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## Connecting - May 31, 2017

1 message

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Wed, May 31, 2017 at 9:10 AM

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# Connecting

May 31, 2017

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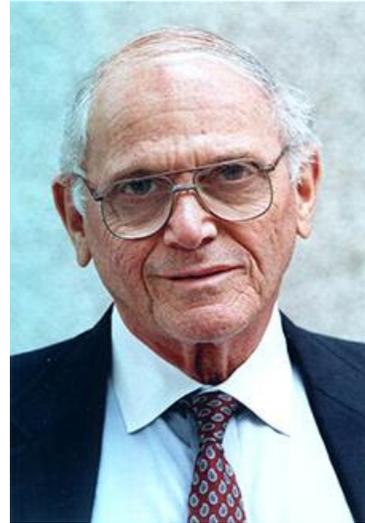
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Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning!

A **Harry Rosenthal** byline moved on the AP wires Tuesday - evoking fond memories of one of the very best writers that The Associated Press has ever produced.

The Exelon Corp. announced Tuesday that it plans to close the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant unless the state of Pennsylvania gives it some financial help. This prompted the AP to rerun an AP Was There story that moved in 1979, carrying the bylines of **Rosenthal** and **Bob Dvorchak**, examining that fateful day of March 28, 1979, when the plant south of Harrisburg suffered a partial meltdown that instilled fear in hundreds of thousands of nearby residents and changed the way Americans viewed the technology.



**Harry Rosenthal**

Harry retired from the AP in 1997 after a remarkable 45-year career in Kansas City and Washington and died in 2013 at the age of 86.

Bob worked at the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette after a fine AP career that included assignments as a national writer and as Harrisburg correspondent, and today, according to his LinkedIn page, he is a free-lance journalist living in Verona, Pennsylvania.

**Connecting Mailbox** continues to receive your stories of covering tough situations, and I hope you will share your own story.

Paul

***AP was there:***

## **Three Mile Island nuclear power plant accident**



**In this undated file photo, a Pennsylvania state police officer and plant security guards stand outside the closed front gate to the Metropolitan Edison nuclear power plant on Three Mile Island near Harrisburg, Pa., after the plant was shut down following a partial meltdown on March 28, 1979. Exelon Corp., the owner of Three Mile Island, said Monday, May 29, 2017 it will shut down the plant in 2019 without a financial rescue from Pennsylvania. (AP Photo/Paul Vathis, File)**

**By BOB DVORCHAK and HARRY F. ROSENTHAL**

EDITOR'S NOTE: On March 28, 1979, the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant south of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, suffered a partial meltdown that instilled fear in hundreds of thousands of nearby residents and changed the way Americans viewed the technology. With the announcement Tuesday that Exelon Corp. plans to close the plant unless the state gives it some financial help, The Associated Press is republishing an April 8, 1979, story examining the day of the accident and the seven days that followed.

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THREE MILE ISLAND, Pa. (AP) - In the darkness before dawn, in the chill mists that rise from the Susquehanna River, the atomic powerhouse on Three Mile Island defied its human keepers and threatened catastrophe.

In the small neighboring towns like Yocumtown and York Haven, Goldsboro and Pleasant Grove, there was confusion, then fear.

"We all live in Pennsylvania," chanted protesters in Germany.

Indeed, the whole world had a stake in Three Mile Island.

There is a nuclear plant in Hiroshima, witness to atomic energy at its worst; and near Leningrad, Frankfurt, Buenos Aires. There are 223 nuclear reactors at power plants around the globe; two of them at Three Mile Island.

One of the Three Mile Island reactors was shut down for routine refueling on March 28. The other, Unit 2, was humming along quietly until, at 3:53 a.m., terrible events began with a whoosh.

The failsafe system failed. Three valves on auxiliary pumps that should have been open weren't. And the chain of human error and mechanical breakdown grew, multiplied, and turned a routine glitch into the worst nuclear accident in the 22 years since the nation began using nuclear power.

This time, nobody was just a spectator.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Ellen Nimmons.

## Connecting mailbox

***Got a story about covering Jim Bunning?  
Share it with me, please***

**Al Cross (Email)** - Monday's sports recollections made me think again of Jim Bunning and my sometimes-contentious encounters with him as a politician, which I plan to write about in my next Courier-Journal column, to be published online Friday. I imagine some of our colleagues can recall faceoffs with Bunning when he was a pitcher (one of the best ever, IMHO), so why don't you invite them to share and I will

follow up with the tales from my column (which will be about the relationships between journalists and public figures)?

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## ***Rockefeller and me***

**Norm Abelson (Email)** - It was an especially humid New Hampshire day more than half a century ago, as I sat interviewing the president of Dartmouth College.

I was a reporter for The Associated Press, covering one of the most important stories I had yet been assigned. There was national interest in the event, and I was to report directly to the AP in New York. To say I was a bit nervous and unsure was an understatement. However, I had no idea how much more nervous I was to become as the day unfolded.

Dartmouth, set down in the bucolic Connecticut River town of Hanover, was dedicating a recently completed and widely admired arts and culture center, named in honor of its revered past president, Ernest Martin Hopkins. The Ivy League college's most prestigious graduates were to attend along with state and national dignitaries. Heading the list as the featured speaker was to be Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller of New York. "Rocky" was a proud alumnus, and kept a close connection with Dartmouth.

As I sat with my colleagues from United Press and the New York Times, among others, the president's secretary entered and said - to my surprise - that there was an important call for me from my editor. Apologizing, I made my way to the outer office, picked up the phone and heard words that approximated these:

"Norm, there is a rumor circulating from sources in France that Rockefeller has been having an affair with Joan Crawford. We're getting requests that we get a comment from Rockefeller. He's in his car now heading for Dartmouth. You're going to have to ask him for a comment. And be sure your photographer gets a good shot. We're not sure the opposition has heard about this, so keep it quiet. And, as usual, we need to hear from you ASAP."



The famed movie star Joan Crawford had married the CEO of Pepsi Cola, and, after his death, was herself identified with the brand, doing public relations and sales promotion around the world. Rockefeller, whose name already was being prominently mentioned for the presidency, was well known to have a sharp eye for the ladies; he had been notoriously divorced, and was now married to a woman with the nickname "Happy."

I couldn't imagine that she'd be very happy when the news I was about to generate hit the front pages in New York City. Suddenly a piece about the opening of a major American cultural center had taken on lesser meaning. It was now a story about a possible liaison between a world-famous Hollywood star and the most well-known member of an iconic American family.

It would hardly matter, I knew, what answer, if any, I got from Rockefeller. Even a "no comment" would in all likelihood result in the tabloid press featuring headlines like: "Rocky silent on reported affair with movie queen."

But my ruminations had to give way to reality. I moved out to the edge of the curb. I knew I would have to push my way to where the car stopped so I could get to Rockefeller first, before he walked to the building. The veteran AP photographer J. Walter Greene - as gleeful as I was nervous - was at my elbow, his camera at the ready. In back of and around us were other members of the press, and a large welcoming crowd.

I rehearsed the question in my mind, even whispering it once to myself. The long black car appeared around a corner, slowed down and stopped about ten feet from my position. I pushed my way sideways so that I was directly in front of the car's rear door. Rockefeller stepped out, flashing his famous smile. I remember being surprised at how short he was.

"Governor, governor," I yelled. "Norm Abelson, Associated Press. And I have a question."

"Yes, yes. What is it?"

"Sir, there's a rumor from Europe that you and Joan Crawford are having an affair. Can you comment?"

Suddenly, a tough-looking guy who was a lot taller than Rockefeller stepped out of the car, and pushed me aside in a not too gentle manner. Rockefeller snarled something unintelligible at me, and made his way through the crowd, trailed by the other press people now echoing my question.

Recovering my wits, I called the editor and made my report, including the fact that I did not know what Rockefeller had said to me as I was being shoved aside by his body man. He said the dedication story could now wait until I got back to the office.

Whether Rockefeller ever commented further I do not recall. But Joan Crawford later responded to stories about a possible affair, and even marriage, to the governor, saying: "How can you be engaged to a man who has never asked you for a date?"

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## ***Chicago Alumni Club -- SE Asia Branch***



**Jim Reindl (Email)** - Former Chicago AP colleagues Jim Reindl (left) and Patrick McDowell and spouses, Graca (left) and Soizick linked up for Memorial Day weekend in Jakarta. Reindl is working for USAID in Timor-Leste and McDowell is SE Asia bureau chief for The Wall Street Journal in Jakarta.

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## ***At 97, Frank McCullough still on top of world events***

**Jeff Williams** ([Email](#)) - If you were a journalist/photographer working in Southeast Asia in the '60s into the '70s, the name Frank McCulloch is likely familiar. He was then Southeast Asia bureau chief for Time-Life magazines. And today he is still today widely considered "a journalist's journalist," recognized as a savvy straight shooter, always bluntly honest.

At 97, Frank McCulloch is still on top of world events. And ever the journalist, he is more inclined to discuss politics as a reporter than as a commentator. But the "good old days" in Asia are still dominant in his mind, and that's what we talked about most during a recent lunch at his retirement home in Santa Rosa, CA.



Born January 26, 1920 on a cattle ranch in Fernley, Nevada, McCulloch became a stringer for both Associated Press and United Press while studying at the University of Nevada. A good college baseball pitcher, he made it to a professional farm team, but his father finally sent him to San Francisco in 1941 "and told me to get a job." He did, with United Press for \$15 a week.

The first of the many times Frank and I crossed paths in Asia was in 1966. I was the AP correspondent in Jakarta, Indonesia. It was "The Year of Living Dangerously" and President Sukarno was slowly being forced out by General Suharto.

Frank wanted to meet Sukarno and as it happened the new British ambassador was presenting his credentials that day in the presidential palace, so Frank and I went to observe. The ceremony was not particularly crowded and we two westerners stood out a bit. Particularly Frank. Always a ramrod straight six-footer, he has also been bald as an egg since his thirties.

Sukarno, in full military uniform and swagger stick under one arm, turned away from the somewhat bewildered ambassador and crossed over to talk to Frank. He admired his bald head, then took off his black Indonesian kepi to show his own mostly bald head. "It's a sign of great virility," he said. Frank, at his diplomatic best, agreed.



The three of us chatted for about ten minutes before Sukarno returned to his presidential duties. And Frank went back to his reporting duties, then mostly covering the war in Vietnam.

From Southeast Asia he went on to a storied career that included stints as editor of the Los Angeles Times, The Sacramento Bee, McClatchy News group, and the San Francisco Examiner. Not least, it was Frank's personal connection with Howard Hughes that allowed him to reveal that Clifford Irving's purported biography of Hughes was a complete fake.

Now, even in a wheelchair, he still seems to be a ramrod straight six-footer, the same easy grin, who sends best regards to his many colleagues and friends.

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## ***A story from a standoff in Montana***

**Mike Tharp** ([Email](#)) - In March 1996 I traveled from L.A. to Jordan, Mont., where an antigovernment Christian Patriot group called the Montana Freemen had entered a standoff with law enforcement. The previous fall, I was the only reporter who had gotten in to interview some of them and wrote a story for U.S. News & World Report.

That spring, I also knew a back way to the ranch where they were holed up. I parked my rental, climbed over a metal fence and waited while two armed Freemen drove down the hill in a VW van. They said they remembered my magazine story but didn't want to talk to the media right then. I said okay and that I'd come to the fence every day to see if they'd changed their mind.

I drove back toward town on a one-lane dirt road. As I rounded a curve, I saw six black Suburbans parked in a herringbone formation. Behind the open front door of each stood men in body armor, wearing FBI caps, pointing M16s at me.

A guy on a bullhorn told me to get out of the car and show my hands. I did. He told me to take off my cowboy hat. I did. He told me to pull up my coat and turn all the way round. I did.

Then agents walked up, frisked me and told me I was under arrest. I pointed to their M16s. "Those work any better now than they did in Nam?" I asked. One of the older guys grinned. They took me to the lead negotiator of the Hostage Rescue Team, sitting in a warm Suburban. He held a copy of my story from last year.

He started to grill me. I interrupted and told him I was just doing my job, that I'd answer his questions if we swapped information. So we did. And I guess he un-arrested me.

I climbed back into my rental and drove down to the roadblock I'd avoided on the way in. A media scrum stood on the other side. An agent raised the barrier to let me through. The newsies surrounded my rig, yelling questions and pointing cameras. I touched the rim of my cowboy hat and drove back to town.

There I hung out with Janet Guptill, editor and publisher of the weekly paper. She'd helped me get in to see the Freeman.

The siege ended peacefully after 81 days.

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## ***Hostility in covering Florida state government usually came from low-level operatives***

**Bill Kaczor** ([Email](#)) - I faced little open hostility from most government officials and private citizens while covering state government in Tallahassee and other news in the Florida Panhandle during my 33 years with the AP.

While many politicians sometimes dodged questions, few were openly hostile. What hostility I did encounter usually came from low-level operatives.

One event in particular stands out. Air Force Senior Master Sgt. Sherry Lynn Olds (at right) was among 12 Americans killed on Aug. 7, 1998 in the terrorist bombing of the U.S. embassy in Nairobi, Kenya. Her hometown was Panama City, Fla., and the public was invited to a memorial service at nearby Tyndall Air Force Base. The media was told to meet at a secondary entrance to the base to be escorted to the chapel. I arrived about 10 or 15 minutes before designated the meeting time, but a

security police officer told me it was too late, the escort had already left. So I told the guard I'd just drive to the main gate and go in with the general public.

The guard radioed a colleague at the main gate with a description of my car and told him not to let me in. The main gate guard, a lowly two-striper, told me to leave, but I refused and said I wasn't moving until I could talk to someone in authority. Traffic, meanwhile, was backing up behind me on busy highway U.S. 98. Finally, a panicked sergeant arrived and let me in.



Another bit of rare - and out-of-character - hostility came from a sports figure, Florida State football coach Bobby Bowden. I was interviewing the beloved coach, who was always quotable and usually kept his sense of humor even in defeat, for a story previewing the 1981 season.

A few months earlier, a half-dozen of his current and former players were charged with receiving goods stolen from a Tallahassee department store by a former teammate who worked there. I opened the interview with a question about the theft. The usually jovial Bowden exploded.

He chomped down on the ever-present cigar he chewed but never lit and said the dadgum interview was over if I didn't want to talk about football.

"I'm not talking about that stuff," I quoted Bowden as saying. "That's trash."

I told him that if he didn't want to respond that was fine, but I couldn't ignore his team's off-field troubles. Bowden quickly calmed down and we continued the interview focusing strictly on football although my story included his quote and a review of his players' legal problems. He had no trouble, though, calmly talking about a pair of heartbreaking 1-point losses the prior season that likely cost the Seminoles a national championship.

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***More memories of covering the Indy 500***

**Gene Herrick (Email)** - Bob Haring's piece on the Indy 500 Memorial Day race, stirred my thoughts on covering the races in 1947, and 1948 as an AP photographer, and later as an AP photo editor out of Chicago in '66, and '67.

In the 40's I would go to the Indy track early in May and be there most of the time until the race on the Memorial Day weekend. I would join a couple of others and sit on a pit wall and shoot the bull while the race cars flew by doing a lot of testing and preparation for the upcoming spectacular auto race. My mind would get attuned to the sound of the various engines, and even while not paying specific attention to any one car, I would come alert when the sound sequence was broken. That most often meant that a racer had crashed. I would run to an ambulance or wreck and speed to the scene. Then into town and process the film and transmit on the AP Wirephoto network.

On race day I had a specific spot to cover the race, one time on the grassy infield on the first-turn. The ole 4x5 Speed Graphic only had an 8-inch lens, so I was quite near the speeding cars. I now envy today's photographers with their long lenses, and multi-shot cameras. We had one shot.

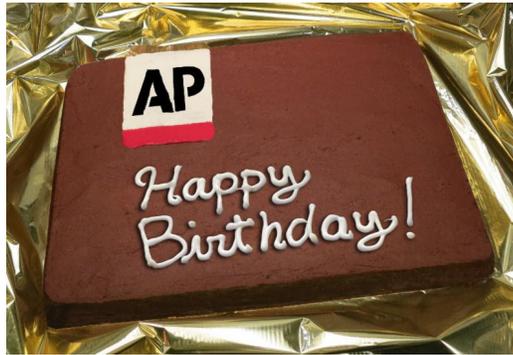
I remember going to the track during off-season and talking with Cotton Henning, the old and trusted full-time mechanic for 3-time Indy winner, Wilbur Shaw. I would sit in the old dimly-lit garage and listen to Cotton. Those were some of my fondest memories. He would describe how he would get an engine from Germany, one that had weathered for a whole year out in a field. Cotton described how he would clean up that engine, tune it, place it in Wilbur's old Maserati race car, and drive it around the Indy track for one lap at 25 miles per hour. Then he would tear the whole engine apart and burnish all of the "Burrs" off. He said he would repeat this about four times, increasing the speed each cycle, until, the engine was perfect.

Ray Jefferies and I, both then photo editors in Chicago, went to head up our photo team covering the 1966 Indy 500 race. It was time for the race start and Ray and I left our darkroom quarters in the Pagoda and went to an area near the start line. The 33 cars came flying down the track, got the green start signal, and then imploded into a gigantic pileup going into the first turn. It was the first time there had been a wreck on the first turn of the Indy race. Wheels and tires filled the air after coming off their racers. Ray and I knew the consequences of this historic event. We looked at each other and quickly headed for the work area and the film to come in from our various photographers in that area. I remember helping edit some of that first film, and searched hard for the shot that showed the most wheels in the air. There were 14 of the 33-car field involved in the crash, and 11 of them were completely out of the race.

A more pleasant moment would be the Holiday times when track owner Tony Hulman, and speedway winner and then track president Wilbur Shaw would put on their annual "Duck Thumbing" cocktail and dinner for a few of us journalists.

Covering Indy was always a great and memorable experience.

# Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Kerry Huggard - [khuggard@ap.org](mailto:khuggard@ap.org)

## Stories of interest

***Frank Deford revealed the essential quality of good writing: Focus*** (Poynter)

By ROY PETER CLARK

Frank Deford was to sports writing what Secretariat was to horseracing, what Babe Ruth was to baseball, what Michael Jordan was to basketball, what Ali was to boxing, what Pele was to soccer: the undisputed master of his craft.

There were contenders, to be sure, among the ink-stained wretches of the last half-century. Red Smith, W.C. Heinz and Dick Schaap could match Deford on any given day. But for longevity, consistency, versatility, reporting, storytelling and word craft, Deford was hard to beat.

I met him twice in the flesh: at a reception at Poynter after he had delivered a talk at a local college and again at a book festival in Tucson. He had a physical presence and demeanor that I found curious and compelling. Gangly would define him. He was quite tall, with wide bony shoulders and arms so long they seemed to stretch to

his knees. Match those features to his slicked-back hair, pencil-thin mustache and snappy outfits and the effect was of a kid who might have played basketball at Princeton in the fifties and then decided to become a private detective.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***Kentucky Newspaper's Windows Shattered Amid Rising Anti-Press Climate*** (Huffington Post)

The Lexington Herald-Leader is staying "vigilant" after several of its windows were shattered Sunday morning, editor Peter Baniak said Monday.



Police believe the damage is consistent with small-caliber bullet fire. No one was hurt in the incident, and authorities are investigating it as criminal mischief, the Herald-Leader reported.

"We need to keep doing what we do because it's that important," Baniak told HuffPost, adding that the paper's staff "can't be deterred from doing the work that we do because of an act of vandalism."

The motive of the perpetrator, or perpetrators, is still unknown. But Sunday's crime occurred amid increasing anti-press rhetoric and even some violence against members of the media.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Richard Chady.

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# ***Newsonomics: In Norway, a newspaper's digital video startup is now generating more revenue than print*** (Nieman)

The screenshot shows the VG TV YouTube channel interface. At the top, there are three featured videos:

- Dream Empire**: DOKUMENTAR, 885 views, 1:13:47 duration.
- SMS-RULETT #4: - Jeg trekker meg!**: SMS-RULETT MED VEGARD HARM, 110 474 views, 01:46 duration.
- Safari**: DOKUMENTAR, 7 views.

Below these is a section titled **MEST SETT SISTE 24T** (Most Watched in Last 24 Hours) with five thumbnails:

- Intervjuet alle prater om**: PANELET, 158 221 views, 03:47 duration.
- Fire myter om skjedden**: NYHETER, 79 341 views, 02:14 duration.
- NB! Sterke bilder: Glemmer vikeplikten - treffer familien**: NYHETER, 99 531 views, 00:34 duration.
- Se hva som kommer ut av slangen**: DYRENE, 94 524 views, 00:34 duration.
- Minst 13 dr. bilbombe i**: NYHETER, 26 views.

At the bottom is a section titled **DOKUMENTAR** with five thumbnails:

- Dream Empire**: DOKUMENTAR, 885 views, 1:13:47 duration.
- Love and Sex in an Age of Pornography**: DOKUMENTAR, 1 569 views, 51:17 duration.
- Safari**: DOKUMENTAR, 710 views, 1:27:19 duration.
- The Man Who Streaked The World**: DOKUMENTAR, 71 633 views, 47:02 duration.
- Best and Most Beautiful Things**: DOKUMENTAR, 815 views.

**By KEN DOCTOR**

OSLO - Yes, there's even a Trump Bump in Oslo.

Take 56 million, the number of views VGTV has gotten so far on its "satirical masterpiece" of "tupéfabrikk", the company's discovery of Donald Trump's secret wig field in Tromsø, Norway's Arctic Circle city. But that bump is just a collateral benefit of VGTV's innovation engine.

In the three and a half years since its founding, VGTV has become a global model, with its leaders speaking at numerous media forums.

This spring, the latest spun-off Schibsted division passed an important milestone: VGTV, the video operation of the leading Norwegian daily VG, now produces more monthly revenue than does VG's seven-day print product. VG, like many dailies, is losing double digit percentages of print revenue each year, but that revenue loss is being made up by the video operation. Of course, the new money is not nearly as profitable as the old - but for Schibsted, it's all about the all-in bet on the longer-term digital future.

Read more [here](#).

## The Final Word



(Shared by Craig Klugman)

## Today in History - May 31, 2017



## By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, May 31, the 151st day of 2017. There are 214 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On May 31, 1977, the Trans-Alaska oil pipeline, three years in the making despite objections from environmentalists and Alaska Natives, was completed. (The first oil began flowing through the pipeline 20 days later; today the pipeline carries an average of 1.8 million barrels of oil a day, according to the Alaska Public Lands Information Centers website.)

### On this date:

In 1790, President George Washington signed into law the first U.S. copyright act.

In 1889, some 2,200 people in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, perished when the South Fork Dam collapsed, sending 20 million tons of water rushing through the town.

In 1910, the Union of South Africa was founded.

In 1916, during World War I, British and German fleets fought the naval Battle of Jutland off Denmark; there was no clear-cut victor, although the British suffered heavier losses.

In 1935, movie studio 20th Century Fox was created through a merger of the Fox Film Corp. and Twentieth Century Pictures.

In 1949, former State Department official and accused spy Alger Hiss went on trial in New York, charged with perjury (the jury deadlocked, but Hiss was convicted in a second trial).

In 1961, South Africa became an independent republic as it withdrew from the British Commonwealth.

In 1962, former Nazi official Adolf Eichmann was hanged in Israel a few minutes before midnight for his role in the Holocaust.

In 1970, a magnitude 7.9 earthquake in Peru claimed an estimated 67,000 lives.

In 1985, 88 people were killed, more than 1,000 injured, when 41 tornadoes swept through parts of Pennsylvania, Ohio, New York and Ontario, Canada, during an 8-hour period.

In 1994, the United States announced it was no longer aiming long-range nuclear missiles at targets in the former Soviet Union.

In 2005, breaking a silence of 30 years, former FBI official W. Mark Felt stepped forward as "Deep Throat," the secret Washington Post source during the Watergate scandal.

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush, under international pressure to take tough action against global warming, called for a world summit to set a long-term global strategy for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. In a breach of security, detailed plans for the new U.S. Embassy under construction in Baghdad appeared on the website of the architectural firm that was contracted to design the massive facility. Former Presidents Jimmy Carter, Bill Clinton and George H.W. Bush attended the dedication of the Billy Graham Library in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Five years ago: Democrat John Edwards' campaign finance fraud case ended in a mistrial when jurors in Greensboro, North Carolina, acquitted him on one of six charges but were unable to decide whether he'd misused money from two wealthy donors to hide his pregnant mistress while he ran for president. (Prosecutors declined to retry Edwards on the five unresolved counts.) President Barack Obama

welcomed his predecessor back to the White House for the unveiling of the official portraits of former President George W. Bush and former first lady Laura Bush. Fourteen-year-old Snigdha Nandipati (SNIHG'-nah nahn-dih-PAW'-tee) of San Diego won the 85th Scripps National Spelling Bee by correctly spelling "guetapens (GEHT'-uh-pawn)," a French-derived word meaning ambush, snare or trap.

One year ago: A jury found former suburban Chicago police officer Drew Peterson guilty of trying to hire someone to kill the prosecutor who helped to convict him in the killing of his third wife, Kathleen Savio. President Barack Obama personally congratulated the Villanova University men's basketball team for winning what he described as "maybe the best title game of all time" in the 2016 NCAA tournament.

Today's Birthdays: Actor-director Clint Eastwood is 87. Singer Peter Yarrow is 79. Former Humanitarian Terry Waite is 78. Singer-musician Augie Meyers is 77. Actress Sharon Gless is 74. Football Hall-of-Famer Joe Namath is 74. Broadcast journalist/commentator Bernard Goldberg is 72. Actor Tom Berenger is 67. Actor Gregory Harrison is 67. Actor Julio Oscar Mechoso is 62. Actor Kyle Secor is 60. Actress Roma Maffia (ma-FEE'-uh) is 59. Comedian Chris Elliott is 57. Actress Lea Thompson is 56. Singer Corey Hart is 55. Actor Hugh Dillon is 54. Rapper DMC is 53. Actress Brooke Shields is 52. Country musician Ed Adkins (The Derailers) is 50. TV host Phil Keoghan is 50. Jazz musician Christian McBride is 45. Actress Archie Panjabi is 45. Actor Colin Farrell is 41. Rock musician Scott Klopfenstein (Reel Big Fish) is 40. Actor Eric Christian Olsen is 40. Rock musician Andy Hurley (Fall Out Boy) is 37. Country singer Casey James (TV: "American Idol") is 35. Actor Jonathan Tucker is 35. Rapper Waka Flocka Flame is 31. Actor Curtis Williams Jr. is 30. Pop singer Normani Hamilton (Fifth Harmony) is 21.

***Thought for Today: "A conference is a gathering of important people who singly can do nothing, but together can decide that nothing can be done." - Fred Allen, American comedian (born this date in 1894, died in 1956).***

## Got a story to share?

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:

- **Second chapters** - You finished a great career. Now tell us about your second (and third and fourth?) chapters of life.



- **Spousal support** - How your spouse helped in supporting your work during your AP career.
- **My most unusual story** - tell us about an unusual, off the wall story that you covered.
- **"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.

- **Most unusual** place a story assignment took you.

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