren Adams is 53. Actor Omari Hardwick is 47. Roots singer-songwriter Hayes Carll is 45. Singer A.J. McLean (Backstreet Boys) is 43. Catherine, Duchess of Cambridge, is 39. Rock-soul singer Paolo Nutini is 34. Actor Nina Dobrev is 32. Actor Basil Eidenbenz is 28. Actor Kerris Dorsey is 23.

— Associated Press

LOCAL, STATE & REGION

WASHINGTON, D.C. | VIOLENCE AT THE CAPITOL

Arrested Oregon man: Police 'sympathetic'

BY LIZZY ACKER

The Oregonian

In the aftermath of the violence that erupted Wednesday in Washington, D.C., records show at least three Oregonians were arrested in the siege at the U.S. Capitol.

One of them was Rodney Taylor, 57, of Bandon.

Taylor said Thursday that many of the officers he encountered during his trip were friendly.

"The majority of the cops that I interacted with in D.C., they strike an unmistakably sympathetic pose or tone," he said.

He said he saw Capitol police retreat "immediately," and offer almost no resistance when the violence began and a mob supporting Trump broke into the U.S. Capitol.

Taylor, who owns US Survey Supply, a company that sells surveying equipment and has a master contract with the Washington State Department of Enterprise Services, was arrested for curfew violation Wednesday and released early Thursday morning.

D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser imposed a 6 p.m. curfew after rioters stormed the Capitol.

It was Taylor's third trip to the nation's capital in three weeks, he told The Oregonian in a phone call from the district Thursday. Taylor said he traveled to there "for the preservation of the republic" and because he is "gravely concerned" about the United States becoming a communist country.

The phenomenon of seemingly friendly police has been widely reported. A viral video captured amid the chaos shows an unidentified police officer posing for pictures with rioters



Jacquelyn Martin/AP file

With the Washington Monument in the background, people attend a rally Wednesday in support of President Donald Trump near the White House.

who broke into the building.

Taylor told KGW he ascended the Capitol stairs but didn't enter the building.

He told The Oregonian that he supported peaceful protest and he believed "antifa agitators" were behind the violence, citing images he has seen on Twitter and Parler and the fact that some agitators were wearing Trump hats backward and didn't respond to his questions about Republican lawmakers.

These claims, including the theory that antifa wears Trump hats backward, have been repeatedly debunked.

Taylor was arrested hours af-

Oregonians could face charges in insurrection

Oregon U.S. Attorney Billy Williams on Thursday said Oregonians who traveled to Washington, D.C., and participated in this week's armed insurrection at the U.S. Capitol would be prosecuted to the "fullest extent of the law" in Oregon.

In a statement, Williams called Wednesday's events "an abomination to our democracy and utterly indefensible."

ter the break-in. He said he was attempting to show police officers a video on his phone.

"We had witnessed police beating a woman with a baton," Taylor said. "Police should not hit women with batons."

He was in front of his hotel, he said, when he approached police to show them the video,

"cellphone in one hand and my other hand in the air."

Taylor said he told the officer, "I mean you no harm," and the officer responded by telling him he was violating the curfew ordinance.

"My response was, 'Sir, I only wish to show you this video,'" he said, "And his response was,

"You are under arrest."

Taylor said he was put in handcuffs and after about a half an hour, taken to a "remote interim jail facility," where he was processed with about 75 other men.

During his arrest and processing, Taylor said, "I took the opportunity to mention to several different officers that I thought that what was happening was grossly unfair."

"I was met with a certain amount of agreement," he said.

About 3:30 a.m., he said, he was released and shared an Uber with another man back to the area of his hotel. Taylor said he was fined \$25.

Officials: Republican lawmaker let protesters into Oregon Capitol

BY SARA CLINE

The Associated Press/Report for America

PORTLAND — A Republican state representative let protesters into the Oregon Capitol building, which was closed to the public, during a December special legislative session where demonstrations outside turned violent, the Speaker of the House said Thursday.

During the far-right protest, which was held in opposition to statewide COVID-19 restrictions and attracted hundreds of people, protesters assaulted reporters, attacked authorities with bear spray and broke glass doors. They were eventually cleared from the building.

As lawmakers inside the building discussed coronavirus-related bills, around 50

protesters briefly breached the building. The Capitol has been closed to the public as part of a pandemic safety measure.

House Speaker Tina Kotek said during a news conference about the Capitol operations safety plan that Rep. Mike Nearman, R-Independence, had allowed protesters into the building.

Kotek called Nearman's actions "reckless and dangerous."

"This was a serious, serious breach of public trust," Kotek said. "Legislative staff and members felt terrorized by the incursion, particularly our members who are members of color."

It is not immediately clear if and what consequences Nearman will face. Attempts to reach Nearman on Thursday weren't immediately successful.

OREGON CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

25th Amendment or impeachment pressed for

BY DOUGLAS PERRY

The Oregonian

In the wake of the attempted takeover of the U.S. Capitol in Washington, several members of Oregon's congressional delegation say it's time for Vice President Mike Pence and Trump's cabinet members to trigger the 25th Amendment, the constitutional mechanism that would remove the president from office.

"It's so disturbing to me that we still need to advocate for this with just 14 days left in his term, but it's no longer optional," said Rep. Earl Blumenauer, D-Portland, suggesting that Trump could create more crises if left to finish out his full

time in office.

Rep. Peter DeFazio, D-Eugene, seconded that view, stating that "the most expedient way to remove Trump from office is to invoke the 25th Amendment. I am calling on Vice President Pence and the cabinet to immediately declare through the 25th Amendment that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office."

Sen. Ron Wyden called Trump "a clear and present danger to our democracy. His cabinet must use the 25th amendment to act." Sen. Jeff Merkley said the amendment "should be invoked today and Trump should be removed from office."

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