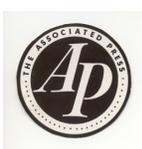


From: Paul Stevens [stevenspl@live.com]
Sent: Monday, August 18, 2014 9:01 AM
To: stevenspl@live.com
Subject: Connecting - August 18, 2014

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Connecting

August 18, 2014

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Colleagues,

Good morning.

Our thoughts are with all the journalists involved in the dangerous and difficult coverage of the police shooting of 18-year-old Michael Brown in Ferguson,

Missouri, and its continuing aftermath.

Late-breaking news this morning: Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon has called in the National Guard to help restore peace and order. See the AP story below.

The AP has a strong team involved in the coverage to provide news and photos throughout the world.

In the column below by David Carr of The New York Times, he notes:

"News organizations learned about the arrest and harassment of their reporters on Twitter and were able to take steps to get them out of jail. In the meantime, important information continues to flow out of Ferguson. As much as any traditional wire service, Twitter spread the remarkable work of David Carson, a photographer at The St. Louis Post-Dispatch who managed to take pictures despite [being pushed around](#) by both the police and the protesters."

Carson is the husband of former AP St. Louis newswoman Betsy Taylor Carson.

(Photo above, people run from tear gas after police dispersed a crowd Sunday, Aug. 17, 2014, as they staged a protest for Michael Brown, who was killed by a police officer last Saturday in Ferguson, Mo. As night fell Sunday in Ferguson, another peaceful protest quickly deteriorated after marchers pushed toward one end of a street. Police attempted to push them back by firing tear gas and shouting over a bullhorn that the protest was no longer peaceful. (AP Photo/Charlie Riedel)

Paul

Connecting mailbox

Judge orders deportation of Dearborn man accused of war crimes

[G.G. LaBelle](#) shares this story from the Detroit Free Press as a follow-up to the story of Steve Hindy's kidnapping in 1980 in Lebanon by the Southern Lebanon Army (SLA). Steve was an Associated Press foreign correspondent covering an Irish battalion of UN Peacekeeping forces.

It says the Lebanese accused of kidnapping Steve and murdering two Irish U.N. peacekeepers has been ordered deported and agreed to drop his efforts to remain in the U.S. So he will be deported to Lebanon, though it's unclear if he will stand trial on charges related to the kidnapping and murder. The link also connects to a video that the Free Press made about the case.

The story begins:

A Dearborn ice cream man linked to the torture killings of two Irish soldiers

dropped his opposition to charges he entered the U.S. illegally and agreed today to be deported to his native Lebanon.

U.S. Immigration Judge David Paruch ordered Mahmoud Bazzi, 71, deported on an administrative violation. Bazzi admitted he used someone else's passport 21 years ago.

American authorities would not say whether Bazzi eventually will face charges in Lebanon related to the torture killings of two Irish soldiers and the wounding of a third there in 1980. The U.S. government has had two witnesses to parts of that event on standby to testify in Bazzi's deportation hearing in Detroit, the witnesses said. But he capitulated and the government did not call on them.

Click [here](#) to read more.

The latest from Ferguson



[Missouri governor sends National Guard to Ferguson](#)

FERGUSON, Mo. (AP) - Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon ordered the National Guard to

Ferguson early Monday, hours after police used tear gas to clear protesters off the streets following a week of demonstrations against the fatal police shooting of a black Missouri teenager.

In a statement, Nixon said the National Guard would help "in restoring peace and order" to the St. Louis suburb that has been filled almost nightly with angry, defiant crowds since 18-year-old Michael Brown was killed Aug. 9.

"These violent acts are a disservice to the family of Michael Brown and his memory and to the people of this community who yearn for justice to be served and to feel safe in their own homes," Nixon said.

The latest confrontations came the same day Attorney General Eric Holder ordered a federal medical examiner to perform a third autopsy on Brown. A preliminary private autopsy found the unarmed teen was shot at least six times, including twice in the head. Results of a state-performed autopsy have not been released.

As night fell in Ferguson, another peaceful protest quickly deteriorated after marchers pushed toward one end of a street and authorities - who said they were responding to reports of gunfire, looting, vandalism and protesters who hurled Molotov cocktails - pushed them back by repeatedly firing tear gas. The streets were empty well before a state-imposed curfew took effect at midnight.

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[View of #Ferguson Thrust Michael Brown Shooting to National Attention](#)

David Carr, The New York Times:

Ferguson, Missouri, was just a place - a working-class suburb of St. Louis - before an unarmed black teenager, Michael Brown, was shot and killed by the police, before protests and looting erupted, before local forces responded with armored vehicles, tear gas and rubber bullets, and Ferguson became #Ferguson.

Last Wednesday night, my Twitter feed began to explode with videos, photographs and messages, all depicting the kind of mayhem we're accustomed to seeing in war-torn corners of the globe, except that this was happening smack dab in the middle of America.

The story had already received its share of attention, but now it was breaking in a new and scary way, with reporters arrested, protesters gassed, stun grenades exploding and a line of police in riot gear confronting a group of protesters who were milling about.

Photo by AP photographer shows Capt. Ronald S. Johnson of the Missouri State Highway Patrol on Friday in Ferguson

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Daily News journalist handcuffed by police while covering protests in Ferguson, Mo. (Latrice Davis)

Daily News staff photographer Pearl Gabel was covering the tense protests over Michael Brown's killing in Ferguson, Mo., when police briefly detained her early Sunday. Here is her account:



I was walking toward the police on Florissant Ave. with my hands in the air to signal I was not a threat. Suddenly an officer pointed a rifle at my face.

"Get on the ground!" he barked.

"Put it on the ground," he then ordered, seeing I was holding one camera and had another slung over my shoulder.

The gun was still trained on me.

"Put your hands behind your head," he said. "You're under arrest for curfew violation."

I was on my knees with my hands behind my head near the QuikTrip store. The cop took my hands, one at a time, and placed them behind my back. Then he slapped on plastic handcuffs.

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Two Maps Look at Police Buildup and Twitter Fallout From Ferguson

Connecting colleague **Scott Charton** shares and noted: "This is fascinating. Remember how part of the amazement when we reflected on our work for AP was how, with the push of a button, we informed the pre-internet world - and the responsibilities, spoken and unspoken, that went along with that? Now everybody has a button..." The story:

Militarizing the U.S. police force is nothing new. Ferguson, Mo., is just an uncommon, eye-opening example. The thousands of photos picturing heavily armed, camo-clad cops strewn across the internet illustrates that we may have crossed the threshold of reason.

How we'd cover Ferguson if it happened in another country

How would American media cover the news from Ferguson, Missouri, if it were happening in just about any other country?

How would the world respond differently?

Here, to borrow a great idea from Slate's Joshua Keating, is a satirical take on the story you might be reading if Ferguson were in, say, Iraq or Pakistan.

Other stories of interest

How the world provides for an indomitable Pakistani journalist

Kathy Lu, The Kansas City Star:



Among the first questions the visiting journalist from Pakistan asked me was, could he meet Lady Gaga while he was here, on his first visit to America.

I tried to let him down easy.

Then, perhaps only minutes later, he asked if he could meet the president. As in Barack Obama.

Again, I tried to temper my incredulity with a polite "not so sure."

Who does he think he is? Who does he think I am?

As I've come to learn, it's not that he thinks he's important. It's just that to him, the world will provide, but you don't know how much unless you ask.

Zahid Gishkori was born 32 years ago in Layyah, a small city in northwest Pakistan with flourishing mango, orange and pomegranate trees.

(Photo: Saying farewell to Pakistani journalist Zahid Gishkori are his Kansas City Star stewards: Miriam Pepper (left), Candace Spurny and Kathy Lu.)

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Gregory got \$4M to quietly leave NBC

Ousted "Meet the Press" anchor David Gregory was paid \$4 million to leave NBC and signed a contract not to speak out against the network, sources told Page Six.

Gregory, 43, who moderated the show for six years, was unceremoniously dumped from the political program on Thursday after dismal ratings and months of speculation about his departure.



He has been replaced by NBC White House correspondent Chuck Todd.

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Where's the Justice at Justice?

Maureen Dowd, The New York Times:

WASHINGTON - JIM RISEN is gruff.



The tall slab of a reporter looks like someone who could have played an Irish Marine sergeant in an old World War II movie.

"Editors think I'm a curmudgeon," the 59-year-old admits, laughing.

Eric Lichtblau, the reporter who sits next to Risen in The Times's Washington bureau and who won a Pulitzer with him for their remarkable stories about the Bush administration's illegal warrantless wiretapping, says Risen revels in his prickly, old-school style, acting contrary on everything from newfangled computers to the Bush crew's fictions about Saddam and W.M.D. to cautious editors.

"He's pushed to go places that often editors are unwilling to go," Lichtblau said. "He's never taken the safe route."

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If you must quote anonymous sources, make sure they say something!

A decade ago, both the Washington Post and the New York Times conceded that they had lost control of the use of anonymous sources in their pages and each set up new guidelines to police the practice.

Post Executive Editor Leonard Downie Jr. promised in a 2004 piece that his paper would "explain to readers why a source was not being named" inside stories, and the Times similarly resolved to tame the anonymous monster.

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[Bezos-owned Washington Post now inserting gross Amazon affiliate links into news articles](#)

There's something creepy in this Washington Post piece about Penguin's new "adult" cover for the 50th anniversary edition of "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory." Well, something else creepy, beyond the weirdly over-sexualized cover itself.

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[Detention of journalists in Iran a bellwether of internal politics](#)

With all of the headline-making turmoil in the Middle East, it's understandable that the detention of three journalists in Iran has received relatively little attention. Since July 22, when plainclothes security officers took Jason Rezaian, an Iranian-American correspondent for The Washington Post, and his Iranian wife, Yeganeh Salehi, a correspondent for The National, an Abu Dhabi-based newspaper, from their home in Tehran, reaction from Western media and press freedom watchers has been supportive of the couple but relatively subdued. (Another Iranian-American journalist, a photographer, was also detained but has not yet been identified by authorities.) The Post and other outlets have tried to keep up momentum of coverage, but compare that with the global outcry that ensued when Egyptian authorities convicted three Al Jazeera correspondents in June for supposedly fabricating news of mayhem in the streets of Cairo.

The Last Word...

[The Obituary Lottery](#)

A MINOR but talented actress named Arlene Martel died on Tuesday at age 78. Aficionados of small-screen science fiction and fantasy remember this exotic-looking woman as a creepy morgue attendant (and an equally creepy airline stewardess) in "Twenty Two," a 1961 segment of "The Twilight Zone."

Three years later she co-starred with Robert Culp in "Demon With a Glass Hand." Written by Harlan Ellison, this episode of "The Outer Limits" on TV won an award

from the Writers Guild of America.

Ms. Martel's real immortality came when she played T'Pol, the consort of Leonard Nimoy's Mr. Spock in "Amok Time," a classic 1967 "Star Trek" episode. Her portrayal of a flawlessly logical, slyly manipulative and utterly lovely Vulcan endeared her to a galaxy of geeky fans.

In a sluggish news cycle, Ms. Martel's death would have garnered its share of headlines. But in the past few days, her departure has gone virtually unnoticed outside Hollywood. For it occurred smack amid the deaths of Robin Williams and Lauren Bacall. As of Friday, not even The Los Angeles Times had taken note.

Paul Stevens
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