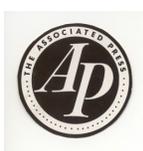


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**From:** Paul Stevens [stevenspl@live.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, August 22, 2014 8:36 AM  
**To:** stevenspl@live.com  
**Subject:** Connecting - August 22, 2014

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# Connecting

August 22, 2014

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# Former AP photo editor Toby Massey dies

By DOUGLASS K. DANIEL

WASHINGTON (AP) - **Toby Massey**, a photographer and photo editor who directed coverage of presidents and political conventions as well as natural disasters, the space program and sporting events during a 38-year career with The Associated Press, died Thursday. He was 80.

Massey died at home in Columbia, South Carolina, where he had moved this year after experiencing heart trouble, said his daughter, Christine Massey McNeill, who lived with him.

Massey joined the AP bureau in Miami in 1966. He became the AP's photo editor in Atlanta in 1970 and transferred to Washington two years later. From 1977 to 1991 he was assistant bureau chief for photos for the Washington bureau and then was regional photo coordinator for the southeastern U.S. He retired in 2004.



*(Photo at right shows Toby Massey, right, and Florida photo editor Phil Sandlin, left, editing photos at Kennedy Space Center during an early Space Shuttle launch as photographer Steve Pyle, rear, coordinates transmissions with New York. (AP Photo/Phil Sandlin)*

"An AP photographer must have ingenuity," Massey said during an oral history for the news service in 2007. When a photographer covering a hurricane was running out of fuel and couldn't find an open gas station, he rented a car and drove it to an area with power to transmit his photos - an example, Massey said, of "taking a bad situation and making it into a good situation."

News photographers often found that taking pictures was easier than getting them to newspapers and other news media. Massey had a knack for working out logistical challenges - technical and human - that stood in the way of developing film and delivering images under deadline. Sometimes that meant turning bathrooms into darkrooms and arranging for someone on a riverbank to catch a roll of film from a passing boat.

"Toby was one of the pioneers of moving pictures out of Third World countries," said photographer Ron Edmonds, who worked with Massey in the AP's Washington bureau. "He was a master of going in and making friends with people, getting transmission lines and working behind the scenes to get things set up."

When President Richard Nixon visited the Soviet Union in 1974, Massey led the AP's photo crew and dealt with the complex challenges of getting photos to AP members. In the Soviet city of Yalta, Massey alerted the New York photo department that a photograph of the president was ready to be transmitted across the Soviet Union via special landline to Frankfurt, Germany, then to a leased satellite and on to AP headquarters in New York City.

Massey oversaw planning for photo coverage during political conventions and presidential inaugurations and was deeply involved in the news service's transition to the digital age. On a typical day in 1989 the Washington photo operation transmitted as many as 40 photos. The days surrounding George H.W. Bush's inauguration produced more than 900 photos from nearly 400 rolls of film. By then photographers seldom made prints, having moved to an electronic darkroom.

"Other than being a first-class photo editor who edited film in Washington, and many primitive darkrooms around the world, Toby was instrumental in helping AP members move into the digital age with photos," said a longtime AP colleague, Robert Daugherty. "He traveled the country training member newspaper staffs on AP's new digital technology. Until the day he retired, he was receiving help calls from AP members he had befriended earlier."

Massey also sought to put the AP ahead of all others in photo coverage. "I thought that as part of the AP, especially my years in Washington, I was contributing to the making of history and I thought that was very important," he said for the oral history.

"Toby was a tireless worker who was extremely competitive," said Doug Mills, a friend and former colleague. "He loved the AP, loved to win and hated to lose."

Massey was born March 8, 1934, in Huntington, W.Va., and studied education and music at Marshall University with the intention of becoming a high school band director. He worked during college at the Huntington (W.Va.) Herald-Dispatch and left school to accept a job at the Miami News, where he worked until joining the AP.

He married Nancy Fountain in 1953; she died in 2005. Survivors include their six children: Christine, Rich, Bob, Howard, Dean and Bill. Funeral arrangements were pending, but burial was planned in Manassas, Virginia.

*(Director of AP Corporate Archives Valerie S. Komor contributed to this report.)*

## ***Hal Buell remembers Toby as 'truly one of a kind'***

Toby Massey was a classic wire service photojournalist. Throughout his years with Associated Press he was at the forefront of picture coverage who mastering the photographic techniques and transmission technologies that were and are part of wire service coverage.

And he possessed a great talent for making friends wherever he was assigned capitalizing on his "good ol' boy" persona.

Howard was his birth certificate name but if you looked for Howard Massey you would never find him...he was Toby to everyone.

Toby was a fine photographer in his early years and an excellent photo editor in Atlanta and Washington.

I long ago lost count of how many international presidential trips he covered in the days when photo teams traveled with cases of equipment needed to setup photo locations in convenient bathrooms in minutes in stadiums, airports and hotels.

It wasn't just photo equipment that was needed. When Toby accompanied Richard Nixon on his historic visit to the Soviet Union his baggage included several bodies of bourbon to ease the availability of photographs from the Soviet agency Tass. And the Russians returned the favor when their photogs visited Washington with vodka in their kits.

Massey planned coverage of numerous national political conventions, sports events and other national and international stories.

He had a keen, swift eye for editing 35mm film and spotting the correct image in a batch of 36 exposure rolls.

He was an early user of the AP Leafax transmitter that was the first step in the change to digital picture transmission, and was likewise an early user of satellite transmission from remote locations. In one instance he transmitted from a portable dish mounted on the balcony of his hotel room.

Toby was one of the few who could produce black and white color separation prints from color transparencies developed to negative color. That was an

arcane art form lost today but an early step in the increasing need for color photography on the wire. It required two or three hours in the darkroom to produce the prints.

Toby was a southern boy in every sense of the word. I recall walking to a convention arena in Kansas City one hot morning and he was telling me about "bald peanuts."

"What the hell are bald peanuts," I asked. And he replied, "You just take the peanuts and baal them." A cross examination of language revealed that one boiled the peanuts in oil.

In the days before his retirement Toby worked on AP's trainer team that went into newspapers to show and explain the new digital technology, how it worked and how pictures would be handled in the new age.

Wherever he visited he made friends and contacts, many who called him for guidance even after his retirement from AP.

Like the AP, he was truly one of a kind.

*([Hal Buell](#) directed AP Photos for 25 years.)*

## Connecting mailbox

### **Foley and Ferguson: Hardly comparable**

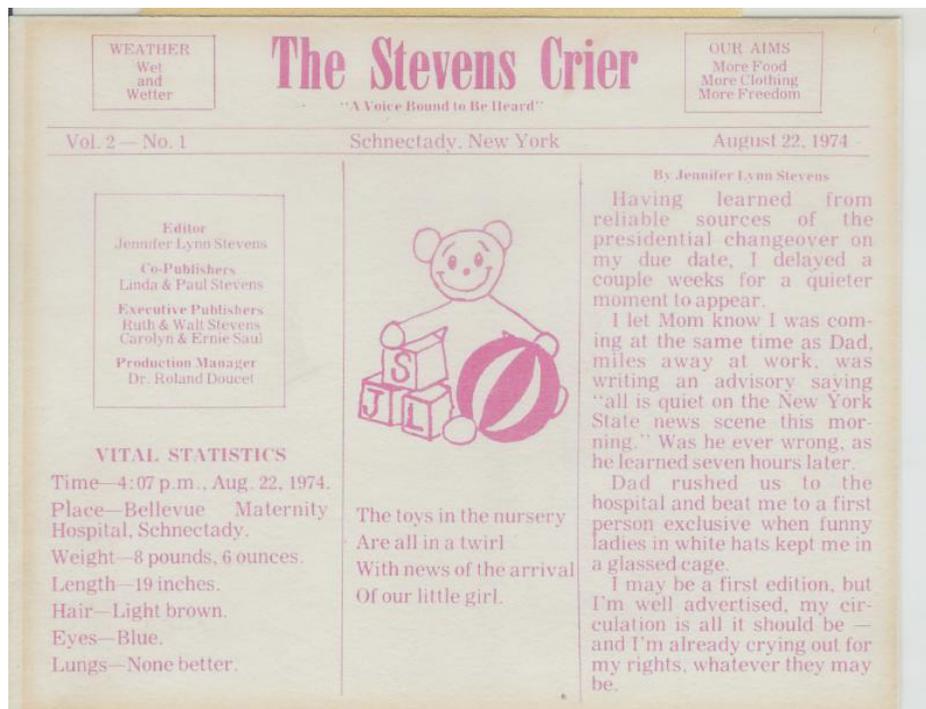
[Jim Limbach](#): Seems to me mentioning the beheading of James Foley with the tear-gassing of reporters in the same headline (From Missouri to Syria, Journalists Are Becoming Targets) is a bit hyperbolic. While both are violations, they are hardly comparable.

## Who's old when your oldest turns 40?

So, when your oldest turns 40, who's supposed to feel older - the daughter or her parents? Or both.

Our daughter Jenny was born 40 years ago today at Bellevue Maternity Hospital in Schenectady, New York, arriving a year into my first assignment with the AP in our Albany bureau, which was under the guidance of Chief of Bureau Ed Staats, today a Connecting colleague. Jenny has been a blessing in our lives since, and today is a wife and the mother of sons Max and Teddy after

a journalism degree from the University of Kansas and a successful career with Sprint, Madison Square Garden and Coors in Kansas City and New York City.



Little did Linda and I know that a few months after her birth, AP downsized larger bureaus in the uncertain economy of the day and Albany lost a position. I was the junior person in the bureau, so I faced prospects of a new baby and no job. Thanks to intervention by Wick Temple, then New York sports editor at the time, and Ron Thompson, a current Connecting colleague and in New York Personnel at the time, I was able to remain with AP when an opening occurred in St. Louis. And off we drove with our little family of three to that new assignment. The AP family came through.

Here's the birth announcement that we sent out for Jenny's birth, titled The Stevens Crier. My dad was a newspaperman and started a tradition beginning with me, in 1946, of sending front-page style birth announcements very similar to this one. He and mom continued that for my sister and brother, and Linda and I have kept the tradition alive with each of our three kids. (Jenny was originally due on the date that President Nixon resigned, but as her first bylined article notes, she delayed things so as not to get lost in the news.)

So, editors among you, there's an error in this birth announcement and the first one to spot it and send me a note wins some sort of prize. Unfortunately, I learned of the error when I mailed the announcement to John Bremner, a professor of mine from Iowa and Kansas days, who immediately circled it in red and returned it to me. That was my only gift from him, as it turned out...a memorable one.

Forty years. Where does time go? Meantime, Happy Birthday, Jenny!

## The Archivist's Update

Sixty-nine years ago, on August 6, 1945, the atomic bomb was detonated over Hiroshima, Japan. Three days after another bomb was detonated over the city of Nagasaki. This month's image from AP Images depicts this momentous event in history and the destructive power of nuclear warfare.



Since the 1900s our photographers have been documenting the world and our groundbreaking photography has won 31 Pulitzer Prizes over the past 90 years. View the world's largest collection of historical and contemporary photos at [APImages.com](https://www.apimages.com).

In this picture released by the U.S. Army, a mushroom cloud billows about one hour after a nuclear bomb was detonated above Hiroshima, Japan on Aug. 6, 1945. Japanese officials say a 93-year-old Japanese man has become the first person certified as a survivor of both U.S. atomic bombings at the end of World War II. City officials said Tsutomu Yamaguchi had already been a certified "hibakusha," or radiation survivor, of the Aug. 9, 1945, atomic bombing in Nagasaki, but has now been confirmed as surviving the attack on Hiroshima three days earlier as well. (AP Photo/U.S. Army via Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, HO) \*\* NO SALES, CREDIT MANDATORY \*\*

# Stories of interest

## [Foley case lays bare debate over paying ransom](#)

WASHINGTON (AP) - The beheading of freelance journalist James Foley has forced a new debate between the longtime U.S. and British refusal to negotiate with terrorists, and Europe and the Persian Gulf's increasing willingness to pay ransoms in a desperate attempt to free citizens. The dilemma: How to save the lives of captives without financing terror groups and encouraging more kidnappings.

By paying ransoms, governments in the Mideast and Europe have become some of the biggest financiers of terror groups. By refusing to do likewise, the U.S. and Britain are in the thankless position of putting their own citizens at a disadvantage.

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## [Why journalists should be skeptical about autopsy reports](#) (Latrice Davis)

A.C. Thompson is not a doctor. But neither are many of the people performing autopsies in the United States, says the ProPublica reporter, who has developed a special interest in those procedures.

"Reporters would do well to approach autopsies with some skepticism," he said in a phone call. Among the problems with autopsies he's outlined through his reporting: Many are performed by people with no medical training. In many jurisdictions, "When you're cutting up dead bodies, you actually don't have to be licensed by anyone," he said. (Former New Orleans Parish coroner Frank Minyard told him one of the most important qualities in a coroner is the "love that you have for your fellow man.")

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## [Stark Racial Divisions in Reactions to Ferguson Police Shooting](#)

Blacks and whites have sharply different reactions to the police shooting of an unarmed teen in Ferguson, Mo., and the protests and violence that followed. Blacks are about twice as likely as whites to say that the shooting of Michael Brown "raises important issues about race that need to be discussed." Wide

racial differences also are evident in opinions about of whether local police went too far in the aftermath of Brown's death, and in confidence in the investigations into the shooting.

The new national survey by the Pew Research Center, conducted Aug. 14-17 among 1,000 adults, finds that the public overall is divided over whether Brown's shooting raises important issues about race or whether the issue of race is getting more attention than it deserves: 44% think the case does raise important issues about race that require discussion, while 40% say the issue of race is getting more attention than it deserves.

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[This journalist just taught Thomson Reuters a pretty big lesson](#) (Bob Daugherty)

Imagine being told by someone that she plans to take your car if you don't respond to an email expressly stating she can't actually take your car. Now imagine that assertion is made by a huge company. That is the kind of double whammy that hit journalist Nikhil Pahwa, who publishes the digital media news portal MediaNama this morning. He received a mail from an executive at Thomson Reuters saying they would like to "use and redistribute" the content published by the Indian portal. But the letter to seek consent is effectively an ultimatum, saying if nobody responds to the email in 14 days, Thomson Reuters will deem the silence as consent.

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**Columbia Tribune criticized for editorial cartoon**



### **From Romensko:**

The Columbia (MO) Daily Tribune is getting criticized for running this Gary McCoy syndicated cartoon on Wednesday, next to a Rich Lowry column headlined "Overly aggressive police are being provoked."

Managing editor Jim Robertson tells Romenesko readers:

"I admit I didn't anticipate the reaction. I'm responding to complaints, most of which have come through the Twitter universe, by asking them to consider the context. On three of the preceding four days our editorial page featured local cartoons about the Michael Brown tragedy, the militarization of the police response and a likeness of Lady Justice with six bullet wounds.

"The editorial cartoon yesterday accompanied a Rich Lowry column about the unfortunate presence of looters and how that is not a legitimate form of protest. Provocative yes. Racist? Certainly not in intent."

## **AP Beat of the Week**

For weeks, embattled Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki had been struggling to stay in power for a third four-year term, while opponents were trying to push him out, accusing him of monopolizing power and pursuing a fiercely pro-Shiite agenda. The United States, the United Nations and a broad array of political factions in Iraq had signaled backing for his rival, Haider al-Abadi. The country was in political deadlock.

Baghdad reporter Qassim Abdul-Zahra was on vacation in Boston when he was tipped off by several Shiite lawmakers that Maliki was about to announce he was stepping down \_ despite his insistence all week that he intended to remain. The entire Baghdad bureau quickly mobilized and AP was able to break the news ahead of Iraqi television networks -- including Maliki's own network. Nearly two hours later, Maliki formally announced he would step aside in favor of his "brother," in order to "facilitate the political process and government formation." The AP exclusive wins this week's Beat of the Week.

<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/un-says-iraq-humanitarian-crisis-highest-level>

Though he was thousands of miles away, Abdul-Zahra had been monitoring the news in Iraq for days. "When I knew that the Dawa party was holding a meeting," he says, "I predicted that something important would come out. I postponed a picnic with my family. I do not know how I convinced my 6-year-old son to give me one hour."

"I started contacting my sources," he continues. "They were in the meeting

and provided me with details. I knew that Maliki had stepped down before he wrote his statement."

Overcoming a bad phone connection, Abdul-Zahra immediately tipped off Vivian Salama, Baghdad bureau chief, when he had one source. When he managed to get two sources, an alert and NewsNow were prepared. Within minutes he had four sources \_ two of them named \_ and there was no doubt that the story was true. Baghdad had already put out its first writethru on the news by the time Maliki began his speech.

The effort, Salama noted, came together "through a rapid exchange of emails and choppy calls with the Baghdad bureau." And communications were not the only challenge for Abdul-Zahra.

"My son," he recalled, "kept asking me, 'Have you done?' and I kept replying, 'Almost, give me another minute!'"

Some 90 minutes after AP broke the story, Salama and Sameer Yacoub followed up with reporting on Maliki's speech from Baghdad. Sinan Salaheddin summed up the political wrangling of the day, and editor Lee Keath in Cairo provided support, late into the night. All formats mobilized quickly, with text and TV coordinating on the best quotes from the speech.

For his stellar work thousands of miles from Baghdad, Abdul-Zahra wins this week's \$500 prize.

(Shared by Valerie Komor)

## The Last Word

['This is why you should never put a bald person on the front page of a newspaper'](#)



## Editorial Talking Points - week through Aug. 17, 2014

**BAGHDAD NEWSBREAK** - For weeks, embattled Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki had struggled to stay in power for a third four-year term. His opponents accused him of monopolizing power and pursuing a fiercely pro-Shiite agenda. The United States, the United Nations and political factions in Iraq backed his rival, Haider al-Abadi. Baghdad reporter Qassim Abdul-Zahra, on vacation in Boston, was tipped off by Shiite lawmakers that Maliki was ready to step down. AP was first with the news \_ ahead of Iraqi media and even ahead of Maliki's own TV network.

From the U.S., Abdul-Zahra had been monitoring the news in Iraq. He suspected something was happening when he heard about a meeting of the political party. "I started contacting my sources," Abdul-Zahra said. "They were in the meeting and provided me with details. I knew that Maliki had stepped down before he wrote his statement."

Abdul-Zahra tipped off Vivian Salama, the Baghdad bureau chief, when he had one source. When he had two, an alert and NewsNow were prepared. Within minutes he had four sources \_ two of them named. Baghdad reported the news as Maliki began his resignation speech.

<http://bit.ly/1tnOMU3>

**ASBESTOS IN INDIA:** Outlawed in much of the world, asbestos is still going strong in developing countries, as Delhi correspondent Katy Daigle revealed in an investigation. The all-format story documented how tens of millions of people in India and other countries are needlessly exposed to a deadly health threat. And how the industry twists scientific evidence to promote

its use as a building material.

After months of persistence, Daigle got access to industry executives, who unwittingly incriminated themselves with outlandish claims that scientists exaggerate the health risks and that asbestos could be "eaten for breakfast." Those sentiments fly in the face of findings by the International Labour Organization, the World Health Organization, medical researchers and more than 50 countries that the mineral should be banned because asbestos fibers lodge in the lungs and cause disease. Daigle reported that the Indian asbestos lobby's website refers to 1998 WHO guidelines for controlled use of the product but skips updated WHO advice from 2007 suggesting all asbestos be banned. The story was among the top viewed on AP's mobile app and still causing a buzz on Twitter a week after its publication. Print play included the front page of Japan Times as well as the Lebanon Daily Star, Vancouver Daily Mail and India's top English language daily The Hindu.

<http://bit.ly/1tjF7if>

Paul Stevens

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