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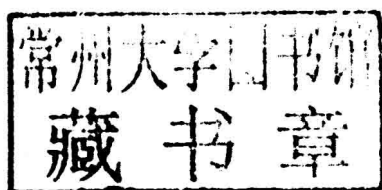


Events of
2013



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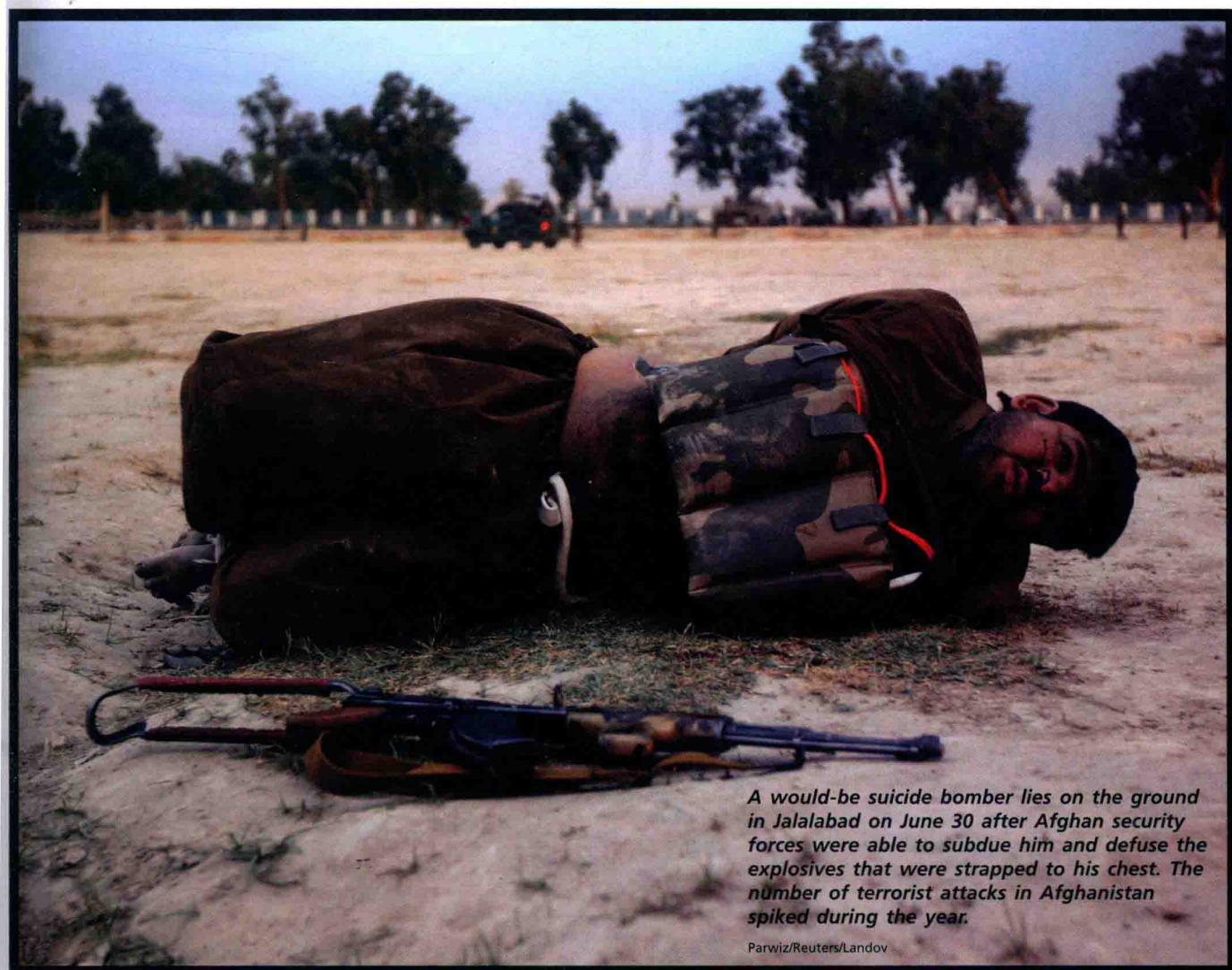
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Foreword

In 2013 elections and selections of several prominent new political and religious leaders resulted in a sea change across the globe. More than 1.2 billion Roman Catholics saw the election of a new pope, Francis, a humble bishop of Rome, who faced numerous ecclesiastical challenges, and some 89 million Anglicans welcomed Justin Welby as the new archbishop of Canterbury. China, with a population of about 1.4 billion, selected a new political leader, as did such countries as Australia, Cyprus, Iran, Kenya, Norway, and Venezuela, among others. The world at large saw a rapid uptick in several areas: “big data” gathering, the disappearance of butterflies, the poaching of elephants, crowdfunding, extreme weather, MOOCS (massive open online courses), 3D Printing, the use of Bitcoins, Fantasy Football aficionados, and support for same-sex marriage. All of these topics are covered in Special Reports, along with others that feature an assortment of other hot-button issues. Besides the 2013 roundup of notable anniversaries, three other milestones merited more in-depth coverage: the 50th commemoration of the assassination of Pres. John F. Kennedy, the 50th anniversary of “Beatlemania,” and the sesquicentennial of the Emancipation Proclamation.

There were numerous notable deaths during the year. Included among those were South African former president and Nobel Peace Prize laureate Nelson Mandela; former British prime minister “Iron Lady” Margaret Thatcher; acclaimed pianist and Tchaikovsky interpreter Van Cliburn; baseball legend “Stan the Man” Musial; populist Venezuelan Pres. Hugo Chávez; rambunctious New York City former mayor Ed Koch; pop singers Patti Page, Patty Andrews, and Eydie Gormé; advice columnist Abigail (“Dear Abby”) Van Buren; film critic Roger Ebert; “test-tube baby” pioneer Sir Robert Edwards; Mercury astronaut Scott Carpenter; intrepid journalist Helen Thomas; motion-picture stars Peter O’Toole, Joan Fontaine, and Eleanor Parker; perennial TV and movie favourites comedian Jonathan Winters, Jean Stapleton (ditz Edith Bunker on TV’s *All in the Family*), Annette Funicello (original Mouseketeer and star of Disney movies), and James Gandolfini (mob boss Tony Soprano on TV’s *The Sopranos*); engaging TV interviewer David Frost; literary lions Chinua Achebe of Nigeria and Britain’s Doris Lessing; and best-selling novelists Elmore Leonard and Tom Clancy.

Among the biographies profiled are the influential and inspirational Pope Francis, Archbishop of Canterbury Welby, rising Canadian political star of the Liberal Party Justin Trudeau, *Breaking Bad* TV star Bryan Cranston, Oscar-winning actress Jennifer Lawrence, cell-phone inventor Marty Cooper, skiing champion Ted Ligety, long-distance-swimming sensation Diana Nyad, country music stalwart George Strait, captivating Russian Austrian soprano Anna Netrebko, and multifaceted Cyndi Lauper, who was recognized not only as a singer but also as a gifted writer of music for the Broadway stage. The exploits and career of controversial figure Edward Snowden, a former contractor for the National Security Agency, are also explored. In addition, discover the identity of the individual who worked briefly as a door-to-door salesman for Encyclopædia Britannica.

This information-packed volume offers a wealth of reading enjoyment and an opportunity to discover the newest directions and innovations occurring in the arts, finance, science, and other disciplines. There are almost 50 Special Reports—nearly one for each week of the year. It is my hope that you enjoy this fascinating collection.

Karen Sparks
Director and Editor

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Dates of 2013



An EF5 tornado, with winds approaching 320 km/hr (200 mph), ripped through the Oklahoma City suburb of Moore on May 20, killing 24 people and flattening homes, schools, and this bowling alley, which if not for the intact ball-return machine (centre) would be unidentifiable.

Richard Rowe—Reuters/Landov



January

We, the people, declare today that the most evident of truths—that all of us are created equal—is the star that guides us still, just as it guided our forebears through Seneca Falls and Selma and Stonewall.

U.S. Pres. Barack Obama in his inaugural address, January 21

1 Pres. François Bozizé of the Central African Republic in a radio address asks Seleka rebels not to enter the capital but to allow him to finish his term of office; the rebellion began three weeks earlier and moved with great speed and little impediment until forces from neighbouring Chad intervened.

2 As dozens of cars and motorcycles are lined up outside a gas station near Damascus, an explosion starts a fire in which at least 30 people are incinerated; one witness asserts that the carnage was the result of a government air strike.

The state-run news agency of Myanmar (Burma) reports that the country's army is using aircraft in its fighting against an ethnic Kachin rebellion.

The American car-rental conglomerate Avis Budget Group announces its purchase of the popular car-sharing service Zipcar.

3 A car bomb in Al-Musayyib, Iraq, kills at least 28 Shi'ite pilgrims as they are returning from a religious observance in Karbala; in addition, 4 other Shi'ite pilgrims are killed by a roadside bomb in Baghdad.

Automakers report that sales of new cars and trucks in the U.S. in 2012 were the strongest since 2007 and that sales in December 2012 increased 9% over the previous month.

4 The U.S. Department of Labor reports that the unemployment rate in December 2012 remained steady at 7.8% and that the economy added 155,000 jobs; nonetheless, 12.2 million Americans seeking work remain unemployed.

The House of Bishops of the Church of England confirms a decision to allow gay men in civil partnerships to be eligible to become bishops, provided that they remain celibate.

5 Searching continues for a private plane that disappeared after takeoff from a resort in Venezuela the previous day; the plane carried four passengers, including Vittorio Missoni, head of Italy's Missoni fashion house, and two crew members.

At the first fish auction of the year in Tokyo, a sushi restaurant chain buys a 222-kg (489-lb) bluefin tuna for a record price of ¥155.4 million (about \$1.76 million). (Photo right.)

6 Syrian Pres. Bashar al-Assad makes a public address in which he characterizes the opposition as terrorists and traitors and efforts at mediation as foreign interference.

A Pakistani soldier is killed in a shooting incident between Indian and Pakistani troops across the Line of Control in Kashmir; two days later Indian authorities say that a similar occurrence has left two Indian soldiers dead.

Salvage crews attach a tow line to the *Kulluk*, a Shell Oil drilling rig that ran aground on Sitkalidak Island in the Gulf of Alaska on Dec. 31, 2012, while being towed to Seattle after having drilled a test well off Alaska's North Slope.

7 Officials in Kenya report that 11 elephants were found slaughtered, with their tusks chopped off, in Tsavo East National Park; the rising price of ivory has led to a great increase in poaching.

A government-funded environmental study is released in Canada that shows that levels of carcinogenic compounds in wilderness lakes in Alberta have significantly increased since the development of oil sands began in the province in 1978; it is the first time that a historical comparison of contaminant levels there has been undertaken.

Association football (soccer) star Lionel Messi of Argenti-

na is named FIFA World Player of the Year for a record fourth consecutive year; American Abby Wambach takes the women's title.

The University of Alabama defeats the University of Notre Dame 42-14 in college football's Bowl Championship Series title game to win the NCAA Football Bowl Subdivision championship.

The national average temperature in Australia reaches a record high of 40.33 °C (104.59 °F).

8 Qatar announces that it is giving Egypt's government a second grant of \$2.5 billion in an effort to help shore up the country's economy.

Authorities in China's Guangdong province agree to loosen some censorship controls over a major liberal weekly paper known as *Southern Weekend* or *Southern Weekly*, defusing a crisis that was beginning to spread.

The U.S. National Climatic Data Center reports that 2012 was the hottest year on record in the contiguous

United States, with an average temperature of 12.9 °C (55.3 °F), a full degree warmer than the previous record, set in 1998; the global average temperature is later reported to be the 10th warmest on record.

9 Syrian rebels release the 48 Iranians whom they had held for the past five months; in exchange, the Syrian government releases 2,130 prisoners in a deal that was brokered by Turkey and Qatar.

10 Islamist rebels in Mali advance, taking the village of Konna, in the central area of the country, from Mali's armed forces; for eight months the village has marked the outside edge of Malian government control.

A double suicide bombing at a snooker hall in Quetta, Pak., kills at least 81 people, and a bomb at a religious seminary in the Swat valley, in northwestern Pakistan, leaves an additional 22 people dead.

The European Central Bank and the Bank of England

each choose to leave their benchmark interest rates at record-low levels; Mario Draghi, head of the European Central Bank, declares that there may be signs of hope for the euro-zone economy.

11 French military forces respond to the unexpected advance of Islamist militants in Mali with air strikes in support of Mali's army.

The Seleka rebel coalition in the Central African Republic agrees to a one-week ceasefire to give Pres. François Bozizé time to implement various aspects of the accord reached, which includes the formation of a new coalition government.

After meeting in Washington, D.C., with Afghan Pres. Hamid Karzai, U.S. Pres. Barack Obama announces that the transition of security responsibility to Afghan forces will take place in spring rather than in midyear and that few American troops will remain in Afghanistan after 2014.

Palestinian activists begin setting up a tent encampment in an area of the West

Bank east of Jerusalem called E1, where Israel has declared its intention to place settlements; the area partially bifurcates the West Bank.

12 Faustin-Archange Touadéra is dismissed as prime minister of the Central African Republic; he is replaced on January 17 by Nicolas Tiangaye.

The air-quality-monitoring device on the U.S. embassy in Beijing measures particulate matter in the air at 755; measurements above 300 are deemed to be unsafe, and the top of the scale is regarded as 500.

13 An appeals court in Egypt overturns the verdict that found former president Hosni Mubarak guilty of responsibility in the killing of protesters in 2011 and orders that a new trial take place.

Pres. Mahinda Rajapakse of Sri Lanka signs a decree to remove Chief Justice Shirani Bandaranayake from office after an impeachment process in the legislature that the Supreme Court had deemed illegal.

At the Golden Globe Awards ceremony in Beverly Hills, Calif., best picture honours go to *Argo* and *Les Misérables*; Ben Affleck wins the prize for best director for *Argo*.

14 After days of street protests against the apparent indifference of the chief minister of Pakistan's Balochistan province to the recent slaughter in Quetta, the province's capital, Pakistani Prime Minister Raja Pervez Ashraf announces the dismissal of the chief minister and of the provincial legislature, in a move that



Koji Sasahara/AP Images

residents sought for several years.

The Maha Kumbh Mela, a major Hindu religious festival held every 12 years near Allahabad, India, gets underway as thousands of pilgrims bathe in the Ganges River.

The Albright-Knox Art Gallery in Buffalo, N.Y., announces that Janne Sirén, director of Finland's Helsinki Art Museum, will replace Louis Grachos as its director.

15 As tens of thousands of supporters of Pakistani preacher Muhammad Tahir-ul Qadri rally in Islamabad to demand the removal of the government, Chief Justice Iftikhar Muhammad Chaudhry orders the arrest of Prime Minister Raja Pervez Ashraf.

Two explosions take place at Aleppo University in Syria, and dozens of people are killed; the cause of the explosions, the political entity behind the explosions, and the exact death toll cannot be ascertained, though the carnage is horrific even in the context of the violence of the civil war.

Pres. Andry Rajoelina of Madagascar declares that he will not be a candidate in the presidential election scheduled to take place in May.

Figures are released that show that Germany's economy contracted 0.5% in the final quarter of 2012.

16 Islamist militants attack an internationally run gas field in Algeria near the border with Libya and abduct a number of workers, most of them reportedly European and American; the attack is thought to be in revenge for the French campaign against Islamist militants in Mali.

Car bombs destroy a building in Kirkuk, Iraq, that housed a headquarters of the Kurdistan Democratic Party; some 20 people are killed.

The U.S. Federal Aviation Administration grounds all Boeing 787 Dreamliners used by American carriers after it has been found that a fire in a lithium-ion battery was the cause of an emergency landing in Japan and that a lithium-ion battery fire had earlier occurred in a 787 on the ground in Boston.

17 Algerian armed forces launch an attack on the gas field in eastern Algeria taken over the previous day by Islamist militants, to the surprise of governments whose citizens are thought to be among the hostages taken by the militants.

Tens of thousands of people attend the funeral in Diyarbakir, Tur., for three Kurdish activists murdered in Paris; the bodies of the three women were found on January 10 at the Kurdistan Information Office.

The U.S. extends its recognition to the government that took office in Somalia in 2012; it is the first time since 1991 that the U.S. has recognized a Somali government.

The Dorothy and Lillian Gish Prize is awarded to American actress and writer Anna Deavere Smith.

18 The government of Myanmar (Burma) announces a cease-fire in its 18-month military offensive against ethnic Kachin rebels and declares that it seeks to engage in peace talks; fighting continues nonetheless.

It is learned that late the previous night the artistic

director of Russia's Bolshoi Ballet, Sergey Filin, was attacked and splashed with sulfuric acid, causing grievous injury to his face and to his eyes; there has been a great deal of infighting at the ballet company.

19 The Algerian military launches its final assault on the Islamist militants who took control of a gas field, ending the takeover and hostage crisis; at least 29 militants and 37 hostages have been killed during the four-day ordeal.

After a week of talks in Geneva, a treaty setting out enforceable limits on the emissions of the extremely toxic metal mercury is agreed to by 140 countries.

At Thoroughbred horse racing's Eclipse Awards ceremony, the five-year-old gelding Wise Dan is named 2012 Horse of the Year.

20 In a nonbinding referendum, voters in Austria reject a proposal to eliminate military conscription in favour of a smaller, professional armed force.

The Dakar Rally concludes in Santiago; the winners are French driver Stéphane Peterhansel in a Mini automobile, French driver Cyril Despres on a KTM motorcycle, Russian driver Eduard Nikolayev in a Kamaz truck, and Argentine driver Marcos Patronelli on a Yamaha ATV.

21 Emmanuel Nadingar resigns as prime minister of Chad; Joseph Djimrangar Dadnadji is named as his replacement.

Mutinous soldiers attempt a coup in Eritrea by taking over the state-run television

system, but troops loyal to the government quickly regain control.

Public inaugural ceremonies in Washington, D.C., marking Barack Obama's second term of office as president of the United States (which began the previous day, as mandated by the Constitution, with a private swearing-in), include a parade, a speech by Obama, and two official inaugural balls. (Photo right.)

22 Legislative elections take place in Israel; to the astonishment of pundits, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's Likud-Beiteinu coalition loses ground, winning only 31 seats, with Yesh Atid, the new centrist party led by television talk-show star Yair Lapid, unexpectedly coming in second with 19 seats.

23 In northern Iraq a suicide bomber detonates his weapon in a tent housing a funeral ceremony for a Turkmen employee of Iraq's Ministry of Health who was killed in violence the previous day; the tent is crowded with Turkmen mourners, many of them local dignitaries, and at least 35 people die.

Legislative elections are held in Jordan; in spite of a boycott by most opposition parties, turnout is a surprisingly high 56.7%.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reveals that the percentage of American workers belonging to a labour union fell to 11.3% in 2012 from 11.8% in 2011, reaching its lowest level since 1916; the figure for private-sector unions in 2012 was 6.6%, down from 6.9% the previous year.

Kevin Lamarque—Reuters/Landov



24 U.S. Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta signs an order ending the military ban on women in combat.

In spite of the collapse of Slovenia's governing coalition, Prime Minister Janez Jansa declines to resign, saying that the country can ill afford early elections.

Standard & Poor's 500-stock index rises above 1500 for the first time since Dec. 12, 2007, before falling to close at 1494.82.

25 On the second anniversary of the revolution in Egypt, tens of thousands of people fill Tahrir Square in Cairo and rally in other cities throughout the country to protest the power of the Muslim Brotherhood; rioting breaks out in some places.

Police officials say that they have regained control of Ismayilli, Azer., after two days of violent rioting against the local government there.

26 A court verdict in Egypt that sentences 21

Port Said association football (soccer) fans to death for their role in a February 2012 soccer riot that left 74 people dead ignites massive violent rioting in Port Said in which at least 30 people are killed.

The leftist politician Milos Zeman wins a runoff presidential election in the Czech Republic; Zeman, who served as prime minister in 1998–2002, is regarded as incorruptible.

Newspapers in Venezuela report that more than 50 people have been killed so far in violence that broke out the previous day in the overcrowded Uribana prison in Barquisimeto; the death toll is later reported to have risen to 61.

Belarusian Victoria Azarenka defeats Li Na of China to win the Australian Open women's tennis championship; the following day Novak Djokovic of Serbia defeats Andy Murray of Scotland to capture the men's title for the third consecutive year.

The American doubles team made up of twin brothers Bob and Mike Bryan wins

the Australian Open men's doubles championship; it is the 13th Grand Slam victory for the Bryan brothers, which is a record number for a doubles team.

27 Egyptian Pres. Mohammed Morsi declares a state of emergency in the cities of Suez, Ismailia, and Port Said; rioting continues unabated.

Yokozuna Harumafuji defeats yokozuna Hakuho to win the Emperor's Cup with a perfect 15–0 record at the New Year *basho* (grand sumo tournament) in Tokyo.

Royal Dream wins the Grand Prix d'Amérique harness race, setting a record time of 1 min 11.9 sec.

28 French and Malian troops enter Timbuktu, which has been under Islamist militant control for 10 months; rapturous residents greet the liberating soldiers.

Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands announces that she will abdicate the throne on April 30.

In the field of children's literature, the Newbery Medal is awarded to Katherine Applegate for her tale *The One and Only Ivan*, and Jon Klassen wins the Caldecott Medal for his book *This Is Not My Hat*.

29 The government of Myanmar (Burma) rescinds a ban, first imposed in 1988, on public gatherings of more than five people.

It is reported that Nigerian Pres. Goodluck Jonathan has promised to immediately release \$4 million to clean lead from villages in Zam-

fara state, where wildcat gold mining has caused lead contamination that has resulted in the deaths of at least 400 children.

The remains of a tropical storm hit Sydney; the weather system has been causing flooding from rainfall and ocean swells along the coast for several days, necessitating thousands of evacuations and rescues and leaving at least four people dead.

30 Israel carries out an air strike against a convoy in Syria carrying anti-aircraft weapons possibly intended for the militant group Hezbollah in Lebanon, according to U.S. officials.

The U.S. Department of Commerce reports that the country's GDP shrank at an annual rate of 0.1% in the final quarter of 2012; for the year as a whole, GDP grew at a rate of 2.2%.

At a Research in Motion event in New York City to introduce the company's new line of BlackBerry smartphones, CEO Thorsten Heins announces that the company has changed its name to BlackBerry.

31 Chey Tae-Won, head of the South Korean conglomerate SK Group, is taken directly to prison after having been convicted of embezzlement and sentenced to four years in prison; it is rare for white-collar criminals in South Korea to serve time.

In the third attack on polio vaccinators in a week, two Pakistani health care workers are killed when their motorcycle hits a roadside bomb in a district bordering Afghanistan.

February

I am simply a pilgrim beginning the last leg of his pilgrimage on this earth.

Pope Benedict XVI
on the final day of his papacy, February 28

1 Chen Chun resigns as premier of Taiwan; he is to be replaced by Jiang Yi-huah.

The U.S. Department of Labor reports that the unemployment rate in January rose to 7.9% and that 157,000 jobs were added to the economy.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average closes at 14,009.79, the stock index's first close above 14,000 since October 2007.

The video rental and streaming service Netflix releases all 13 episodes of *House of Cards*, a political thriller that is the first serial made for Netflix; the watching of entire seasons of television shows in a single sitting is becoming increasingly popular.

2 In Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, Taliban militants kill at least 9 soldiers, 4 paramilitary members, and 10 civilians in an attack on an army base; the previous day at least 26 people were killed by a suicide bomb attack in a market in the same region.

Lino Oviedo, a retired general who is a candidate in the presidential election scheduled for April in Paraguay, is killed in a helicopter crash following a political rally.

French Pres. François Hollande visits Timbuktu, Mali, where he is greeted as a hero by joyous residents, who are grateful that French intervention helped drive Islamist militants from the city.

3 A suicide car bomber detonates his weapon outside a provincial police headquarters in Kirkuk, Iraq, killing at least 36 people; three are killed by police.

In New Orleans the Baltimore Ravens defeat the San Francisco 49ers 34-31 to win the National Football League's Super Bowl XLVII (Raven Chykie Brown celebrates in *photo right*); the Ravens dominated the game until early in the third quarter, when a partial power failure in the stadium stopped play for about half an hour, after which San Francisco mounted a nearly successful comeback.

Lobsang Namgyal, a Tibetan former Buddhist monk, fatally sets himself on fire in China's Sichuan province to protest Chinese rule in Tibet; he is the 100th person to self-immolate since the protest began in February 2009.

4 A suicide bomber attacks members of a Sunni Awakening Council in Taji, Iraq; at least 22 people are killed.

A team of researchers from the University of Leicester, Eng., report that DNA evidence has convinced them that skeletal remains unearthed five months earlier from under a parking lot near the ruins of Greyfriars Priory in Leicester are those of King Richard III (1452-85).

Canada withdraws the penny from circulation; the country minted its last such coin in May 2012.

5 Abdul Quader Mollah is sentenced to life in prison by a tribunal in Bangladesh for war crimes during the country's 1971 fight for independence

from Pakistan; he is a high-ranking member of an Islamist opposition party.

Michael Dell announces a \$24.4 billion buyout of Dell Inc., the technology-manufacturing concern that he founded in 1984.

American scientists at McMurdo Station in Antarctica report that water and sediment drawn from subglacial Lake Whillans has been found to contain living bacteria.

6 Chokri Belaid, a leading member of the leftist opposition to Tunisia's Islamist-led government, is assassinated outside his home; large protests erupt in Tunis in response.

The U.S. and the U.K. reach a joint \$612 million settlement with the Royal Bank of Scotland for interest-rate manipulation; the settlement includes a guilty plea from the bank's Japanese subsidiary.

The largest prime number yet discovered is announced; the number, which has 17,425,170 digits, was found by the University of Central