



THE DAILY CHRONICLE

TUESDAY, MAY 11, 2021

On This Date

1811 – The original Siamese twins, Chang and Eng, were born in Siam (now Thailand).

1943 – American troops invaded Attu Island in the Aleutian Islands and, several weeks later, defeated occupying Japanese forces. The island was the site of the only World War II land battle fought on an incorporated territory of the United States.

1949 – Siam, in southeast Asia, changed its name to Thailand. It is the only country in Southeast Asia that was never colonized by a European country. Thailand is a constitutional monarchy.

Did You Know?

The 1956 musical *The King and I*, starring Yul Brynner and Deborah Kerr, is banned in Thailand. Thai authorities believe that *The King and I* presents the Siamese monarch as a fool and denigrates Thai culture as inferior to the West.

Quote of the Day

“Nobody cares if you can’t dance well. Just get up and dance. Great dancers are great because of their passion.”

~ Martha Graham

Happy Birthday!

Martha Graham (1894–1991) was a renowned modern dancer and choreographer whose influential dance style is called “Graham Technique.” In 1936, she made her defining work, *Chronicle*, which marked a new era in contemporary dance. Once, when she got into trouble as a child, her father asked her what she had done, and Graham lied to him. He read her body language, knew she was lying to him, and told her, “Movement never lies.” This phrase would become a catechism the iconic dancer would remember and repeat throughout her life.

