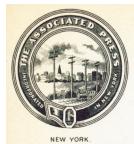

From: Paul Stevens [stevenspl@live.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 24, 2014 9:10 AM
To: stevenspl@live.com
Subject: Connecting - July 24, 2014

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Connecting

July 24, 2014

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Colleagues,

Good morning!



Connecting wishes a special Happy 79th birthday to [Jim Lagier](#) -someone near and dear to many of us who worked with him during his AP days.

In his 39-year career, Jim was correspondent in Fresno, news editor in San Francisco, assistant bureau chief in Los Angeles, bureau chief in San Francisco, bureau chief in Columbus, general executive for New England, deputy director of Newspaper Membership and his final AP assignment - chief of bureau in Tokyo, from 1993 to 2001.

Jim's closing line to the many AP people he counseled, "Be happy in your work," can be paraphrased for Jim:

"Be happy on your special day - and every day is a special one."

Paul

Death sentence given in AP photographer's killing

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) - A Kabul court announced Wednesday that the Afghan police officer charged with killing Associated Press photographer Anja Niedringhaus and wounding veteran AP correspondent Kathy Gannon has been convicted and sentenced to death.



It was the first court hearing in the case and, under Afghan law, the verdict and sentence are subject to several stages of review.

Six judges at the Kabul District Court found former Afghan police unit commander Naqibullah guilty of murder and treason over the attack in the southeastern city of Khost that targeted the international journalists as they

prepared to cover the first round of the country's presidential election. The judges also sentenced Naqibullah, who goes by one name like many other Afghans, to four years in prison for shooting and wounding Gannon in the attack.

The judges ruled Tuesday during a two-hour hearing that followed a three-month police investigation.

Naqibullah, represented by a defense lawyer provided to him by a legal association, argued with the judges before his sentencing, saying at one point that he was "not a normal person." However, judges dismissed his claim after he provided his name, age and the correct date. Naqibullah also denied judges' claims that he once traveled to Pakistan to be trained by extremists, saying he only received medical care while there.

Afghanistan's president must sign off on any execution order. Naqibullah also may appeal within 15 days to a second court and then ultimately to the country's Supreme Court.

Gannon and Niedringhaus traveled to Khost under the protection of Afghan forces and were at a district police headquarters in a village outside the city on April 4 when witnesses say Naqibullah walked up to their hired car, yelled "Allahu Akbar" - God is Great - and fired on them in the back seat with a Kalashnikov assault rifle. He surrendered immediately after the attack.

Witness and official accounts have suggested the shooting was not planned. While

in court Tuesday, Naqibullah did not offer a reason why he opened fire.

Niedringhaus, a 48-year-old award-winning photographer who had covered conflict zones from the Balkans in the 1990s to Iraq, Libya and Afghanistan, died instantly of her wounds. Gannon, a 61-year-old senior correspondent for Afghanistan and Pakistan, suffered three gunshot wounds in the attack. She is still recovering from her injuries.

The two had worked together repeatedly in Afghanistan since the 2001 U.S.-led invasion, covering the conflict from some of the most dangerous hotspots of the Taliban insurgency while focusing on the effect war had on civilians.

Shared by Bob Daugherty

News of the AP

Associated Press Sparks Second MH17 Crash Fears With Awfully Worded Tweet

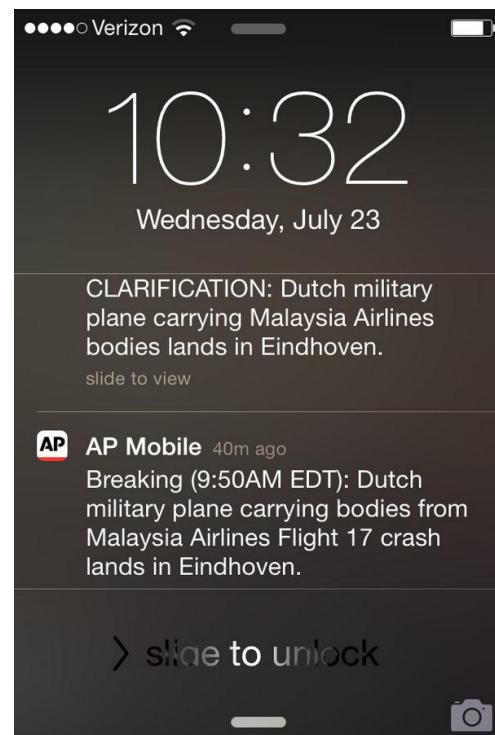
One of the world's most respected news agencies has created chaos and confusion with an appallingly worded tweet that strongly implied the plane carrying the bodies of MH17 victims had also crashed.

The Associated Press told its 3.5 million followers that the Dutch military plane "carrying bodies from Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 crash lands in Eindhoven".

It was missing a crucial comma between "crash" and "lands".

Click [here](#) to read more.

AND



AP's Botched Tweet Is Reminder Twitter Needs to Address Corrections

The Associated Press made news on Wednesday, but not the kind it intended.

The news organization put out a breaking news update that the plane carrying the bodies of victims from the Malaysia Airlines crash in Ukraine had landed in the Netherlands. Unfortunately, the way that update was worded led many to

mistakenly believe the plane with the remains had crashed as well.

Some rightly questioned whether a plane landing safely merits the "BREAKING" news treatment. Perhaps that was part of the reason why those who saw the original update were primed to believe another plane had crashed. When you see a breaking news alert about an airplane, it's usually not good news.

Click [here](#) to read more.

AP reporter's account of Arizona execution

By Astrid Galvan

FLORENCE, Ariz. (AP) - Joseph Rudolph Wood looked around the death chamber and glanced at the doctors as they made preparations for his execution, locating the proper veins and inserting two lines into his arms.

Wood then uttered his final words, smiled at the victim's family members and made eye contact with a deacon. Just after declaring that he was at peace with his death, he smiled at the deacon, but for a second, a subtle look of panic took over his face.

Officials administered the lethal drugs at 1:52 p.m. Wood's eyes closed.

About 10 minutes later, the gasping began.

Click [here](#) for the rest of the story.

-0-

AP names Weissenstein to Havana bureau chief, Gillette to head Cuba TV operations

Michael Weissenstein has been appointed The Associated Press chief of bureau in Havana, the third bureau chief the news cooperative has had in Cuba since it reopened an office on the island in 1999.

The AP also announced that senior producer Christopher Gillette has been named to head AP television operations in the country.

The appointments were announced jointly by John Daniszewski, senior managing editor for international news, and Sandy MacIntyre, director of global video news.

"Cuba is important for the Americas and the world. AP continues to deploy top-notch journalists to tell the story of Cuba's people, culture and government with accuracy, fairness and insight," said Daniszewski.

"AP's customers will be well served by this move," MacIntyre said. "Cuba remains a nation whose story fascinates and Chris brings the knowledge, experience and diplomacy to tell it well."

The AP office in Havana was closed for decades following the early days of Fidel Castro's revolution. It reopened in 1999 and is one of the few American media organizations that operate permanently on the island.

The 39-year-old Weissenstein (right) has been a correspondent in Mexico City for the last two years, reporting throughout Latin America and helping coordinate coverage of Mexico and Central America. He will report to Marjorie Miller, editor for Latin America and the Caribbean, and lead a bureau situated in the historic quarter of Old Havana with a multi-national staff producing news in English and Spanish in print, photos and video.

"Mike Weissenstein has had a distinguished career at the AP, reporting from many countries around the world. He is an excellent correspondent, a descriptive writer and will be a strong driver of coverage of Cuba," Miller said.



Weissenstein worked from 2005 to 2011 as an editor in the AP's New York and London offices, and also did a series of temporary assignments in the Middle East. Before that he was a reporter in the AP's New York City bureau, covering criminal justice and the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks.

Born in New York, Weissenstein holds a bachelor's degree in American history from Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota.



Gillette, 54, (left) has been covering Latin America since the 1980s, and has a deep knowledge of Cuba.

"We are very pleased to have Gillette take over our Cuba video operation. His experience and knowledge of the island is undoubtedly among the best in the world," said Fernando Gonzalez, regional editor for video, Latin America, and the former head of the video service in Cuba.

Based in Florida, Gillette reported on the wars in El Salvador and Nicaragua, the U.S. invasion of Panama, Pope John Paul II's trip to Cuba and many other important stories. Elsewhere, he covered the

collapse of the Soviet Union, both Gulf wars, the devastating 2010 earthquake in Haiti and Hurricanes Andrew and Katrina.

Gillette won a Peabody award in 1996 for a story for NBC News about felons from the Dominican Republic fleeing to the United States. He is a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley, with a master's degree from San Francisco State University.

-0-

AP names investigative editor Maud Beelman to new post of editor for Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas

Maud Beelman, a veteran investigative journalist who as a foreign correspondent covered the reunification of Germany and the wars in the former Yugoslavia, has been named to a new position overseeing news coverage and editorial operations for The Associated Press in Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas.



Beelman, 56, joins the AP from The Dallas Morning News, where she is deputy managing editor for investigations and enterprise. She will remain based in Dallas.

In her new role, Beelman will drive aggressive coverage of the top breaking news stories and the development of ambitious and investigative enterprise for all formats in the three states, while working closely with news editors for Texas and Arkansas/Oklahoma as they craft those states' news reports.

The appointment was announced by Brian Carovillano, the AP's vice president and managing editor for U.S. news.

The appointment is a homecoming for Beelman, who worked for the AP from 1983 to 1997. After beginning her career with AP in her native New Orleans, she reported from Florida and Pennsylvania before working as an editor in New York. She later moved overseas, where her assignments included reporting on the Kurdish refugee crisis in Iran and Iraq after the first Gulf War.

"I am so pleased to welcome Maud back to the AP. She is the perfect editor to help lead AP's coverage of these fascinating and critical states," Carovillano said. "Her appointment also shows AP's continued push for ambitious investigative and accountability reporting from the United States. As she says, Texas and its neighbors are a 'target-rich environment,' and I look forward to seeing where she takes our coverage."

Beelman was later the founding director of the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists, part of the Washington, D.C.-based Center for Public Integrity. Consortium investigations under Beelman's direction won George Polk, Investigative Reporters and Editors and Society of Professional Journalists awards.

Beelman has been at the Morning News since 2004, where her teams have conducted award-winning investigations into patient safety breakdowns at one of the nation's largest public hospitals, the deadly 2013 fertilizer explosion in West, Texas, and corruption and abuse in the Texas Youth Commission, among others.

"Texas, along with its neighbors in Arkansas and Oklahoma, are the anchor of middle America," said David Scott, the AP's outgoing U.S. Central Region editor. "These are states that provide the nation with presidents and the leading edge of conservative politics. They are home to some of the nation's largest metropolitan communities, a vast rural expanse that's at their heart, and they stand watch over hundreds of miles of the country's southern border."

"In short, these states demand the very best of AP's journalism, and there's no better editor than Maud to lead our team there in delivering it."

Beelman is an Alicia Patterson Foundation fellow, holds a master's degree in journalism and communications from the University of Florida and an undergraduate journalism degree from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

Connecting mailbox

[Peggy Walsh](#): Denis Gray's obituary for his father was as amazing as his father's life.

A photo from days past



[**Joe McKnight**](#) shares this photo from his archives, with this caption:

Herb Mundt, chief of communications in the Kansas City AP bureau, kneels to make adjustment on a K-300 AP Wirephoto receiver he was installing in the newsroom of the Wichita Eagle & Beacon. Standing left to right are AP technician O'Dell Rogers, AP Wichita Correspondent Joe McKnight, and Mrs. Luverne Paine, Eagle-Beacon photo lab technician. Picture was made January 17, 1966. Then Kansas AP Bureau Chief Frank Gorrie said -- confidentially at the time -- that Eagle-Beacon Publisher John H. Colburn agreed to accept one of the new receivers only on condition that he get the first one in the country. Gorrie said Colburn never knew that he was one of several publishers who insisted on getting the "first" K-300 receiver."

And a memory elicited by the photo...

[**Paul Stevens**](#): My wife's grandmother Mary Saul ran a Mexican restaurant on the east side of Wichita. When I was Wichita correspondent, in 1978, singer John Denver bought a Learjet and came to Wichita to learn to fly it over a couple weeks. He did not want to be bothered by fans so he got Learjet to find him a house to stay in west Wichita and then Learjet folks heard about Mary and asked if she would cook for him for the two weeks.

Only provision, keep it quiet. She did let Linda and me know, and I talked her into talking Denver into an interview with me on his last day in town, so that it wouldn't come out until he was headed for home. I went out, interviewed him - he was very gracious - and shot a photo of him with Mary. I got Luverne Paine to process and print the

photo, and she agreed to keep it quiet, so the first that the Eagle Beacon knew about all this was when my story and photo moved on the AAA and state wires for afternoon papers. Editors scrambled for a matcher but couldn't get it done, so my story and photo with byline ran Page One of the Beacon. They complained loudly to Learjet and Learjet got Denver to do a presser at the airport, and they did their own story off that for the following day's Eagle. One of my favorite moments. Story got used all over the world - Learjet had a clipping service and sent me a hundred or so pages. And Luverne didn't get into hot water.

Denver's best quote: "She makes a chocolate pie that would knock your socks off."

Denver returned to Wichita a couple times for concerts after all this, and each time sent Mary front-row tickets to the concert. Mary died in 1995 at the age of 94 and Denver died two years later, at 53, in the crash of an experimental plane he was piloting.



Other stories of interest

[Women Penalized for Promoting Women, Study Finds](#) (Latrice Davis/Facebook)

Dedication to diversity can be a liability in the workplace, according to a new study. Researchers at the University of Colorado found that women and non-whites executives who push for women and non-whites to be hired and promoted suffer when it comes to their own performance reviews. A woman who shepherds women up the ranks, for example, is perceived as less warm, while a non-white who promotes diversity is perceived as less competent. Both end up being rated less highly by their bosses, according to the paper, which is set to be presented at an Academy of Management conference next month.

-0-

Employment down, anchor salaries stagnant in local TV newsrooms

Despite increased budgets and an optimistic advertising market, anchor salaries and employment were down throughout local television newsrooms in 2013, Katerina Matsa reported for Pew Research Center Wednesday. The Pew report was based on a survey of 1,300 local news directors published by RTDNA and Hofstra University.

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MSNBC forced to invite Palestinian reporter back on air after Twitter protest

After a Palestinian journalist sharply criticized MSNBC's coverage of the crisis in Gaza on Ronan Farrow Daily this week, her future appearances were immediately cancelled by the network. But Tuesday night, after thousands of Twitter users rose to her defense, Rula Jebreal, an award-winning writer and screenwriter, found herself invited back on air.

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If Gannett is a bellwether, 2014 will be another tough year for newspaper advertising

Since the Newspaper Association of America stopped reporting quarterly revenue results last year, I have looked at Gannett's numbers as a reasonable proxy for the industry. Here are three takeaways from yesterday's second quarter earnings report and conference call with analysts. National advertising was terrible in the second quarter (down 16.3 percent compared to the same period in 2013) for Gannett's publishing division. Despite a small gain in digital advertising and marketing services, overall advertising was down 6 percent. CEO Gracia Martore told analysts she had heard of similar weak national results from friends in the industry, as have I. One explanation, on top of the stop-and-go economic recovery - the World Cup was an attractive advertising opportunity for big companies, and they pulled from print budgets to go heavy in social media. The third quarter is looking somewhat better, she said.

-0-

Karen Peterson: A new day, a new set of journalism ethics

One of the biggest challenges for journalists in recent years has been keeping up with changing technology while maintaining the standards that distinguish our work from other forms of writing. Much of that standard-bearing boils down to journalism ethics. The Society of Professional Journalists, of which I'm a member, is updating its ethics code for the first time since 1996. SPJ members will vote on the update in September. The SPJ ethics code is not a set of regulations. It's not a

legally binding document. The organization says it's intended as a "resource for ethical decision-making."

-0-

Singer Adele wins damages over paparazzi photos of son (Doug Pizac)

Lawyers for Adele's two-year-old son, Angelo Adkins, have accepted a five-figure sum in damages to settle a privacy case over paparazzi photos. Adele and her partner, Simon Konecki, brought the case against photo agency Corbis Images UK Limited over pictures of the child's "milestone moments". The agency has agreed to pay damages and legal costs and has, in addition, agreed not to use the photos again.

And finally...

A Surprisingly Fragrant Way To Save The Newspaper Business

COLOMBO - In markets stalls in the Sri Lankan capital, and elsewhere in the world, they are used to wrap fish. But that is just one daily use for newspapers beyond reading them, there are others. Saranga Wijeyarathne, chief of marketing of the Sinhalese-language dailies Mawbima and Ceylon Today, had been thinking for months about the possibility of adding a special "scent" to the day's news pages to help increase circulation. Wijeyarathne was waiting for the perfect opportunity, which came on April 7 with annual World Health Day. That day, the first-ever citronella-scented newspapers rolled off the presses, with the aim of protecting readers from mosquitoes. It is a new way to fight the spread of mosquito-borne dengue fever, which can be fatal and affects up to 30,000 people every year in Sri Lanka.



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