



Paul Shane <pjshane@gmail.com>

Connecting - September 05, 2018

1 message

Paul Stevens <paulstevens46@gmail.com>
Reply-To: paulstevens46@gmail.com
To: pjshane@gmail.com

Wed, Sep 5, 2018 at 9:07 AM

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)



Connecting

September 05, 2018

Click [here](#) for sound of the Teletype



[Top AP News](#)
[Top AP photos](#)

[AP books](#)
[Connecting Archive](#)
[The AP Store](#)
[The AP Emergency Relief Fund](#)

Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning!

Today's Connecting brings you an AP "confession" from our colleague **Robert Reid** - on that day back in 1979 when the Shah of Iran left his country...and the AP beat UPI with the news by 90 minutes.

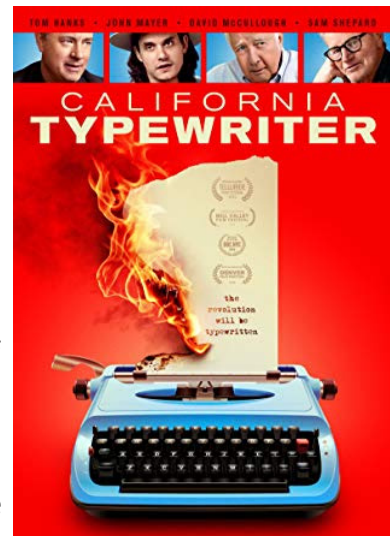
But there's much more to the story. You'll enjoy it immensely - guaranteed!

Also in today's issue - the first response, from **Jim Hood**, on our call on Tuesday for your stories about how you were impacted by the military draft during the Vietnam War.

And.... Do you still use a typewriter?

Here's an idea seeking your comments from Connecting colleague **Evelyn Dalton** ([Email](#)):

"Enjoyed the story last week about the typewriter repairman in Kansas City. You might get some mileage out of asking Connecting readers if they're still using typewriters, and for what. I have two and took them recently to be serviced at California Typewriter, a repair shop in Berkeley featured prominently in a **2017 documentary** by the same name. The movie includes interviews with Tom Hanks, John Mayer, David McCullough, Sam Shepard and others who love the old machines."



Connecting does not accept your stories written only on your typewriter, so you will need to transcribe to your computer before sending along!

Have a great day!

Paul

Beating UPI - an AP confession



The Shah of Iran and his wife leaving the country. (AP Photo)

Robert Reid ([Email](#)) - Beating UPI on a story was a huge deal in the AP "back in the day," especially on those rare stories that will live on in history. One of those moments came on Jan. 16, 1979, when the Shah of Iran left his country for the last time, opening the way to the Islamic revolution.

We knew that moment was coming ever since the Shah told a New Year's Day reception that he intended to take a foreign vacation soon. With the country convulsed by revolutionary fervor and support for the monarchy melting fast, everyone assumed that "vacation" really meant exile.

No one outside a tight palace circle knew when he would leave. On Jan. 15, however, the palace press office called selected media organizations, including AP, and invited them to send two representatives to an unexplained event at the military side of Mehrabad airport. We all assumed the Shah would be departing.

As the senior AP staffer on site, Otto Doelling, at the time the chief of Middle East Services, would take the airport assignment, along with our Iranian staffer, Parviz Raein. Our major hurdle was communications. International telephone lines out of Iran rarely functioned. We did have a telex, but revolutionaries at the state communications company kept cutting the circuit. Parviz hadn't had time to track down his mole there to get the circuit restored. As we waited for Otto and Parviz to return - remember there were no cell or satellite phones then -- Tom Kent and I had a less glamorous assignment: start dialing on the two office phones until we got through to New York and keep the line open no matter how long it took.

After dialing for what seemed like an eternity, I finally reached the foreign desk. The overnight supervisor, Harris Jackson, agreed to hold the line open and stand by. This was a stroke of luck. Harris was a wire genius. He could turn the most disorganized, unreadable copy into poetry. He knew the Iran story better than we did. All he needed was for someone to report the Shah had left. Harris would take care of the rest.

After some minutes the door to the office flew open. Otto and Parviz were back. But with no clarity. Armed soldiers had turned the press bus back at the main gate. Tehran had been awash with rumors that the army did not want the Shah to leave, realizing that meant an end of the monarchy and as it turned out, executions for the top commanders. Had the Shah left in secret? Were we in the first hours of a military coup?

Parviz, celebrated for his palace contacts, raced into his private quarters to work the phones. Moments later he emerged shouting "he's gone, he's left." Otto asked for the source. The Lord Chamberlain, Parviz replied. "He was crying as he told me he's gone," Parviz said. Otto nodded toward me and I told Harris the Shah had left Iran, citing a highly placed palace source. Tom and I passed on a bit of color about the situation in the country and then the line went dead. No problem, we thought. We have the basics out. The bulletin spread across the world.

Strangely, however, there was no departure announcement on Tehran radio. That seemed odd but not necessarily ominous. There were good reasons for the pro-Shah government to hold back until it was ready to cope with public reaction. Then Parviz struck terror into our thoughts with those awful words that none of us who heard them will ever forget: "There seems to be some confusion." Otto demanded an explanation. His hands shaking, Parviz said he had called the Lord Chamberlain again. It seemed that when he said the Shah had left, the Lord Chamberlain meant he had left the palace, not the country.

Tom and I lunged for the phones but no luck. We couldn't restore the connection. After repeated dialing, the mood turned somber. How could we explain such a terrible mistake? We all had flashes of our own lifetime exile back to night radio in

some obscure domestic bureau. After nearly 40 years I can't remember how long our agony lasted. It seemed, however, like hours.

Suddenly Tehran radio interrupted its programming. The Shah has left the country, the announcer said. In the nearby streets, we could hear huge cheers and the honking of horns. The city exploded in celebration.

Eventually we got through to New York by phone. But New York was frantic for photos, which could only be transmitted over phone lines. We turned the phones over to photos. New York was ecstatic over our "scoop." The truth - that we had reported the Shah's departure based on a total misunderstanding - remained our secret. The only time we feared we might be exposed was when AP Cairo, the Shah's destination, kept messaging us wondering why his plane hadn't arrived after so many hours in the air. We ignored the messages and soon they went away.

We swept the domestic and international play. At breakfast at the hotel the next morning, several colleagues from other news organizations stopped by our table to congratulate us on our "scoop" and marvel our great sourcing. For those of us involved, it became inside joke: we beat UPI by 90 minutes and the Shah by an hour.

How Jim Hood was thrown out of the Army

Jim Hood ([Email](#)) - I was drafted during the Vietnam War but had a remarkably short military career, lasting all of about 15 minutes.

I had been in Air Force ROTC for a couple of years while attending (more or less) college but decided that spending six years in blue after graduation was not for me. So I quit. Weeks later, the draft board reclassified me to 1-A and ordered me to report to the AFEES (Armed Forces Entrance & Examination Station) for a physical.

I passed handily but the draft board, in its wisdom, gave me a student deferment til the end of the semester. This routine went on for the next year -- AFEES, physical, short deferment.

Each time the demographics at the AFEES changed. The first time, most of my fellow inductees were young black street kids from E. St Louis. The second time,

they were mostly blue-collar guys, slightly older, and so on. The last time, white guys' wives were dropping them off while their babies napped in the back seat. Not a good sign.

For my last visit, my mentors at the draft board advised me to plan on a two-year absence from civilian life. So, toothbrush in hand, I showed up, hoping that if nothing else I would write one hell of a book about my sterling military career.

Instead, I encountered a recently drafted doctor not much older than me who cursed a blue streak about the Army, Lyndon Johnson, Robert McNamara and anyone else he could think of. He was, it turned out, the last person to decide whether I was combat-ready.

Continuing his curses, he glared at my right hand, which was resting on the counter.

"What the *** is the ****ing matter with your ****ing hand?" he demanded.

"Nothing," I said.

"Like hell, look at it. It's ****ed up," he insisted. "Make a ****ing fist."

I did and, as usual, my ring finger remained straight while the others curled nicely into fist position. (The result of a mishap involving a glass jar and my Boy Scout butterfly collection but that's another story).

"Hah!" he yelled. "You can't be in the ****ing Army with a ****ing hand like that. Get outta here!"

I thus found myself standing on the corner in downtown St. Louis, having sold my car, quit my job and given up my apartment. Just then, a Metro bus rolled up and I climbed aboard, headed for wherever it was going.

Postcript: Unlike a certain occupant of the White House, I was not declared 4-F but rather something obscure like 1-X, which meant that I might eventually be called if the Army needed guys with one usable hand. (For the record, I can type, open wine bottles, pet dogs and do just about anything else. Can't punch you with my right hand, though).

His second art exhibit to be held in Germany

Jeff Williams (Email) - About four years ago I took up oil painting and will soon be leaving for my second art exhibit in Germany - not because my work is memorable, but because I have a great friend there who is an artist and impresario.

That is Kurt Volkert, a former CBS News cameraman in Vietnam who I teamed up with after leaving AP in Cambodia in 1970 and being hired by CBS.

Kurt went on from cameraman to producer to Rome bureau chief, to writer and artist. He was my mentor and we will celebrate this reunion in a few weeks by joining an art show he is putting on in his home town of Konigswinter. My wife Vera will join Kurt and Gisela after the show for a visit to the Rhine Valley, where we will enjoy a case or two of fine wines.



More words on words - and changing, confusing, conflicting meanings

Henry Bradsher (Email) - Further on words, endless problems exist in changing, confusing or conflicting meanings.

A retired psychiatrist friend recently called one to my attention. He objected to a current usage of "presently." It should, he contended, refer to something in the near future: it will happen presently. But I find that the first definition given in the 1909 Oxford English Dictionary is "so as to be, or as being, present," used as early as the year 1380. It is only the OED's fourth definition, dated 1566, that means "in a little while." My latest edition of Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary says "both senses . . . are flourishing in current English, but many commentators have objected to the sense" of "at the present time." So what the psychiatrist learned in school many decades ago is to object.

My own schooling offered several definitions of "scout," even before I got to be 12 years old, then the minimum age for joining the Boy Scouts. There is, of course, the one that the OED defines as "spying out or watching," from the Old French. But I also learned a version that entered English from Scandinavian that no one knows any more: to mock at, to deride, to dismiss scornfully, as scouting some report. Using the word in that sense now would only confuse people.

And then there are two conflicting meanings of the word "fulsome." It is now used primarily in the OED's 1412 sense of "characterized by abundance, plentiful." The OED's sixth definition is one I long thought primary, "offensive to normal tastes," or its sixth, "offensive to good tastes, now chiefly used in reference to gross or excessive flattery." The Collegiate says the word was a generalized term of disparagement in the late 17th century but became a point of dispute when the word was revived in the 20th century. It adds that now "the chief danger for the user . . . is ambiguity," although I doubt that many now know the negative sense.

So it's fulsome to pursue such things too far.

And then there's the matter of long words. The longest real word (Disney inventions aren't real) has long been considered to be *antidisestablishmentarianism*. It came into use in 19th-century English arguments about ending the Anglican church's status as the established religion. The disestablishment advocates were opposed by the anti-crowd.

I once contrived to work the word into the lede of a report from India. Not having a copy now, I believe it went something like this:

"Doubts about the existence of the abominable snowman have run into *antidisestablishmentarianism*.

"The established view of many in the Himalayas has been that some sort of huge, hairy monster, known locally as a yeti, lives high in the mountains. Sightings in dim conditions have been claimed and large footprints spotted in the snow.

"This has been met with disestablishment arguments that doubt the sightings and explain the footprints as sun-melted expansions of small animal tracks.

"But now comes what is known in English history as *antidisestablishmentarianism* in the argument over whether the Anglican church should be the state religion.

"In the abominable snowman case, it is a strenuous defense of yeti sightings and footprints."

AP Photo of the Day



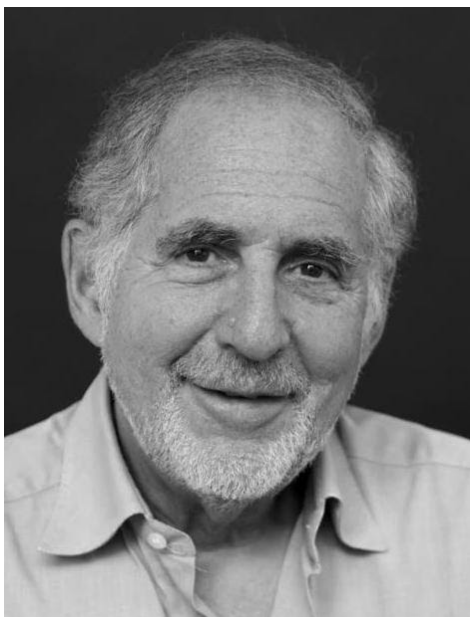
Fred Guttenberg, the father of Jamie Guttenberg who was killed in the shooting in Parkland, Fla., left, tries to shake hands with Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh during a lunch break. Kavanaugh did not shake his hand. (AP Photo/Andrew Harnik)

[Click here](#) for the AP story.

Connecting new-member profile - Fred Coleman

Fred Coleman ([Email](#)) - Born New York City, grew up in Oakland CA; BA Princeton, 1960. Career with AP: 1961 State House Bureau, Trenton, NJ; 1962 United Nations Bureau; 1963 Canada Correspondent, based Ottawa; 1964-67 Moscow Bureau; 1967-76 London Bureau ending as News Editor. Fond memories of

AP years - especially camaraderie of colleagues and highest professional standards of objective journalism.



With Newsweek: 1976 -79 Moscow Bureau Chief; 1979 -81 Chief Diplomatic Correspondent, Washington DC; 1981-83 Executive Editor, Newsweek International, NY; 1983-88 Paris Bureau Chief; 1988-92 Moscow Bureau Chief. Career Highlight: Covering Soviet Union from fall of Khrushchev to collapse of USSR under Khrushchev, Brezhnev, Gorbachev and Yeltsin, first with AP, then Newsweek. Prize: Page One Award from the New York Newspaper Guild of New York for best reporting from abroad for magazines, for a series in Newsweek on human rights in the USSR.

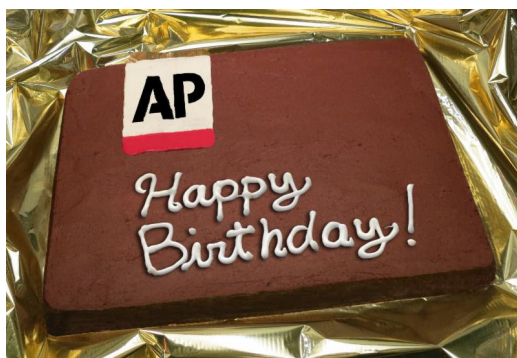
1993 - 2006 In Paris first as correspondent US News & World Report, then USA Today, and finally as an editor on the opinion pages of the

International Herald Tribune.

Books: "The Decline and Fall of the Soviet Empire" St. Martin's Press 1996; "The Marcel Network" Potomac Books, 2012.

Married in Moscow 1965, Nadine Tartavez, an interpreter at the French Embassy. Two children, Eric and Cynthia, two grandchildren. Nadine and I live in Paris and at a farmhouse in Normandy.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Tad Bartimus - hanagirl@aol.com

Jim McElroy - jmcelroy37@comcast.net

Welcome to Connecting



Sue Barr - susieclaire@icloud.com

Jeannie Eblen - jkeblen@sunflower.com

Jill Lawrence - jilldlawrence@hotmail.com

It's Time for the Press to Stop Complaining-And to Start Fighting Back

By CHUCK TODD

For The Atlantic

I've devoted much of my professional life to the study of political campaigns, not as a historian or an academic but as a reporter and an analyst. I thought I'd seen it all, from the bizarre upset that handed a professional wrestler the governorship of Minnesota to the California recall that gave us the Governor to candidates who die but stay on the ballot and win.

But there's a new kind of campaign underway, one that most of my colleagues and I have never publicly reported on, never fully analyzed, and never fully acknowledged: the campaign to destroy the legitimacy of the American news media.

Bashing the media for political gain isn't new, and neither is manipulating the media to support or oppose a cause. These practices are at least as old as the Gutenberg press. But antipathy toward the media right now has risen to a level I've never personally experienced before. The closest parallel in recent American history is the hostility to reporters in the segregated South in the 1950s and '60s.

Then, as now, that hatred was artificially stoked by people who found that it could deliver them some combination of fame, wealth, and power.

Read more [here](#).

Today in History - September 5, 2018



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Sept. 5, the 248th day of 2018. There are 117 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On Sept. 5, 1972, the Palestinian group Black September attacked the Israeli Olympic delegation at the Munich Games; 11 Israelis, five guerrillas and a police officer were killed in the resulting siege.

On this date:

In 1698, Russia's Peter the Great imposed a tax on beards.

In 1774, the first Continental Congress assembled in Philadelphia.

In 1882, the nation's first Labor Day was celebrated with a parade in New York. (Although Labor Day now takes place on the first Monday of September, this first celebration occurred on a Tuesday.)

In 1939, four days after war had broken out in Europe, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued a proclamation declaring U.S. neutrality in the conflict.

In 1945, Japanese-American Iva Toguri D'Aquino, suspected of being wartime broadcaster "Tokyo Rose," was arrested in Yokohama. (D'Aquino was later convicted of treason and served six years in prison; she was pardoned in 1977 by President Gerald R. Ford.)

In 1960, at the Rome Olympics, American boxer Cassius Clay (Muhammad Ali) defeated Zbigniew Pietrzykowski (zuh-BIG'-nee-ehf pee-eh-t-chah-KAHF'-skee) of Poland to win the light-heavyweight gold medal; Wilma Rudolph of the United States won the second of her three gold medals with the 200-meter sprint.

In 1961, President John F. Kennedy signed legislation making aircraft hijackings a federal crime.

In 1975, President Gerald R. Ford escaped an attempt on his life by Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme, a disciple of Charles Manson, in Sacramento, California.

In 1986, four hijackers who had seized a Pan Am jumbo jet on the ground in Karachi, Pakistan, opened fire when the lights inside the plane failed; a total of 20 people were killed before Pakistani commandos stormed the jetliner.

In 1997, breaking the royal reticence over the death of Princess Diana, Britain's Queen Elizabeth II delivered a televised address in which she called her former daughter-in-law "a remarkable person." Mother Teresa died in Calcutta, India, at age 87; conductor Sir Georg Solti (johrj SHOL'-tee) died in France at age 84.

In 2002, Afghan President Hamid Karzai (HAH'-mihd KAHR'-zy) survived an assassination attempt in Kandahar, hours after an explosives-packed car tore through a Kabul market.

In 2005, President George W. Bush nominated John Roberts to succeed the late William Rehnquist as chief justice of the United States. An Indonesian jetliner crashed, killing 149 people, including 49 on the ground; 17 passengers survived.

Ten years ago: Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice became the highest-ranking American official in half a century to visit Libya, where she met Moammar Gadhafi. Europe's Rosetta space probe flew by the Steins asteroid 250 million miles from Earth. Publishing giant Robert Giroux, who'd guided and supported dozens of great writers from T.S. Eliot and Jack Kerouac to Bernard Malamud and Susan Sontag, died in Tinton Falls, New Jersey, at age 94.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama, in St. Petersburg for a G-20 summit, pressed fellow world leaders to support a U.S. strike on Syria; however, he encountered opposition from Russia, China and even the European Union, who said it was too soon for military action.

One year ago: President Donald Trump announced that he was phasing out the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA, program protecting young immigrants who were brought to the country illegally, but said he was giving Congress six months to come up with an alternative; he later tweeted that if Congress couldn't do so, he would "revisit" the issue. Hurricane Irma strengthened to a Category 5 storm as it approached the northeast Caribbean on a path toward the United States.

Today's Birthdays: Former Federal Reserve Board chairman Paul A. Volcker is 91. Comedian-actor Bob Newhart is 89. Actress-singer Carol Lawrence is 86. Former NFL All-Pro quarterback and college football Hall of Famer Billy Kilmer is 79. Actor William Devane is 79. Actor George Lazenby is 79. Actress Raquel Welch is 78. Movie director Werner Herzog is 76. Singer Al Stewart is 73. Actor-director Dennis Dugan is 72. College Football Hall of Famer Jerry LeVias is 72. Singer Loudon Wainwright III is 72. Soul/rock musician Mel Collins is 71. "Cathy" cartoonist Cathy Guisewite (GYZ'-wyt) is 68. Actor Michael Keaton is 67. Country musician Jamie Oldaker (The Tractors) is 67. Actress Debbie Turner-Larson (Marta in "The Sound of Music") is 62. Actress Kristian Alfonso is 55. Rhythm-and-blues singer Terry Ellis is 55. Rock musician Brad Wilk is 50. TV personality Dweezil Zappa is 49. Actress Rose McGowan is 45. Actress Carice Van Houten is 42. Rock musician Kyle O'Quin (Portugal. The Man) is 33. Actor Andrew Ducote is 32. Actress Kat Graham is 32. Olympic gold medal figure skater Yuna Kim is 28. Actor Skandar Keynes is 27.

Thought for Today: "Those who foresee the future and recognize it as tragic are often seized by a madness which forces them to commit the very acts which makes it certain that what they dread shall happen." - Dame Rebecca West, Irish author and journalist (1892-1983).

Got a story or photos 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.



Paul Stevens
Editor, Connecting newsletter

paulstevens46@gmail.com

Connecting newsletter, [14719 W 79th Ter, Lenexa, KS 66215](#)

SafeUnsubscribe™ pjshane@gmail.com

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by paulstevens46@gmail.com in collaboration with



Try it free today