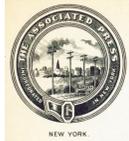

From: stevenspl@live.com on behalf of Paul Stevens [stevenspl@live.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 08, 2014 11:07 AM
To: stevenspl@live.com
Subject: CONNECTING - March 8, 2014

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Connecting

March 8, 2014



Colleagues,

Armed men in Crimea's capital city have confiscated equipment from Associated Press employees and contractors working there.

AP's Global Media Services, a division of the news cooperative that provides services to broadcasters, said a crew was setting up a satellite uplink for a live camera position above a Simferopol restaurant Thursday. They were approached by unarmed men who asked them to turn off their broadcast lights and prevented them from leaving the building.

Two other men then came and took photos of AP's equipment, including protective jackets, and accused the crew of being spies.

Later, armed men showed up and ordered the crew to put their hands against the wall while they cut cables and took the equipment away. Some of the equipment has been recovered, but much is still missing. The contractors and employees were kept at the building for about two hours before being released unharmed.

AP condemned the mishandling of its personnel and the taking of its equipment. Although the armed men weren't identified, AP planned to

vigorously protest the incident to the Crimean government.

"Any suggestion that these individuals were anything but journalists is ludicrous. They were professionals doing a job on a story that has generated keen interest among news audiences worldwide," said **John Daniszewski**, AP senior managing editor for international news in New York. (Shared by Paul Colford)

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APSE honors AP sports writers, photographers

Tim Dahlberg, Eddie Pells and Jimmy Golen's combined efforts earned them story of the year honors in the annual writing contest for AP staffers judged by Associated Press Sports Editors at their winter meeting.

The judges praised the trio's story on the Boston Marathon bombing.

"Simple, but powerful lead draws the reader in and the vignettes of the individual stories effectively humanize a national story and provide personal insight into a national story," the judges said in their comments. "The candor of those interviewed elevated the story's impact. The writing was tight, clear and moved the story along at a quick pace."

Other contest winners included:

- Sports writer Howard Fendrich, deadline writing, for his story on Andy Murray's win at Wimbledon.

- Sports writer John Marshall, enterprise writing, for his story on how Phoenix Coyotes enforcer Paul Bissonnette adopted Twitter reluctantly but became an unlikely star on the social media network.

- Sports writer Jim Vertuno, feature writing, for his story on a blind girl becoming one of the best pole vaulters in Texas.

- Sports writer Dan Gelston, the Grimsley award, with his body of work



that included Hulk Hogan's return to the ring after three decades, NASCAR moving ahead with concussion awareness, and the Lokomotiv hockey team recovering in Amish country from a plane crash. Gelston "did a wonderful job of reporting and writing in the narrative about the Lokomotiv hockey team," the judges said. "The piece was poignant, lending insight into the routine the players follow before every game to keep the spirit of the deceased alive. Also appreciated the details about the arduous conditioning program they underwent in the United States.

"Concussion was more than just the expected one-sided diatribe but actually offered insights on both sides of the issue with some startling quotes," the judges said. "Hulk Hogan story was a fun read that actually made him sound interesting."

Photo awards went to:

- Mark J. Terrill, best portfolio.

This is the fifth consecutive year Terrill, a Los Angeles-based photographer, has won the AP's Thomas V. diLustro award for best portfolio. His package this year included an award-winning image of Pablo Cesar Cano landing a punch against Ashley Theophane during a fight in Las Vegas; NLCS action; NBA, NHL Hockey and the BNP Paribas Open Tennis at Indian Wells.

"Mark's portfolio was the most well-rounded portfolio we viewed. His selection of work represented great action and captured strong emotions of his subjects. The photographer showed great range, including excellent whimsical shots and a beautiful feature photographs," the judges said.

"Very strong range of work."

- The late Dave Martin captured best sports action.

Martin, who was based in Montgomery, Ala., captured the sports action photo of California guard Layshia Clarendon looking at the ball as Louisville forward Sara Hammond shoots in the second half of a national semifinal at the Women's Final Four of the NCAA tournament. The 59-year-old Martin suffered an apparent heart attack and died early on Jan. 1 after working the sidelines of Texas A&M's 52-48 win over Duke in the Chick-Fil-A Bowl game in Atlanta.

"This photo was an action shot that happened to tell so much of the story," the judges said. "Literally, all eyes were on that moment. The photo's composition heightened the anticipation of the moment captured so well."

- Martin and Marcio Sanchez shared honors in the sports feature photo category.

The San Francisco-based Sanchez captured feature honors with his photo of 49ers safety Eric Reid being introduced before a game against the Carolina Panthers; Martin received the feature award for his shot of Connecticut players celebrating with coach Geno Auriemma after defeating Louisville 93-60 in the national championship game.

"These two images were extremely compelling. One captures the calm before the storm and the chaos after the storm," the judges said. "Both photos capture so much of the emotion of the moment that we felt strangely they should share the best feature photo award."

-0-

Kent Flanagan improving

Kent Flanagan shared this health update on Facebook: "Janet did a great job of posting updates about our latest "adventure" and now it is time for me to take over. We met with my surgeon, Dr. Merchant, who is happy with my progress saying I am one of two out of 10 pancreas patients on average to undergo successful surgery. The highlight of my visit to Vanderbilt was getting 45 surgical staples removed from the eight- to nine-inch vertical incision in my abdomen. Today, Friday, March 7, I have an appointment with an oncologist to discuss the next phase of treatment, chemotherapy.

"Next Tuesday, Dr. Merchant will implant a port on my chest to facilitate the chemo and to minimize the number of holes they have to poke into me. All in all, everything is moving forward as well as possible. I owe a lot of friends and family members a ton of thank you notes and intend to do it the old fashioned way as much as possible. I hope everyone has a great weekend. Cheers!"

Welcome to Connecting: Fournier, Reindl, Worth



Connecting's welcome canine, Dudley, greets the newest members of Connecting:

Ron Fournier - Senior Political Columnist and Editorial Director of National Journal. Prior to joining NJ, he worked at the Associated Press for 20 years, most recently as Washington Bureau Chief. A Detroit native, Fournier began his career in Arkansas, first with the Hot Springs Sentinel-Record and then with the Arkansas Democrat and the AP, where he covered the state legislature and Gov. Bill Clinton. In January 1993, Fournier moved to Washington, where he covered the White House and presidential campaigns for the AP. In 2005, Fournier served as a fellow at the Harvard Institute of Politics, where he co-wrote "Applebee's America," a New York Times best seller that examined the shared attributes of successful political, business and religious leaders. He now serves on the Harvard-IOP Board of Directors. He left the AP briefly to run a social networking start up, HotSoup.com, and returned to cover the 2008 presidential race. Fournier has won numerous awards, including the Society of Professional Journalists' Sigma Delta Chi Award for coverage of the 2000 elections and a four-time winner of the prestigious White House Correspondents' Association Merriman Smith Memorial Award. His 2012 cover story on the decline of U.S. institutions, "In Nothing We Trust," was awarded an honorable mention in David Brook's essay contest, the Sidney Awards. He stepped down as editor-in-chief of NJ in November 2012 to return full-time to reporting. Fournier is writing a book for Crown Books based on his National Journal cover story, How Two Presidents Helped Me Deal With Love, Guilt and Fatherhood."

Jim Reindl - AP Director of Sports Products & Business Development, based in Chicago, since 2010. Joined AP in 1983 in his hometown of Detroit, then moved to Milwaukee as news editor 1985-1987, Chicago News Editor - 1987-1990, Chicago ACOB - 1990-1993 (including 8 months as acting bureau chief), Miami CoB - 1993-1997, Indianapolis COB 1997-2000, Chicago COB 2000-2005 and Director of Major Accounts, 2005-2010.

Barbara Worth - I was with AP Broadcast for nearly 30 years, starting as a writer in the old New York headquarters, then transferring to Washington when the broadcast wire consolidated with AP Radio in 1983. After four years as a writer, national editor, radio producer and reporter for radio and TV, I joined management. Over the years, I held several Assistant Managing Editor positions (administration, broadcast wire, TV graphics), served as Interim Bureau Manager for APTN New York, and retired in December 2012 as Chief Editor, U.S. Broadcast Text. I've spent the last year reading, catching up with friends, and going to the theatre, movies, lectures, and museums. Last October, I traveled to Europe for the first time in 10 years to spend time in London and Paris. There's more travel in my future, to be sure. Meantime, I'd like to extend best wishes to my AP colleagues. As much as I love Retirementland, I do miss you.

Stories of interest...

University of Mississippi Alumni Profile: AP Washington's Jesse Holland (Ralph Gage)

-0-

This Week in Review: Flipboard scoops up Zite, and Getty sets its photos free (kind of)

-0-

CNN founder Ted Turner hospitalized

-0-

David Carr: Journalism Is Still Serious, Just Different

-0-

'Newsweek' Editor: We Knew This Might Be a 'Shitstorm'

-0-

The future of TV is coming into focus, and looks pretty great

-0-

Kiev or Kyiv? Let's choose already (Bob Daugherty)

-0-

How journalism schools can improve by teaching tech reporting (Mark Mittelstadt)

-0-

APME Update (Mark Mittelstadt)

SAVE THE DATE

March 31, Deadline for APME Journalism Excellence Awards
April 25-26, NewsTrain, Vancouver

NEW TODAY FROM APME

SUNSHINE WEEK: Still Time to Share Your Open Government, Access Stories with APME

There's still time to tell us your stories about obstacles in your way to gaining access to officials, records and meetings at all levels of government. APME is marking Sunshine Week, March 16-22, by posting your stories and editorials on our homepage. The AP may also use some of the material in its coverage of Sunshine Week.

We also plan to offer a forum to discuss issues related to open government.

Please send your stories and editorials to:

<http://www.apme.com/?page=Sunshine>, apme@ap.org and to features@ap.org.

APME launches Career Center for job postings and job-seekers

There's a new way to find great applicants for your newsroom.

The APME Career Center is free and focused on journalism.

Visit www.apme.com/networking to post open positions. No login is required. APME will help drive traffic to your listings through social media, our weekly APME Update email and more.

If you are looking for a new career opportunity, get a free Job Seeker account or login with your APME member account, fill out your profile and upload your resume. You can also sign up for notifications of relevant new positions in your areas of interest.

This is a new feature for apme.com, so if you have suggestions or encounter trouble, please contact Laura Sellers at lsellers@eomediagroup.com.

New Deadline: APME's Journalism Excellence Awards

We've changed the deadline for the APME awards to **March 31**.

We've also added a new category: Best Mobile Platform to honor a news organization that produced or made significant improvements to a

mobile application or platform in 2013.

Four of the categories in the contest offer monetary awards: the Seventh Annual Innovator of the Year Award for newspapers, the Best of Show in the Public Service Awards, the Fourth Annual Gannett Foundation Award for Innovation in Watchdog Journalism and the Tom Curley Sweepstakes Award in the First Amendment Awards.

Don't forget, the entry deadline is March 31.

The awards will be presented at the ASNE/APME Conference Sept. 15-17 in Chicago.

To enter, go to:

https://www.omnicontests4.com/Default.aspx?comp_id=1265

FROM AP

Beat of the Week: Bennett, Vojinovic

[Beat of the Week](#)

WATCHDOG REPORTING

Wilmington News Journal: Delaware's dirty water a costly problem

Modesto Bee: New orchards may gulp 39 billion gallons of water

Cincinnati Enquirer: City tax breaks benefit well-off neighborhoods

Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel: State stalls for years on child porn tips

Star-Telegram: Texas seeks answers on rise in earthquakes

Denver Post: Project's price takes off at Denver International Airport

Arizona Daily Star: Lax record-keeping blurs impact of Arizona's immigration law

Albuquerque Journal: Child abuse victims often abused again in New Mexico

The Arizona Republic: A conservative political force behind the scene

[Read more Watchdog Reporting](#)

INDUSTRY NEWS

Ann Rule lawsuit against Seattle Weekly tossed

Tribune, Scripps plan joint bureau in Tallahassee

Union: TV reporter fired over on-air handstand

Judge to decide who can bid for Philly newspapers

Escobedo named publisher of The Brownsville Herald

New Media buys 2 California dailies, 4 weeklies

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