
Connecting - June 15, 2015

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Connecting

June 15, 2015

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Colleagues,

Good Monday morning!

Legendary newspaper editor **John Carroll** died Sunday in Lexington, Kentucky, at the age of 73, and is mourned by many Connecting colleagues who worked with him in his editor positions in Lexington, Baltimore and Los Angeles.

Former AP president and CEO **Lou Boccardi** counted John as a friend, and said:

"That John was a great editor, one of the best, is clear from the catalog of his successes.



When he and I served on the Pulitzer board together, John's voice was never the loudest in the room. But when he spoke, everybody listened. He had a quiet, disarming way about himself, but a mind that thirsted for improvement in his newspapers, his community and his world. It must have been a joy to work for him. It was a privilege to work with him."

Today marks the 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta, and our new Connecting colleague **Derek Taylor** provides us background based on research that resulted from his book published a month ago.

And today's edition brings you even more memories of the overnight shift, including the viewpoint of a staffer's family.

Have a great week!

Paul

John Carroll - former editor at Lexington Herald, Baltimore Sun, Los Angeles Times - dies at 73



LEXINGTON, Ky. (AP) -- John S. Carroll, former editor of the Baltimore Sun and the Los Angeles Times, which won 13 Pulitzer Prizes during his five-year tenure, has died. He was 73.

Carroll died Sunday morning at his home in Lexington, Kentucky, where he was once editor of the Lexington Herald-Leader, said his wife, Lee Carroll. He had been suffering from Creutzfeldt-Jakob (KROYTZ'-felt YAK-ohb) Disease, a rare and debilitating

neurological disorder.

Carroll was editor and senior vice president at the Baltimore Sun from 1991 until 2000, when he took the head position at the Times that would become his last journalism job in a career spanning 40 years.

His years at the Times were considered a high point in the paper's recent history, and he and his managing editor Dean Baquet, who would succeed Carroll there and go on to lead The New York Times, were given credit for reviving newsroom morale after a 1999 issue of the paper's Sunday magazine whose revenue sharing agreement with the new downtown Staples Center arena became an ethical crisis and source of discord.

The paper's 13 Pulitzers during Carroll's five years came after it won just eight in the 1990s.

Carroll's departure came amid increasing tensions over newsroom budget cuts and the paper's direction with corporate owner, the Tribune Company.

He received a standing ovation from the staff when he announced his resignation, and the Times' then-publisher Jeff Johnson told The Associated Press that Carroll left behind an "extraordinary legacy of journalistic excellence."

Born in New York and raised in North Carolina and Washington D.C., Carroll graduated from Haverford College in Pennsylvania in 1963 and took his first job as a reporter for the Providence Journal in Rhode Island.

He served two years in the Army and in 1966 went to work as a reporter for the Sun, where he covered the Vietnam War and the Nixon White House.

Carroll shifted to editor with a move to the Philadelphia Inquirer in 1973. He was hired by editor Gene Roberts, who successfully sought to transform that paper into a major force in journalism in the 1970s.

Carroll moved to Lexington in 1979, becoming editor at the Lexington Herald, which later became the Lexington Herald-Leader.

While there, he oversaw an investigative series titled "Cheating Our Children," focusing on the flaws in Kentucky's public education system and helping lead to a major series of legislative reforms in 1990.

Associated Press writer Ben Nuckols in Washington contributed to this report.

Memories of John Carroll from Connecting colleagues

Tom Eblen - I never had the honor of working for John Carroll. I returned to my hometown and became managing editor of the Herald-Leader in Lexington, Ky., seven years after he left to lead the Baltimore Sun.

But John's influence was still felt in Lexington's newsroom then, as it is today. He was the main reason the mediocre morning and evening dailies of my youth had been combined and transformed into a nationally respected newspaper.

I got to know John after he retired as editor of the Los Angeles Times and moved back to Lexington, the hometown of his charming wife, Lee. He became an inspiration, a voice of encouragement and a friend.

For a couple of years, John also was a bicycling buddy. I helped him choose a road bike and took him out for long rides on scenic country roads. He shared a lot of wisdom with me on those rides. And, when I was writing a chapter for a history book, I was able to share some information he didn't know about an ancestor of his who was a president of Transylvania University in the early 1800s.

Few editors were as widely revered as John Carroll. But screenwriter David Simon, a former Baltimore Sun police reporter, wasn't a fan. As the New York Times reported, Simon modeled the contemptible Baltimore newspaper editor in the last season of his HBO crime series "The Wire" after John, a characterization many others at the Sun thought was unfair.

On one bike ride, I asked John if he had watched any of the show. "No," he said. "I'm waiting for the hit TV series where I'm the hero."

That may never happen in television drama. But for those of us who care more about outstanding watchdog journalism, John will always be the hero.

Tom Eblen, now the metro/state columnist for the Lexington Herald-Leader, worked for the AP in Louisville, Nashville and Knoxville, 1978-1984.

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Ed Staats - *former Louisville AP chief of bureau:* During my more than 30 years of representing AP with member editors and publishers, John Carroll stands out to me as one of the top two or three news executives with whom I worked who fully understood the role of the AP and the relationship with its members. As a result, John consistently supported AP in its mission to cover the news fully and fairly. When we fell short of the mark, he was always thoughtful in his criticisms. He then worked at several levels to see that we delivered an ever-better news report for his readers. I enjoyed what I considered a fine, professional relationship that was short on drama and focused on results.

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Andy Lippman - *former Louisville and Los Angeles AP chief of bureau:* John was always a

class act and a wonderful man. He was a gift to the profession and to those of us who knew him.

It is a sad day, but I'm glad he did not linger in such a horrible condition. We had traded emails in February and by the next month, his wife had written about his condition.

I worked with him in Lexington and again in LA. One night, he and George Esper spent hours regaling each other with Vietnam stories while I sat open-mouthed.

When he came to the Times, he was bemused that I had to go thru all sorts of hoops to get something done. We had an ombudsman who was devoted to us, and every year all the editors were invited to a lunch in the Picasso room where there was a printed agenda, a printed menu and butlers.

John told me that if I wanted to see him, I should call or come over and tell his assistant I was there, and John said he'd see me just as soon as he could.

The Magna Carta: An American love affair



Today is the 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta. And one of our newest Connecting members, former AP staffer **Derek Taylor**, has written a book, "Magna Carta in 20 Places," and explains to his new Connecting colleagues why this ancient English document is revered today even more by Americans than it is in the country of its birth.

Derek Taylor ([Email](#)) - On a grassy hillside overlooking the River Thames four miles west of London's Heathrow Airport stands the official eight-columned memorial to the Magna Carta. Close to this spot on June 15 in the year 1215, the English king John did a deal to buy off a bunch of rebellious aristocrats. He conceded that he, like his subjects, must act within the law, and a treasured legal principle was established. The Magna Carta was born.

You might imagine that the memorial was erected by a grateful English nation. You'd be wrong. It was paid for by 9,000 lawyers, every last one of them a member of the American Bar Association. And their action was no sentimental celebration of a piece of dead history. For Americans, more than for any other nation on earth, the Magna Carta remains a living champion of fundamental rights.



So how did it happen that an ancient English charter has been adopted by Americans as their own?

The reason is partly historical.

In the seventeenth century, when the Magna Carta, long-treasured by the English, began to be replaced by the newly emerging parliament as the guarantee of basic legal

rights, it got a new lease on life in North America. The English were colonizing the east coast. And the early settlers brought with them in their little ships not just muskets, ploughshares and bibles, but also the Magna Carta, or rather the rights it had come to enshrine. As these English colonists felt more and more distant from the London parliament - up to six months' voyage away - they looked for a legal authority closer to hand that was beyond dispute. They needed something almost biblical in its power to defend their citizens' rights. They turned to the Magna Carta, whose key principles, with some slight updating, were incorporated into each of the constitutions of the 13 colonies.

When by the second half of the eighteenth century the oppressive enemy had become the British parliament itself, it was again the Magna Carta that was cited, this time in support of the cry, No taxation without representation. So when James Madison and the founding fathers came to define the rights of citizens in the new nation, it was no surprise that the Magna Carta was part of their inspiration. The closing words of the Fifth Amendment are an almost exact quote from the Magna Carta: ...no person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law.

The Magna Carta itself - because it was the inspiration for the authors of the Bill of Rights - came more and more to be cited in legal cases, over 900 times in fact, 400 of them in the Supreme Court itself. In its most famous court appearance, the Magna Carta almost brought down a President. When Bill Clinton claimed in the sexual harassment case brought by Paula Jones that the legal proceedings would distract him from the important job of being President, and that the trial should be delayed till he was no longer in office, a federal district judge dismissed this defense on the grounds that the President, in a court of law, is no different from any of his fellow citizens, adding by way of justification:

It is contrary to our form of government, which asserts as did the English in the Magna

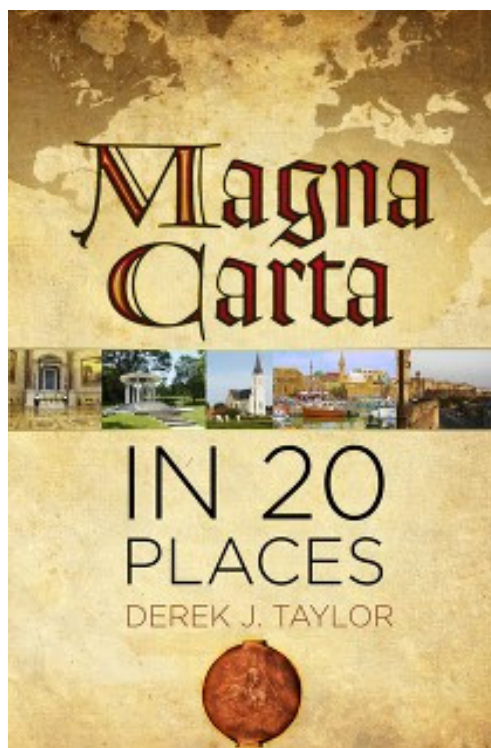
Carta ... that even the sovereign is subject to God and the law.

Like it or not, President Clinton was in the same boat as King John. Unlike John however, Clinton managed in the end to get the great magnates of his day - the Democrat majority in Congress - to support him, and he survived.

But the Great Charter is more than just a legal tradition in the US. It seems there's a quality about it that answers a deep need in the American national consciousness. That need is for an ancient, timeless defense against interfering or over-mighty government. The Magna Carta, for 800 years bastion against tyranny, strikes a heart-felt chord with Americans.

Today, the Magna Carta surfaces in TV interviews, Congressional debates, in high school and college curricula, in newspaper columns. The imprisonment without trial of suspected terrorists at Guantanamo Bay has brought a slew of references to it. And if we count as a quote from it, the phrase 'due process' - a direct citation in the Fifth Amendment from the old document - then barely a second goes by but that someone somewhere in the US isn't using the Magna Carta to challenge their boss when he threatens to fire them, to complain about some over-officious bureaucrat, or to object to a parking fine.

From defender of the privileges of a handful of medieval English aristocrats, to the watchwords of Middle-America, the Magna Carta has trodden an extraordinary road.



Derek was managing director of Associated Press Television News (APTN) from 1998 to 2001 and oversaw its merger with WTN (then owned by ABC). He read Law and History at Oxford University before joining Independent Television News of London. As a TV correspondent, he reported from Northern Ireland, Rome, South Africa, the Middle East and the United States, where he was based in Washington D.C. As ITN's first Middle East correspondent, he covered five wars, and spent seven months in Iran during the Islamic revolution. For three of those months, he was on assignment for ABC News of America after the Iranian authorities had expelled all US passport-holders - a time and place portrayed in the film *Argo*. His daily reports for ABC's *Nightline* were the only Tehran-based TV coverage of the American hostage crisis to reach U.S. viewers at this time. He now lives with his wife, Maggie in the Cotswolds in the heart of the English countryside,

where he pursues his twin passions of history and writing. He has one son by a previous marriage, Dan, a philosophy lecturer and U.S. citizen.

Derek and the publisher, The History Press, have made the book available to Connecting members at a special 30% discounted price of \$24.50. Purchase at www.ipgbook.com and enter code MCTPAP30. The offer is good until July 15. His web site: <http://www.derekjtaylorbooks.com/>

Connecting mailbox

On the astronaut recovery beat

Bob Daugherty - Some of the stranger assignments to which I was assigned in the 60s and 70s were the Gemini and Apollo astronaut recoveries at sea. The east coast sailings embarked from either Boston, Norfolk or Jacksonville. The small carriers were mostly helicopter only, such as the Guam, Boxer, Wasp and Guadalcanal. I was the wire pool photographer and there was also a magazine rep. The sailing started a few days before a launch and lasted until splashdown. There was little to do except 'rehearsal' during the flight. On a couple of missions veteran LIFE photographer Francis Miller was on board. I was amazed to see the number of equipment cases the young sailors were struggling to lug to our quarters. Little did I know until later that most of the cases contained adult beverages. Francis and I laid claim to the large built-in desks on the end of our squad room to store our 'equipment.' I soon learned that Miller simply wanted a place to secure his stash of stimulants intended to last throughout the mission.



Apollo 17 recovery - NASA photo

Recalling a helluva storm on one voyage when about all one could do was lie in a bunk and ride it out. On those days, by some strange coincidence, the Navy mess usually served sausages and kraut for lunch. There was always plenty of food left for seconds.

When astronaut splashdown day arrived, there was a flurry of activity. The recovered astronaut(s) were plucked from the ocean and brought to the carrier. On one such occasion, the wires were anxious to have color transmitted. Since there was limited access it was decided to shoot the arrival using Polaroid film in a 4X5 graphic and use a little 4X5 German transmitter and send the three color separations within minutes. Now, how's that for cutting edge technology? It worked perfectly and the next morning the New York Times used the magenta printer as the black and white on page one. The photos were sent via satellite from the ship. While the press poolers and TV were transmitting, the carrier had to turn off their radar to avoid interference with our signal.

Sometime after the recovery a plane would fly low over the carrier and 'hook' a bag

containing the film, etc. and fly it back to Kennedy Space Center (KSC) in Florida for further distribution.

Once the shuttle came into play, I spent many days helping Miami AP photographer Phil Sandlin dodging rattlesnakes and wading among pissed-off mother alligators at KSC. Now that's another story that Mr. Sandlin should report on.

(It would be great if someone involved in Pacific recoveries would sign on with their remembrances.)

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Kudos to Mort Rosenblum

Chuck Green - Kudos to Mort (Tell It Like It Is) Rosenblum for reminding me when The AP was the best. Period.

I saw the hand writing on the wall in 1984 a few months shy of my 25th year. Things were going in a direction I did not like and I knew that was a contest I could not win. I resigned with no fall back and no prospects. That turned out to be a wise decision -- gist for a Life After AP posting.

One sentence in Mort's post really hit home. He left for foreign lands with only a suitcase. I left The World Desk for Mexico City with a wife, three infants, a few suitcases and nothing else. The AP had a policy then of not paying to move the belongings of those transferred to foreign assignment.

Mexico City was my dream assignment and I was not about to turn it down. We were allowed to take clothes, a few toys for the kids, and nothing else. Personnel said things were cheaper in Mexico so we could buy appliances and furniture there.

How wrong they were. A refrigerator cost twice as much. We slept on the floor and kept the kids milk in a portable cooler until I could put together enough money to purchase stuff a piece at a time.

Of course there was no salary increase with the transfer. So it took a while.

Good on Mort. I for one would like to read his letter to the board. But then again, I've always enjoyed reading Mort.

Overnight memories continue

Kevin Noblet - Just one overnight recollection to contribute to all the rich yarns already delivered:

I transferred in 1983 to New York from New Orleans, where I'd rarely had to work the overnight but was accustomed to staying up til dawn and beyond because some of the bars stayed open until then. At 50 Rock they did soon put me on the overnight and I was pleased to find that the local bar, Hurley's, was open when my shift ended at 8 a.m. The bar was pretty full and I thought, 'This is great. An after-work crowd I can hang out with for a drink or two before I go home.'

But it wasn't that kind of crowd. It was workers getting a drink or two on their way to their daytime jobs. Naturally they weren't in a social mood at all. Grim. 'Welcome to the big city,' I thought. I chose to just go home and hang out there.

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Marion Hodgman - Ah, the Legend of the Overnight hasn't given recognition to the wives and families of the overnight crew.

Bruce worked the Overnight for 30-plus years that we were together. We started out in a 3 room apartment in Flushing with two babies, an English sheepdog and two cats. The babies and I had to vacate that crowded apartment daily, for at least six hours so Bruce could get some daytime sleep.

The first winter with two babies (one was 3 months, the other 2 years), I would push them through the sidewalks of Flushing in their double-decker carriage...sometimes the thermometer on the bank read zero and the kids would have ice in their eyelashes. We'd duck into Alexander's long enough to warm up and then back out onto the sidewalks again. In good weather we'd bring lunch and spend the day in the park. When we could afford it we moved to a larger apartment where we had the quiet space for him to get his sleep. And from then on, until they started school, we sat down as a family and had our dinner together every day at 2PM....and then Bruce would leave for work.

It was difficult. We all had to adjust to a different schedule. And still, it was a very special, wonderful time.

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Doug Tucker - Put Mrs. Tucker's boy Doug into that small circle who worked the overnight and absolutely loved it. Instead of resenting post-midnight peonage, I thrived. Never did I enjoy a bureau trick more than the overnight broadcast shift I held down for almost a year in the '70s when Kansas City was still a 24-hour operation and wise ol' Wes Cook was the unfailingly supportive overnight supe. The bureau was tranquil. The sense of freedom was exhilarating. And fortunately, there was plenty of work to do and breaking stories to pursue because for me, something else very important was also going on. I was growing as a journalist. At my own pace. I was preparing myself for opportunities down the road that would prove even more fulfilling.

During the overnight, far from the frantic hustle and bustle, there was time not just to read the works of such giants as Will Grimsley, Harry Rosenthal and KC Star sports

columnist Joe McGuff, but to study and reflect upon them. And to discuss them with Wes. Plus, I will always maintain that broadcast writing helps improve one's writing for print immensely. It teaches lean, get-to-the-point prose, an especially prized ability for any AP reporter.

While others fought to stay awake on the overnight, all I needed was a short nap just before coming in. Almost without fail, I would still be eager and alert when those clamorous day-siders began despoiling my solitude and the last stars winked out.

The simple act of driving home in the morning even became a kick. While I headed for bed, or the golf course, or anywhere else the spirit moved, the rest of the world was reluctantly rolling in from the other direction. I was a free man. My work day was done. For all those other poor work slaves, however, it was just getting started. Hahaha! A cheap path to ego gratification, perhaps, but I figured I'd earned it.

While many of us count overnight shifts among our memories, I bet I'm one of the few who owned one of the most punishing schedules in the history of The Associated Press. For four days a week I was night broadcast editor, working 6 p.m. to 2 a.m., and my nights off were Thursday and Friday. But for my fifth work day, I was assigned the Saturday overnight. Somebody had to spell Wes, who worked Sunday through Friday. The Saturday overnight editor reported at 11:30 p.m. Friday.

So I would get off at 2 a.m. Thursday and have to return at 11:30 p.m. Friday.

In other words, I was required to be in the office at least part of every day of the week. While I flourished on the overnight, this freakish schedule caused me to suffer terribly. After a couple of months, I was stumbling around every Sunday evening, practically disoriented. Fortunately, my plea for relief fell upon sympathetic ears. I went back to being a normal human being, more or less.

LA journalist gets nice surprise on his Hanoi visit



**By Kevin Roderick
LA Observed**

If the joy of travel is all in the unexpected discoveries, Henry Weinstein had a magical moment this week on a visit to Vietnam. Henry was at the Metropol Hotel in Hanoi, traveling with a longtime friend, when he saw a familiar Los Angeles media face. And not just anybody, but the one person from home who might be the most perfectly fitting LA person you could run into while exploring Vietnam.

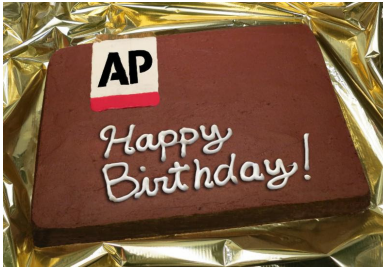
Henry bumped into Nick Ut, the Associated Press photographer who won the Pulitzer Prize for his 1972 photo of a terrified young girl, Kim Phuc, running from a Napalm attack on her town. Nick is in Hanoi for an exhibition of AP photos. Ut seems to be received as something of a celebrity on his frequent returns to Vietnam, where he grew up. Earlier in the week, you may remember, Ut revisited the road where he first met Kim Phuc.

The exhibition of AP photos is on display a short distance from the hotel. In the photo above, Ut is greeting well-wishers with AP CEO Gary Pruitt in the background.

Weinstein was a longtime legal affairs writer for the Los Angeles Times who is now on the faculty and staff of the UC Irvine School of Law.

Click [here](#) for a link to this story.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Tom Larimer ([Email](#))

Welcome to Connecting



Hank Klibanoff ([Email](#))

Gary Libman ([Email](#))

Stories of interest

Typo corrected on Ernie Pyle statue at Indiana University (AP)

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. (AP) -- Ernie Pyle's statue has filed a correction.

The bronze statue of the famed World War II journalist on the Bloomington campus of Indiana University had misspelled the word "correspondent" by dropping an "r." But on Wednesday, a bronze artist from Detroit fixed the typographical error.

The work was done by Giorgio Gikas, an art conservator with Venus Bronze in Detroit, The (Bloomington) Herald Times (<http://bit.ly/1IjB25b>) reported.

University officials found the mistake in October, two days before the sculpture was to be formally dedicated.

Click [here](#) to read more.

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Frank Zachary, Editor and Art Director, Dies at 101 (New York Times)

Frank Zachary, a celebrated magazine editor and art director who pioneered graphic innovations and creative photography while chronicling postwar America's fascination with travel and leisure and the affluent society, died on Friday at his home in East Hampton, N.Y. He was 101.

His daughter Amy Zachary confirmed his death.

Mr. Zachary was remembered by former colleagues as one of the last great editors and art directors from a golden age of magazines, when many were elegant showcases for superb photography and innovative graphic design, opening windows on the worlds of travel, culture and leisure in a time of growing prosperity.



Click [here](#) to read more.

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Press Talk: Please tread lightly with civility (The Columbian)

Civility is a good thing.

No one in these parts would disagree with that.

But pushing too hard on the civility end at the expense of freedom of speech is a very slippery slope.

Political fighting between liberals and conservatives is probably the best current example of a resurgence of this call to play nice. And it would - indeed - be a good thing if our warring political parties could find more common ground to get things done.

The rise of the Internet - giving exposure to all voices - has, well, entertained us with a variety of passionate opinions.

But here's the thing. I'm more frightened of those people in high places who warn us to tone it down - or else - than I am of the wide variety of views I see racing across my

computer.

Click [here](#) to read more. Shared by Mark Mittelstadt.

Today in History - June 15, 2015

By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, June 15, the 166th day of 2015. There are 199 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 15, 1215, England's King John put his seal to Magna Carta ("the Great Charter") at Runnymede.

On this date:

In 1775, the Second Continental Congress voted unanimously to appoint George Washington head of the Continental Army.

In 1836, Arkansas became the 25th state.

In 1849, James Polk, the 11th president of the United States, died in Nashville, Tennessee.

In 1864, Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton signed an order establishing a military burial ground which became Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia.

In 1904, more than 1,000 people died when fire erupted aboard the steamboat General Slocum in New York's East River.

In 1934, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed an act making the National Guard part of the U.S. Army in the event of war or national emergency.

In 1944, American forces began their successful invasion of Saipan (sy-PAN') during World War II. B-29 Superfortresses carried out their first raids on Japan.

In 1955, the United States and Britain signed a cooperation agreement concerning atomic information for "mutual defence purposes."

In 1962, Students for a Democratic Society issued the Port Huron Statement at the conclusion of a five-day convention in Michigan.

In 1978, King Hussein (hoo-SAYN') of Jordan married 26-year-old American Lisa Halaby, who became Queen Noor.

In 1984, composer-librettist Meredith Willson ("The Music Man") died in Santa Monica,

California, at age 82.

In 1994, Israel and the Vatican established full diplomatic relations. The Walt Disney animated feature "The Lion King" was released by Buena Vista Pictures.

Ten years ago: The autopsy released on Terri Schiavo (SHY'-voh) backed the contention of her husband, Michael, that she had been in a persistent vegetative state, finding she was severely and irreversibly brain-damaged and blind as well. Iraqi and U.S. forces freed Australian hostage Douglas Wood. Former Baylor basketball player Carlton Dotson was sentenced to 35 years in prison, a week after he unexpectedly pleaded guilty to murdering teammate Patrick Dennehy.

Five years ago: In his first Oval Office address, President Barack Obama promised that "we will make BP pay for the damage their company has caused," describing the massive oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico as a "siege" on the shores of America. Mexican President Felipe Calderon appealed to his fellow citizens to support the fight against organized crime just hours after troops killed 15 suspected gang members.

One year ago: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu accused the Hamas militant group of kidnapping three Israeli teenagers who had disappeared on June 12 (the teens' bodies were found June 30). Death claimed "American Top 40" host Casey Kasem, 82; "Flowers for Algernon" author Daniel Keyes, 86; and French actor Jacques Bergerac, 87. Golfer Martin Kaymer of Germany won the U.S. Open. The **San Antonio Spurs** won their fifth NBA championship, beating the Miami Heat 104-87 to win the series in five games.

Today's Birthdays: Rhythm-and-blues singer Ruby Nash Garnett (Ruby and the Romantics) is 81. Rock singer-actor Johnny Hallyday is 72. Funk musician Leo Nocentelli (The Meters) is 69. Actor Simon Callow is 66. Singer Russell Hitchcock (Air Supply) is 66. Rock singer Steve Walsh is 64. Comedian-actor Jim Belushi is 61. Country singer Terri Gibbs is 61. Actress Julie Hagerty is 60. Actress Polly Draper is 60. Rock musician Brad Gillis (Night Ranger) is 58. Baseball Hall-of-Famer Wade Boggs is 57. Actress Eileen Davidson is 56. Bluegrass musician Terry Smith is 55. Actress Helen Hunt is 52. Rock musician Scott Rockenfield (Queensryche) is 52. Actress **Courteney Cox** is 51. Country musician Tony Ardoin is 51. Country musician Michael Britt (Lonestar) is 49. Contemporary Christian musician Rob Mitchell is 49. Rock musician Jimmy McD is 47. Actor-rapper **Ice Cube** is 46. Actress Leah Remini is 45. Actor Jake Busey is 44. Bluegrass singer-musician Jamie Johnson is 43. Rock musician T-Bone Willy (Save Ferris) is 43. Actor Neil Patrick Harris is 42. Actor Greg Vaughan is 42. Actress Elizabeth Reaser is 40. Rock singer Dryden Mitchell (Alien Ant Farm) is 39. Rock musician Billy Martin (Good Charlotte) is 34. Rock musician Wayne Sermon (Imagine Dragons) is 31. Actor Denzel Whitaker is 25.

Thought for Today: "The times are not so bad as they seem; they couldn't be." - John Franklin Carter, American commentator and author (1897-1967).

Today in History - 1st Add



On this date:

In 1968, a young hospital nurse, Linda Saul, and a new college grad, Paul Stevens, were married at Corpus Christi Church in Fort Dodge, Iowa, beginning a magical life's journey that has taken them - thanks to the Air Force and AP - to Little Rock, Newport News, Lawrence, Albany, St. Louis, Wichita, Albuquerque, Indianapolis and Kansas City. Ye Olde Connecting Editor is thankful each day that she said "Yes!"

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Got a story to share? A favorite memory of your AP days? Don't keep them to yourself. Share with your colleagues by sending to Ye Olde Connecting Editor. And don't forget to include photos!

Here are some suggestions:

- **"My boo boos - A silly mistake that you make"** - a chance to 'fess up with a memorable mistake in your journalistic career.
- **Multigenerational AP families** - profiles of families whose service spanned two or more generations.
- **Volunteering** - benefit your colleagues by sharing volunteer stories - with ideas on such work they can do themselves.
- **First job** - How did you get your first job in journalism?
- **Connecting "selfies"** - a word and photo self-profile of you and your career, and what you are doing today. Both for new members and those who have been with us a while.
- **Life after AP** for those of you who have moved on to another job or profession.
- **Most unusual** place a story assignment took you.

Paul Stevens

Editor

Connecting newsletter

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