

Green, Scott

From: Paul and Linda Stevens <stevenspl@live.com>
Sent: Monday, September 09, 2013 8:51 AM
To: 'Paul Stevens'
Subject: CONNECTING: Mears in Dallas; Silverman role in book; Moscow memories; High school ink; Lynn DeBruin death; Capital NY sale; War reporting; Iraq lessons; Local papers; Prison over link; Saving AM; Kurtz debut; Browne exhibit

Colleagues,

Here are some items of interest as we start a new week.

Walter Mears will be on programs at the Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza in Dallas on Friday and Saturday of this week. It is part of a public oral history session on the 50th anniversary of the assassination of President Kennedy. Walter will talk about his recollections and career. Here is a link:

<http://www.jfk.org/index.cfm?objectid=0F7B2D92-C29F-E539-E05D035C3E5EE947>

Mike Silverman - Sources tell Connecting that while he didn't shoot any of the photos in the much-anticipated new AP book, "Vietnam: The Real War", retired AP managing editor Mike Silverman contributed mightily to the effort by writing the captions and text for the book, to be released Oct. 1.

Henry Bradsher - Former AP Moscow bureau chief Henry Bradsher wrote to say he found that Richard Pyle's recent account of AP-UPI competition in Connecting got him thinking about Moscow competition half a century ago, and shares these attached memories:

AP and Reuters in Moscow

The recent reporting on AP competition with UPI reminded me of a possibly unusual situation in Moscow half a century ago.

When I became AP bureau chief there in 1964, I inherited an arrangement where we shared information with Reuters. UPI and AFP cooperated in competition with us.

My understanding was that this had its origin in Reuters' using AP news for coverage of the United States, while AP got the benefit of a Reuters affiliate that covers the United Kingdom, Press Association. Under the arrangement, Reuters did try to sell news directly to American media, and AP did not sell to provincial British media, so far as I knew.

For most daily stories and for features not of a spot news nature, our cooperation with Reuters in Moscow did not really apply. We both watched TASS and the Soviet press, the main sources of spot news in the censorship-at-source system prevailing in the USSR, and wrote our own reports. Other sources were limited by the old Stalinist way of intimidating Soviet citizens to avoid contamination by foreigners which still made it difficult to develop sources, and the KGB kept people away from bureaus. But to the extent that we could develop sources or obtain information from the diplomatic circuit or other things, we briefly told Reuters what we had, and they did the same for us.

Cooperation with Reuters was particularly pleasant for me because the bureau chief in Moscow most of my time there was Sidney Weiland, who had been Reuters bur chief in New Delhi several of my years in South Asia before the USSR (and who had in Moscow a decade earlier). We became friendly rivals in South Asia (among other things, sharing an elephant howdah during Queen Elizabeth's 1961 tiger hunt in Nep as related in my recent book, *The Dalai Lama's Secret and Other Reporting Adventur*

UPI Moscow was then headed by the notorious Henry Shapiro, who had young reporters write up the information he obtained by becoming a favorite of the Kreml After decades in Moscow, he always got advance tips on coming space shots - a big in those days - and similar things that reflected well on the USSR in return for playing down things the Kremlin didn't approve.

About 1978, the Kennan Institute in the Woodrow Wilson International Center : Scholars in Washington, D.C., commissioned an academic specialist in Soviet affair study and evaluate American media coverage of the USSR since 1917. All available former Moscow correspondents were invited to hear his results and discuss them. I discussion quickly turned into heated criticism by practically everyone of Shapiro was retired and attended the meeting, for pro-Soviet reporting. He was accused by - I stayed silent - of dishonest journalism. The discussion got so heated that th academic had to cut off the discussion.

But to get back to AP-Reuters cooperation. It may have ended some time after: two agencies' links in the States ended around the time I left Moscow in 1968. Re had then to put together its own network of American reporters, and it began selli directly to many media. I don't know whether we were cut off from access to Press Association or just had to pay for it.

One other note on unusual things in Moscow: bureau chiefs of the four world agencies were routinely invited to Kremlin receptions, along with a rotating few specials. Sometime before I arrived, a convention developed to smooth out the tur of chasing diplomats and anyone else available at these receptions - top Soviet officials were cordoned off from us. The convention was that the bureau chiefs wo gather by the door at the end of a reception to share notes on what they'd learned there was real news, we would agree on a time to get back to our offices, usually half-hour or so later, at which to begin moving the news on our Teletypes, hoping everyone was honest about this. (I wrote some stories directly into Teletype tape without the delay of typing them out first). The trick in sharing reception notes to make anything you'd learned sound unexciting enough to avoid alerting the oppos to really good material, but being careful to avoid being accused of cheating on t convention.

Moscow was an interestingly unusual place in the depths of the Cold War.

Brad Martin - Brad offers these thoughts on **Bob Thomas'** Guinness records, outlined in Friday's Connecting: "Now THAT is truly remarkable about Bob, simply mind-boggling. Nobody will ever break those records, at Guinness nor AP!"

Lew Ferguson: This article by Clarence Page, "High school newspaper ink drying up," most likely strikes a chord with all of you who once worked for your high school newspaper. It did for Lew Ferguson, who shared and wrote: "It hit a nostalgic nerve with me. My high school journalism teacher was Mary Lou Brigham, native of Council Grove and graduate of Emporia Teachers College. Her whole career was teaching journalism,

English and literature at Ponca City High. She inspired me to become a writer/reporter. Sue and I drove to Council Grove for her graveside service 10-12 years ago." Here is the link:

http://www.tmsfeatures.com/columns/political/liberal/clarence-page/25589344a.html?articleURL=http://rss.tmsfeatures.com/websvc-bin/rss_story_read.cgi?resid=201309031730TMS_CPAGE_ctnxv-a_20130904

On a sad note:

Lynn DeBruin, who worked for The Associated Press covering sports since 2010 and had been a writer with the Rocky Mountain News and the East Valley Tribune, has died. She was 51. DeBruin died in a Denver hospice early Saturday, said her sister, Linda Luther-Veno, who was present along with friends. DeBruin had been battling cancer.

DeBruin joined the AP in 2010 to cover the Jazz, college athletics and winter sports in Utah. She reported on the surprise resignation of Utah Jazz coach Jerry Sloan in 2011 after 1,127 wins. She was the lead reporter for the AP when Brigham Young University made its run to the Sweet 16 behind rising star Jimmer Fredette. Her professional career also included coverage of the World Series, six Super Bowls and golf's majors. She spent 10 years as an NFL beat writer, first in Arizona, then with the Broncos for John Elway's final Super Bowl.

"Lynn was a tenacious journalist who made us all strive to be better, especially as she fought with such courage and strength over the past several months," said **Lou Ferrara**, AP's managing editor for sports and entertainment. "Our thoughts are with her family and her many friends and colleagues."

Luther-Veno said DeBruin's passions included travel and photography. She was also an avid golfer. Luther-Veno said memorial services will be held in Denver and in DeBruin's native Pennsylvania. Along with Luther-Veno, DeBruin is survived by her mother, Mary Luther, and a brother, Stephen Luther.

(Shared by Mike Stewart)

Paul

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Publisher of Politico Buys Capital New York

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/09/10/business/media/publisher-of-politico-buys-capital-new-york.html>

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War reporting for amateurs (Shared by Latrice Davis)

http://www.cjr.org/realtalk/sarah_stillman_freelancing_abr.php?page=all

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Deja vu in Syria: As the media talks of WMDs and calls for intervention, have journalists already forgotten the lessons from Iraq? (Davis)

<http://www.aljazeera.com/programmes/listeningpost/2013/09/201396105213455404.html>

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Local Papers Miss Story On Economic Inequality (Shared by Carol Riha)

<http://mediamatters.org/mobile/blog/2013/09/04/local-papers-miss-story-on-economic-inequality/195718>

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A Journalist-Agitator Facing Prison Over a Link

http://www.nytimes.com/2013/09/09/business/media/a-journalist-agitator-facing-prison-over-a-link.html?pagewanted=all&_r=0

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A quest to save AM before it's lost in the static

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/09/09/us/a-quest-to-save-am-radio-before-its-lost-in-the-static.html>

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Coming out from under a cloud, Howard Kurtz debuts his new show, as host-hunt continues for his old one

<http://www.capitalnewyork.com/article/media/2013/09/8533550/coming-out-under-cloud-howard-kurtz-debuts-his-new-show-host-hunt-cont>

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A Reminder:

Dear Friends of the AP Corporate Archives,

I am re-sending this, as I gather that some of you may not have received on the first round. Apologies.

Please join us at AP on Tuesday evening, Sept. 24 to honor Malcolm Browne with an exhibit drawn from the Archives' collections. An RSVP to me, at vkomor@ap.org, is necessary for building security reasons. Or, you may call at 212-621-1731.

Looking forward to seeing you!



Save the date

THE UNQUIET AMERICAN: Malcolm Browne in Saigon, 1961-65

On the 10th anniversary of The Associated Press Corporate Archives, please join us to mark the opening of a new exhibit, which honors the courageous journalism of Malcolm Browne (1931-2012) during the early years of the Vietnam War.

Photographs (including the entire contact sheet for Browne's photograph of Thich Quan Duc), wire copy and bureau correspondence, on view for the first time, allow us to hear the Saigon / New York dialogue as the biggest story of the decade began to unfold.

OPENING RECEPTION

Tuesday, Sept. 24, 2013
5-7 p.m.

15th Floor Gallery
AP Headquarters
450 W. 33rd St.
New York, NY 10001

Malcolm Browne aboard a helicopter over South Vietnam, 1962.
COLLECTION LE LIEU BROWNE, NEW YORK