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Connecting - February 01, 2019

1 message

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Fri, Feb 1, 2019 at 9:23 AM

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Connecting

February 01, 2019

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Colleagues,

Good Friday morning - and here's to the new month of February!

One of the most revolutionary changes the AP introduced to its members was the electronic photo darkroom - called the LeafDesk, back in the early 1990s. It dramatically changed the way AP photo members handled AP photos - and has led to many more major changes in news photography.

A man who played a key role in that implementation was **Jim Dietz**, and we are sorry to report that he died in Atlanta on Wednesday while part of the Getty Images team covering the Super Bowl.



Dietz was a well-regarded member of the AP Photos staff during his 18 years with the news cooperative. If you have a memory to share, please send along.

Have a good weekend!

Paul

Formerly worked for AP

Getty Images' Jim Dietz dies while on assignment at Super Bowl



Amy Sancetta posted on Facebook: Heartsick at the news of the loss of friend and colleague Jim Dietz. Such a warm and good man. A great AP teammate and an even

better friend. Peace to you Jim. Peace. This is Jim showing us all how it's done at the Men's Final 4 in Detroit some years back. - with Paul Sancya, Charlie Neibergall, Tim Donnelly, Jim Dietz, Mark Weisheimer, Carlos Osorio and Bob Graves.

Jim Dietz, editorial events engineer with Getty Images who earlier worked for the AP and was instrumental in conversion of members to the electronic darkroom, died Wednesday while on assignment for Getty at the Super Bowl in Atlanta.

"Jim was a longtime member of the AP photo team working in the State Photo Center and later as our Photo Technology Operations Manager," said J. David Ake, AP director of photography in an email to the U.S. photo staff. "Jim was a kind-hearted, can-do kind of guy who never met a problem he wasn't willing to tackle. While some of his solutions would leave you scratching your head, the glee he took in working it out was a marvel to watch. We will miss our friend Jim and his frequent laugh."

Dietz worked for Getty Images for the past five years.

According to his LinkedIn page, Dietz was a phototechnology adviser for the AP from 1991-1993 before joining The Baltimore Sun as photo editor for the Sun's Today section and Sun Magazine.

"Jim was a Kansas State photojournalism grad who I got to know while covering football in Manhattan many years ago," said former AP Kansas City assistant bureau chief and photographer Cliff Schiappa. "Jim was always full of energy and always had a very positive attitude. We were colleagues on the PhotoStream Advisory Team in the early 90s and I would always go to him for technical questions because he could explain it in simple, straightforward language.

He left the Sun in 1995 to return to the AP as project manager for software products and technical implementation in the Washington bureau. He served as chief picture editor for the State Photo Center in Washington from 2004 to 2007, then was photo technology operations manager from 2008 to 2011 before leaving the AP.

Remembering Jim Dietz...

Hal Buell (Email) - Jim Dietz was one of those AP photo people who was deeply involved in both the photography and the technology of the AP photo service. As such he was one of the valued members of the trainer team that visited member newspapers to explain how PhotoStream, the new digital world of AP photography, would operate.

For more than a year Jim and his colleagues, some 12 photo staff headed up by Claudia DiMartino, raced up and down American highways visiting every AP photo member. They spread the word and demonstrated the system that would revolutionize wire service photo handling and at the same time change the way newspapers published photographs.

It was a critical task that required careful, diplomatic language to explain how member photo publishing procedures would move from newspaper back shops to the newsroom. Not to mention the lugging around of a 100 pounds of equipment for demonstration purposes. Jim's good-natured approach and knowledge was an asset.

After PhotoStream Jim spent several years in Washington reorganizing AP's U.S. regional network operations. He left AP and eventually joined Getty Images where for several years he has covered numerous news events stitching together technology and photography operations.

Back in his AP days and currently he has been active at the Eddie Adams Workshop contributing his know-how to setup the technology for lectures and editing exercises.

Jim was always a helpful colleague and a friendly companion. He will be missed.

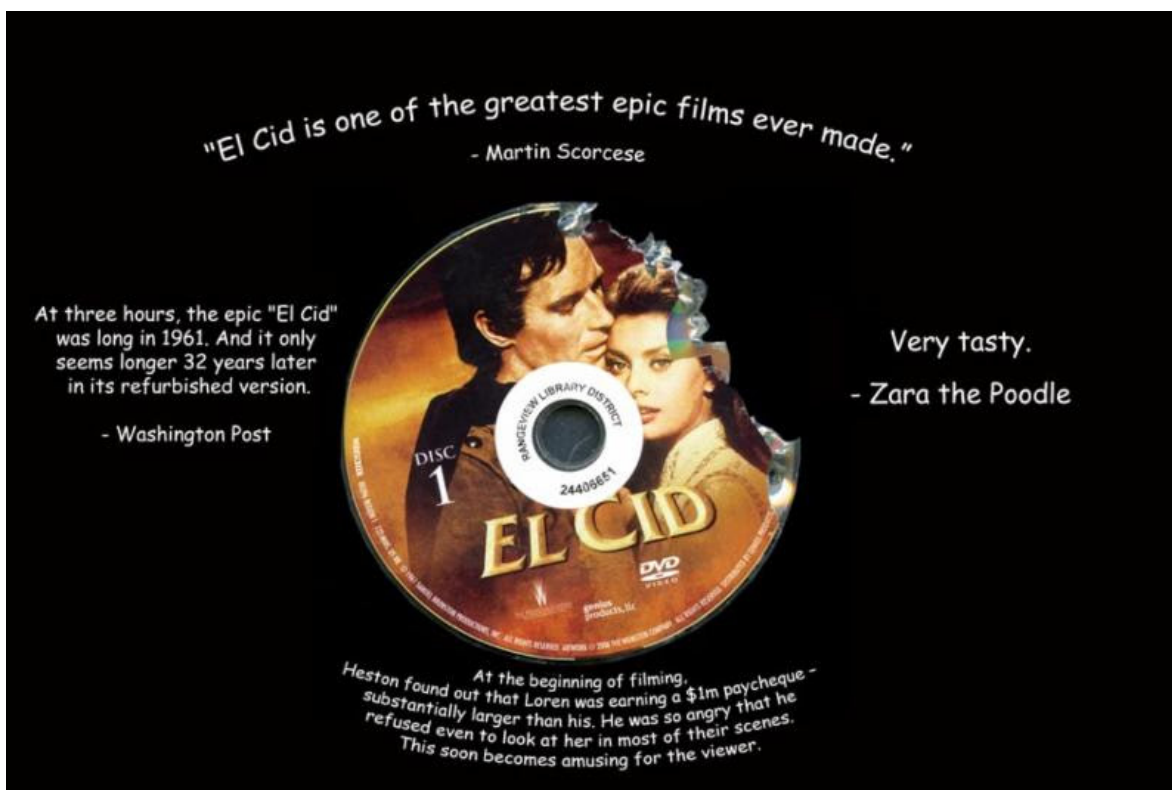
Connecting mailbox

From the Super Bowl



AP NFL Writer Rob Maaddi ([Email](#)) chats Thursday with Pro Football Hall of Famer Brian Dawkins (right) at Radio Row on the Super Bowl editions of PodcastOne Sports Now.

The dog ate it...really!



Neal Ulevich (Email) - THE DOG ATE IT - A variation on every student's favorite excuse for not turning in home work...

I left a public library copy of the DVD of El Cid, one of the longest if not best epic films ever made. Her dog ate it. I returned the damaged DVD to the library with a poster I made to mark the occasion. After the librarian stopped laughing she said in light of my creativity I would not be charged for a replacement.

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Favorite journalism movie: The Paper

Mark Mittelstadt (Email) - Connecting readers weighed in with many great movies about journalism and journalists. Some I've seen, some I now want to see.

My favorite continues to be The Paper. In just under two hours, the 1994 film touches on multiple journalism idiosyncrasies and truths: the rush to get (and of getting) the story; professional jealousies; the dysfunctional daily news planning meeting, predictably held too close to deadline; most journalists cheating loved ones out of time and attention as they chase the love/hate of their chosen profession; the fight over seemingly minor things (a staffer's chair, a stapler); reliance on Coke (although my preference was Diet Coke) to get through a hectic news day.

The screen-play was crisp and well done, although some lines were predictably cliché (Michael McDougal (Randy Quaid): "What's with all the grunt work? I'm a columnist." Metro editor Henry Hackett (Michael Keaton): "You're not a columnist. You're a reporter who writes long.") Critics generally praised the movie but a few thought it too quickly tidied up all the principals' conflicts within the 24 hours of a day in the life of the (then-fictional) tabloid New York Sun.



I feel I encountered many of The Paper's characters, and their issues, during my career. Substitute "photographer" for "columnist" and I supervised a Michael

McDougal for many years at The Associated Press.

I also loved press rooms. They almost universally were staffed by decent, hard-working individuals who were just as committed to producing the news as the reporters and photographers in the newsroom.

And what journalist wouldn't want the chance to run in among the thundering behemoths and yell "STOP THE PRESSES!" I did, although it was nowhere near as dramatic as portrayed in the movie. At The Record in Cedar Falls, Iowa, we were closing up shop and the presses were just starting up when a UPI bulletin reported the death of Pope John Paul I after just 33 days. I went next door to the pressroom, told the supervisor what was happening and that I wanted to re-do the front page and re-plate. He agreed and held the run for 30 minutes. Our front page the following morning caught readers by surprise. Some thought it must have had to do with the previous pope. Many said scooping the paper off their driveway was the first they knew of the pope's death.

A couple scenes remain with me. One was the Glenn Close character, managing editor Alicia Clark, demanding a raise and the response of editor in chief Bernie White (Robert Duvall): "Well, the people we cover - we move in their world but it is their world. You can't live like them, Alicia. You'll never keep up. Now, if you try and make this job about the money, you'll be nothing but miserable, 'cause we don't get the money - never have, never will."

The other was Henry coming home after the challenging -- yet ultimately honorable -- day at the newspaper to find that his pregnant wife had been taken away for an emergency C-section. He rushed to the hospital to learn she had just given birth to a healthy baby boy. He fell asleep next to her. A morning news radio segment reported that due to the Sun's exclusive story, two Brooklyn teens wrongly arrested for murder were released from jail.

The 24-hour miracle of producing a daily newspaper gave way at least momentarily to the miracle of parenthood.

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Presenting Member of Year award, chatting with governor



Kia Breaux (Email) - We held another successful Missouri Press Association/Associated Press Day at the Capitol. A highlight was presenting my friend, Carol Stark, editor of The Joplin Globe, with the AP Member of the Year Award. I also enjoyed chatting with Missouri Gov. Mike Parson about issues surrounding open government.

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Former AP Philadelphia vets gather for lunch



Ted Duncombe ([Email](#)) - Former AP Philadelphia veterans (from left) Dick Lawyer, Bill Stieg, Ted Duncombe and Judy Capar got together for lunch, reminiscences, updates and much laughter on Jan. 30 in Malvern, Pa. Dick, who retired from the AP in 2009 after 37 years, travels the globe as a teacher and board chairman of SALT Leadership Inc. Bill, who also worked in the New York City Bureau during the 1980s, is recently retired from Men's Health magazine. Ted and Judy are both senior writers at Vanguard, working on corporate and retail communications, respectively.

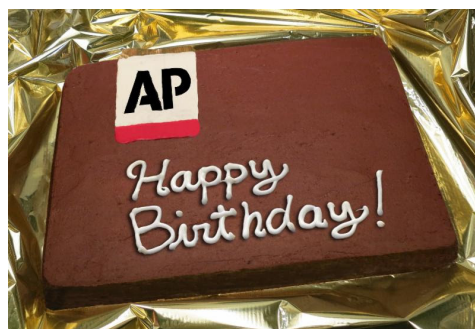
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Reunion of current, former AP Indianapolis staffers



Current and former members of the Indianapolis staff gathered recently (Jan. 24) for a reunion in the current bureau. Pictured are (front row, from left) photographer Darron Cummings, retired administrative assistant Phyllis McQueen, photographer Michael Conroy; (back row, from left) retired technician Richard Keltner, retired former COB Keith Robinson, newsperson Ken Kusmer, health writer Tom Murphy, newsperson Rick Callahan, former news editor Jeni O'Malley, and newsperson Tom Davies.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



On Sunday to...

Matthew Pennington - mpennington@ap.org

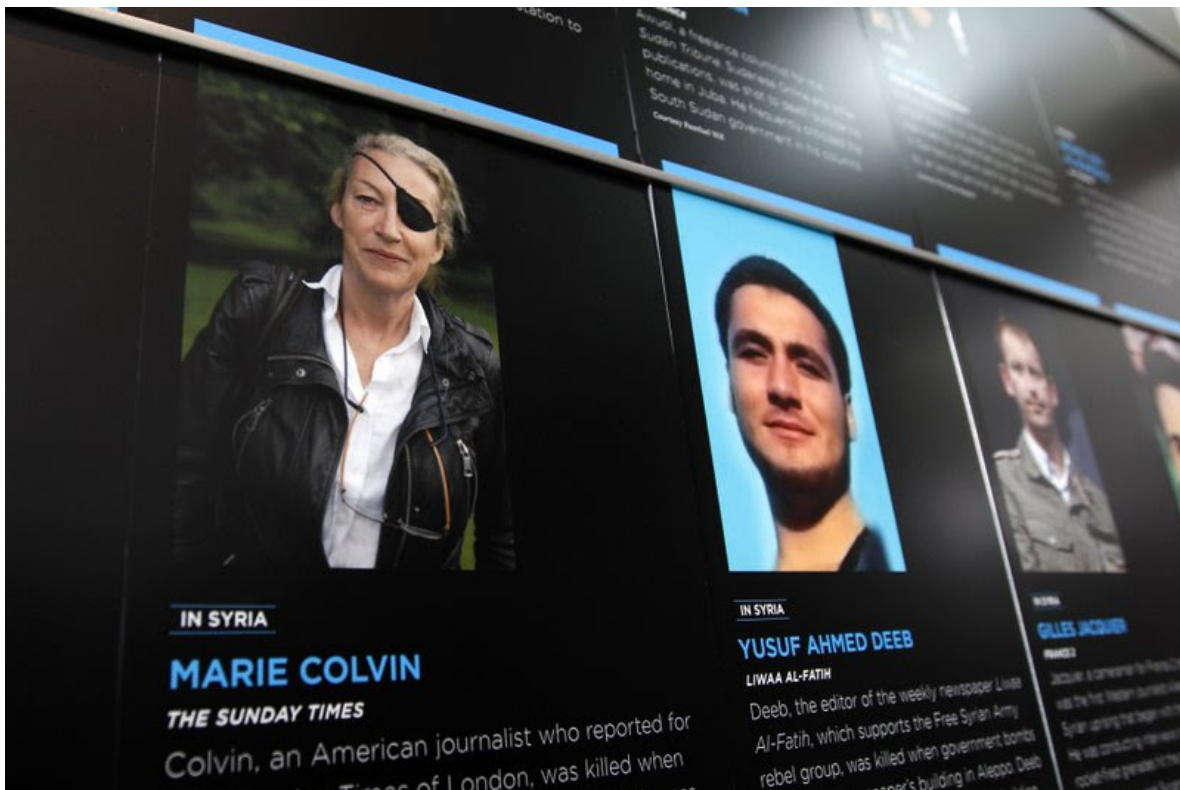
Welcome to Connecting



Terry McElroy - jemc424@hotmail.com

Stories of interest

Judge awards \$300M to family of journalist killed in Syria



FILE- In this May 13, 2013, file photo, the photo of Journalist Marie Colvin who was killed

in Syria while she was reporting from there, is seen on the wall of the Newseum during the Journalist Memorial Re-dedication ceremony of the journalists who died reporting the news in 2012 in Washington. Seven years after Colvin was killed while covering the Syrian revolution, a Washington court has found the Syrian government liable and awarded more than \$300 million in damages (AP Photo/Jose Luis Magana, File)

By ASHRAF KHALIL

WASHINGTON (AP) - A Washington judge has hit the Syrian government with a \$302 million judgment over the 2012 death of journalist Marie Colvin, a longtime foreign correspondent for The Sunday Times.

In a verdict unsealed late Wednesday night, U.S. District Court Judge Amy Berman Jackson concluded the Syrian military had deliberately targeted the makeshift media center in the city of Homs where Colvin and other journalists were working. Sustained artillery barrages against the apartment building housing the media center killed Colvin and French photographer Remi Ochlik on Feb. 22, 2012.

Colvin, who had covered conflicts around the world for the British newspaper, wore a signature black patch over her left eye after being blinded by a grenade in Sri Lanka in 2001. The 2018 film "A Private War" was based on her life.

Lawyers for Colvin's family argued that her death was no accident. They hope to recover the \$302 million verdict by targeting frozen Syrian government assets overseas. The Syrian government has never responded to the suit.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Sibby Christensen.

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Opinion: The Six Forms of Media Bias (New York Times)

By David Leonhardt

Opinion Columnist

This article is part of David Leonhardt's newsletter. You can sign up [here](#) to receive it each weekday.

"Impartiality is still a value worth defending in mainstream news coverage," writes Margaret Sullivan, the Washington Post media critic. "But you don't get there by walking down the center line with a blindfold on."

Her column is a *cri de coeur* against the media's bias toward centrism. Too often, journalists confuse centrism with fairness, objectivity or common-sense truth. But centrism is none of those. It is a point of view, and it can be wrong, just as conservatism or liberalism can be.

Centrists were wrong about the urgency of reducing the deficit over the past decade. They were wrong about the Iraq war in 2003, wrong about the economic might of Japan in the 1980s and wrong about the economic might of the Soviet Union before that.

Read more [here](#).

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Opinion: Want to Stop Fake News? Pay for the Real Thing (New York Times)

By David Chavern

Mr. Chavern is president of the News Media Alliance, a trade association for news publishers.

Facebook and Google have been brutal to the news business. But this primarily reflects a failure of imagination. The tech giants are the world's best distribution platforms and could be an answer for journalism instead of a grave threat.

As readers have shifted to digital sources, the two companies have taken a large majority of online advertising revenue. More important, the platforms now act as "regulators" of the news business - determining what information gets delivered to whom, and when. With the flick of an algorithmic finger, those two companies decide what news you see and whether a publisher lives or dies.

The impact on journalism has been clear. Just within the past week, we have seen over 1,000 planned layoffs at Gannett, BuzzFeed and HuffPost, and no one thinks we are anywhere near the end. Facebook and Google's answer so far has been to pledge to spend \$300 million each over the next three years to help journalism. But that money will be dribbled across a huge news landscape, and much of it will undoubtedly be used to encourage further use of Facebook and Google products.

But such investments amount to charity, and charity will never be the answer. What news publishers really need are active partners who are willing to embrace the idea that quality journalism sustains our civic society and that the answer to bad information is more good information.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Sibby Christensen.

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Reuters article highlights ethical issues with native advertising (CJR)

By JOSHUA CARROLL

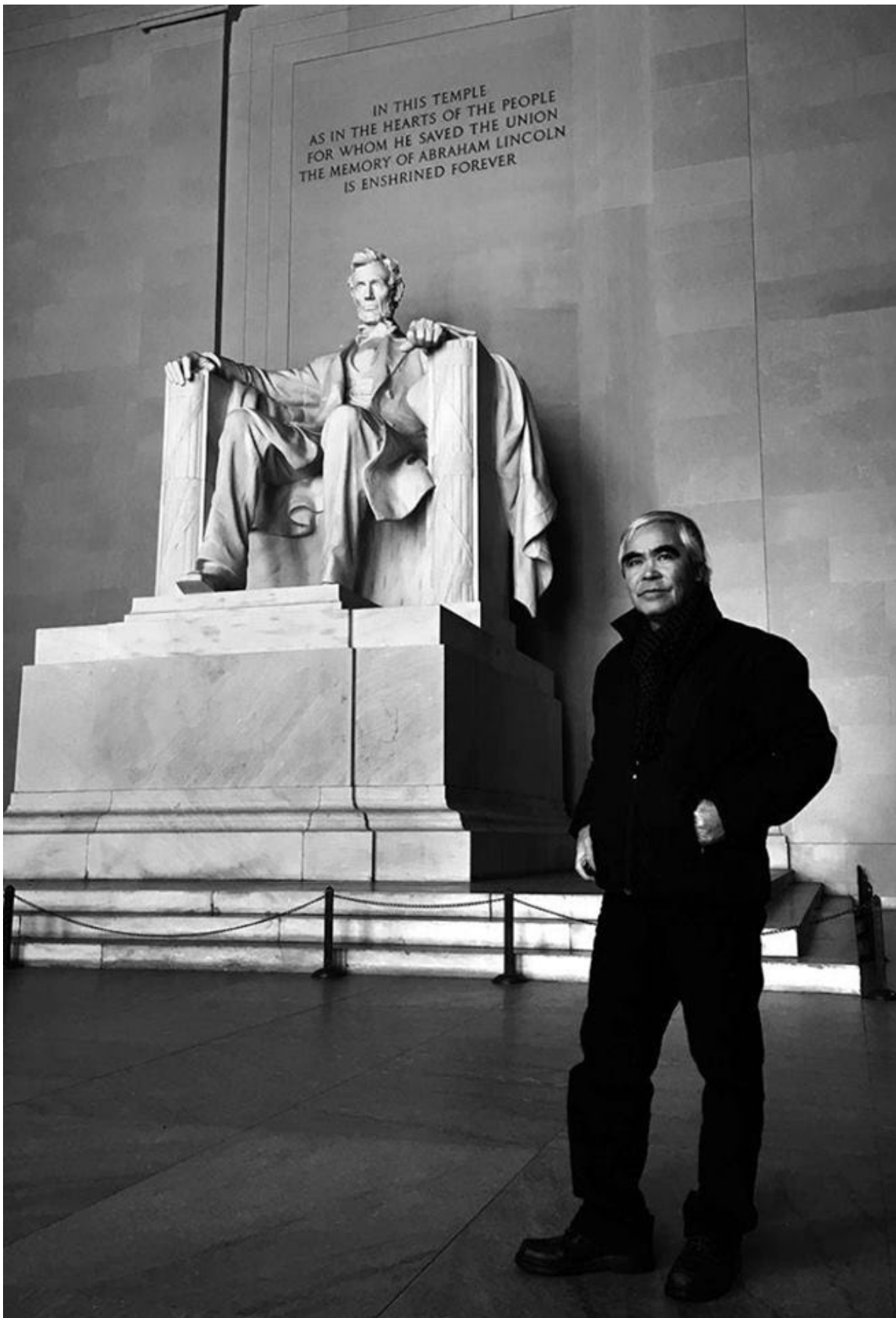
WHEN AUBREY BELFORD STARTED WORK as a special correspondent for Reuters in Southeast Asia, his new colleagues in the Bangkok bureau were working on a series of articles that would earn them a 2014 Pulitzer Prize. One piece exposed how certain members of the Thai navy and police were involved in the trafficking of Rohingya migrants from Myanmar into the seafood industry. This, along with another Pulitzer-winning series by the Associated Press, helped put pressure on Thailand's leaders to do more to tackle trafficking.

In November, Belford came across another article on Reuters's website about seafood slavery in the country. This one struck a different tone; paid for by Thailand's military junta, it touted a "sea change in ethical marine commerce" brought about by reforms that included "stringent measures to protect the rights of workers."

Belford is firmly against the use of native advertising-paid stories that look and feel like a publication's own journalism-but this piece was especially egregious, he felt, because it gave space to a government to whitewash abuses on one of the same platforms on which they were exposed.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Bob Daugherty.

The Final Word



David Kennerly (Email) - I took this photo of Nick Ut three years ago, and will repost it (on Facebook) every year on this date. Nick won the Pulitzer Prize in 1973 for his picture of little Kim Phuc running down the road after being scorched by napalm. Nick became a refugee when the North Vietnamese took over his

homeland, and made his way to the United States, where he has now lived for 44 years. This image exemplifies what our country means to me. Refugee, immigrant, and American. Nick Ut standing with Abraham Lincoln. Two of the best that our country has ever had to offer. Lincoln would have been proud.

Today in History - February 1, 2019



By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Feb. 1, the 32nd day of 2019. There are 333 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 1, 1960, four black college students began a sit-in protest at a Woolworth's lunch counter in Greensboro, North Carolina, where they'd been refused service.

On this date:

In 1790, the U.S. Supreme Court convened for the first time in New York. (However, since only three of the six justices were present, the court recessed until the next day.)

In 1862, "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," a poem by Julia Ward Howe, was published in the Atlantic Monthly.

In 1942, during World War II, the Voice of America broadcast its first program to Europe, relaying it through the facilities of the British Broadcasting Corp. in London.

In 1943, during World War II, one of America's most highly decorated military units, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, made up almost exclusively of Japanese-Americans, was authorized.

In 1946, Norwegian statesman Trygve Lie (TRIHG'-vuh lee) was chosen to be the first secretary-general of the United Nations.

In 1959, men in Switzerland rejected giving women the right to vote by a more than 2-1 referendum margin. (Swiss women gained the right to vote in 1971.)

In 1968, during the Vietnam War, South Vietnam's police chief (Nguyen Ngoc Loan) executed a Viet Cong officer with a pistol shot to the head in a scene captured by news photographers. Richard M. Nixon announced his bid for the Republican presidential nomination.

In 1979, Iranian religious leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini (hoh-MAY'-nee) received a tumultuous welcome in Tehran as he ended nearly 15 years of exile.

In 1982, "Late Night with David Letterman" premiered on NBC.

In 1993, Gary Bettman took office as the National Hockey League's first commissioner, succeeding the NHL's final president, Gil Stein.

In 1994, Jeff Gillooly, Tonya Harding's ex-husband, pleaded guilty in Portland, Ore., to racketeering for his part in the attack on figure skater Nancy Kerrigan in exchange for a 24-month sentence (he ended up serving six) and a \$100,000 fine.

In 2003, the space shuttle Columbia broke up during re-entry, killing all seven of its crew members: commander Rick Husband; pilot William McCool; payload commander Michael Anderson; mission specialists Kalpana Chawla, David Brown and Laurel Clark; and payload specialist Ilan Ramon (ee-LAHN' rah-MOHN'), the first Israeli in space.

Ten years ago: The Pittsburgh Steelers defeated the Arizona Cardinals 27-23 to win Super Bowl XLIII (43). Rafael Nadal held off Roger Federer to win the Australian Open, 7-5, 3-6, 7-6 (3), 3-6, 6-2. Olympic great Michael Phelps acknowledged "bad

judgment" after a photo in a British newspaper showed him inhaling from a marijuana pipe. Australian firefighter Dave Tree was photographed giving water to an injured koala found in burned brushland in Victoria state; the rescued female koala, dubbed "Sam," became an Internet sensation, but ended up being euthanized in Aug. 2009.

Five years ago: The United Nations' secretary-general, Ban Ki-moon, pressed the U.S. and Russia to help ensure that peace talks aimed at stemming Syria's civil war would resume soon after a week of peace talks ended in Geneva with no concrete progress. Ray Guy became the first punter elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame; joining the long-time Oakland Raider were two first-time eligible players, linebacker Derrick Brooks and offensive tackle Walter Jones, as well as defensive end Michael Strahan, receiver Andre Reed, defensive back Aeneas Williams and defensive end Claude Humphrey. Peyton Manning won his fifth Associated Press NFL Most Valuable Player award in a landslide. Academy Award-winning actor Maximilian Schell, 83, died in Innsbruck, Austria.

One year ago: Republican State Rep. Don Shooter was expelled from the Arizona House because of a lengthy pattern of sexual misconduct, making him the first state lawmaker in the U.S. to be booted out since the #MeToo movement emerged. Sheriff's officials in Los Angeles said new witnesses had emerged in the 1981 drowning death of actress Natalie Wood, prompting investigators to name her former husband, Robert Wagner, a "person of interest" in what they considered a "suspicious death." (Detectives later said the evidence hadn't reached the threshold for a murder investigation and that they had no plans to file criminal charges.) A judge ordered a Wisconsin girl, Morgan Geyser, to be committed to a mental hospital for 40 years for stabbing a classmate when she was 12 years old to curry favor with the fictional horror character Slender Man.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Stuart Whitman is 91. Folk singer Bob Shane (The Kingston Trio) is 85. Singer Don Everly is 82. Actor Garrett Morris is 82. Bluegrass singer Del McCoury is 80. TV personality-singer Joy Philbin is 78. Comedian-actor-director Terry Jones is 77. Political commentator Fred Barnes is 76. Sen. Mike Enzi, R-Wyo., is 75. Rock musician Mike Campbell (Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers) is 69. Blues singer-musician Sonny Landreth is 68. Actor-writer-producer Bill Mummy (MOO'-mee) is 65. Rock singer Exene Cervenka is 63. Actor Linus Roache is 55. Princess Stephanie of Monaco is 54. Country musician Dwayne Dupuy (Ricochet) is 54. Actress Sherilyn Fenn is 54. Lisa Marie Presley is 51. Comedian-actor Pauly Shore is 51. Actor Brian Krause is 50. Jazz musician Joshua Redman is 50. Rock musician Patrick Wilson (Weezer) is 50. Actor Michael C. Hall is 48. Rock musician Ron Welty is 48. Rapper Big Boi (Outkast) is 44. Roots rocker Jason Isbell is 40. Country singer Julie Roberts is 40. Actor Jarrett Lennon is 37. Rock singer-musician Andrew VanWyngarden is 36. TV personality Lauren Conrad is 33. Actress-singer Heather Morris is 32. Actress and mixed martial artist Ronda Rousey is 32. Rock singer Harry Styles (One Direction) is 25.

Thought for Today: "To forgive is wisdom, to forget is genius." - Joyce Cary, Anglo-Irish author (1888-1957).

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.



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2/12/2019

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