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Connecting - June 05, 2019

1 message

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Wed, Jun 5, 2019 at 8:54 AM

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Connecting

June 05, 2019

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Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning on this the 5th day of June 2019,

Today's issue brings more of your stories on connections to D-Day - as the 75th anniversary of the Allied landings on the Normandy coast occurs Thursday and those who took part are honored and remembered.

Connecting also brings comment from colleagues on AP and other journalists appearing on cable talk shows, and the line they walk in providing opinion.

Have a great day!

Paul

AP Was There: D-Day correspondent returns 10 years later



FILE - In this February 1944, file photo, Don Whitehead, Associated Press correspondent, writes his story of the landing at Anzio Beach in Italy, from a fox hole. Whitehead, known by his colleagues as "Beachhead Don," returned to Normandy for the tenth anniversary of the D-Day invasion, June 5, 1954, which he covered when he followed the 1st Infantry Division onto Omaha Beach. (AP Photo/Bill Allen, File)

By DON WHITEHEAD

OMAHA BEACH, Normandy (AP) - This story was first published on June 5, 1954 AP journalist Don Whitehead, known by his colleagues as "Beachhead Don," returned to Normandy for the tenth anniversary of the D-Day invasion, which he covered when he followed the 1st Infantry Division onto Omaha Beach. The AP is republishing Whitehead's tenth anniversary story on the 75th anniversary of the assault that began the liberation of France and Europe from German occupation, leading to the end World War II.

Between the rows of white crosses they walked hand in hand, the gray-haired man and woman who had traveled across an ocean to visit the American cemetery overlooking the invasion beaches of Normandy.

They walked slowly among their memories of the dead. And then they paused besides a cross distinguished from thousands of others only by the name and number it bore. They stood and looked for a long moment at the name. They were alone with a heartbreak that went back to that day of invasion, June 6, 1944.

Above the man and woman and the crosses rose the outlines of the cemetery chapel, on which were chiseled these words:

"These endured all and gave all that justice among nations might prevail and that mankind might enjoy freedom and inherit peace."

They come by the hundreds - Americans, British, Canadians, French and Germans - to visit these beaches called "Omaha" and "Utah" which with the years have become symbols of man's struggle for freedom and peace.

Read more [here](#).



In this May 28, 1954, file photo, about ten years after D-Day, a young French couple look over the stretches of Omaha Beach in Normandy, France. At left is the wreck of an American drag-ship. (AP Photo/Pierre Godot, File)

Your connections to D-Day as 75th anniversary to be marked Thursday

Jim Bagby ([Email](#)) - My dad, Army Tech Sgt. Jack M. Bagby, landed on Utah Beach early on June 7, 1944. D-plus-1. He was assigned to an M-8 armored car with the 90th Cavalry Reconnaissance Division. For much of the next two years, stringing "como wire" was often his primary duty. But he and his three fellow crew members were proficient with a 50-caliber anti-tank gun mounted on a turret as well as two rear machine guns.

But at all times he carried a 35-mm Leica camera, provided by his WWI veteran father. With it, Dad recorded a brutal trek across France. I was 16 months old when it began, and almost 16 years old when he finally decided that my next-oldest brother and I were old enough to know more "about the war."

Terry and I heard about battles in Cherbourg, Chambois, Falaise Gap, Alsace Lorraine and French areas that we'd never studied. Some came with funny stories, like an abandoned German tent that produced a hand-carved clock feared to be booby-trapped. It turned out to be a prize for the first soldier who tied a string to it, backed off and pulled - winding up with a present he shipped home. It was in our family living room for decades. Another recall was of German soldiers surrendering en masse along the Siegfried Line.



A pill-box on Utah Beach demolished by naval gunfire.

All those stories came boldly to life when Dad later turned over his photo album, each picture neatly identified with a cutline he typed and taped in place when he reached a stopping place with the recon unit. Some were of burned enemy bodies on bombed out tanks, or jocular pictures of mates later later killed in action. The destruction and devastation were graphic. Some were of USO shows, with Ingrid Bergman and Jack Benny among the performers. And some were of Gen. George Patton reviewing the 9th Cav, which later joined Patton's ranks for the triumphal entry into Paris.

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Beth Harpaz ([Email](#)) - My dad was in the 101st Airborne, in one of the first planes to leave England shortly after midnight on 6/6/44. He parachuted into Normandy and after helping to liberate France, he fought his way south then east with the 101st to liberate Holland (the famous Bridge Too Far campaign) and Belgium (Battle of the Bulge, McAuliffe's famous refusal to surrender despite being surrounded). He was badly wounded in Belgium and lost the use of his right arm. He was a really tough, brave guy who loved his country and had been more than willing to die for it. I wrote about growing up with a father who'd been a WWII hero on the 70th anniversary of D-Day for AP. Click [here](#) to read.

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Chuck McFadden ([Email](#)) - A visit to the Normandy beaches brings home history as no book or report can. My wife Barbara and I toured the beaches in 2004, 60 years after the landings. The American cemetery, with some 9,300 graves of young men, is on a bluff overlooking Omaha Beach. It's deeded to the United States by the French. You look down long lines of white crosses interrupted occasionally by a Star of David. The nearby German cemetery is also moving. On a hillock overlooking the graves are rough-hewn granite statues of a father and mother. It's impossible to avoid a lump in your throat at either one when you think of the thousands of young lives cut short.

One of our tour mates brought along his bagpipes and full regalia. Standing on the beach, he gave us a brief, mournful and heartfelt interlude on the pipes. At the conclusion, a tiny French girl ran out of the crowd and handed him a bouquet of wildflowers, saying "Merci, monsieur!"

Not a dry eye in the house.

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Joyce Rosenberg ([Email](#)) - When I was covering retailing starting back in 1986, I started interviewing Walter Loeb, a securities analyst at Morgan Stanley. I could hear his German accent, and when I met him in person a year later, I asked him if he was German. As the daughter of a German Holocaust survivor I have been drawn to people of my father's generation who come from Germany or Eastern Europe.

Walter knew immediately why I was asking and without prompting told me his family's story beginning with their flight in 1936 to Italy, then to Cuba and eventually

to Miami. There they were detained for some time because their papers weren't in order, as he put it.

But they were released and eventually Walter was either drafted or enlisted in the U.S. Army. He was on Utah Beach on D-Day.

Five years ago, on the 70th anniversary of D-Day, Walter was having a business lunch and was sharing with his lunch partner what it was like that day. In the midst of his story, four men at the next table stood up, came over to him, asked to shake his hand and thanked him for what he had done for this country.

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Doug Tucker ([Email](#)) - While brave men in uniform such as Walter Stevens and Richard Lipsey Sr. were serving their country during the D-Day invasion, so were brave women like Capt. Mildred Evans.

Mom was less than two years out of nursing school (No. 1 in her class) when Japanese bombs fell on Pearl Harbor.

Young and single and with medical skills that prove especially valuable in time of war, she bundled up on a chilly winter morning and walked two miles to the enlistment office from her apartment in downtown Oklahoma City.

I'm sure the Army Nurse Corps was glad to have her.

She was hoping for Europe. But the Army had other ideas. After training in California, she would spend much of the next four years in Australia, New Guinea, Guam and assorted small islands during the long Pacific campaign.



Lt. (later Captain) Mildred Evans of the Army Nurse Corps (left) with two other women in photo taken in Australia in 1943.

She was never in combat. But more than once she was in danger. On several occasions, she heard gunfire on the perimeter of her camps. In Australia one night

an explosion in a storage facility across the road from where she was sleeping killed several people and knocked a picture of her mother and father off the wall.

"It was one of those stupid mistakes that happen all the time in war," she recalled.

Once while waiting for shot-up planes to land on a small island airstrip, she saw a fellow nurse fall dead from a sniper's bullet. A Marine detail made sure her friend was the last person that sniper killed, she said.

Sitting at the bedside of wounded sailors and Marines and writing down letters home as they spoke the words was perhaps her saddest duty. Many of the men sensed they would never again see the loved ones they were writing to.

Very rarely did she talk about her experiences in the war. But I did get her to reminisce one night and asked what did those dying men talk about in those letters?

She hesitated. I said something like, "Aw, c'mon. It's been 30 years."

Then she snapped with a vehemence I almost never saw in that sweet, loving woman.

"No! I told those boys they could always trust me to keep their letters private. And I'm going to. So stop asking."

I did. Proudly.

On AP and other journalists appearing on cable news shows

Terry Anderson ([Email](#)) - Agree wholeheartedly with Joe Edwards' comment on commentators (in Tuesday's Connecting). The AP of old was always reluctant to give permission for such appearances for that very reason. I realize times are different - these are the days of journalists "building their brand" as a NY Times guy once told my class at Syracuse. But I'm curious, and would anyone at AP to explain when that changed and why? To me, it's one of the things that confuse people about

news and opinion. How can you give your opinion on TV and claim your daily reports are free of it?

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Nolan Kienitz ([Email](#)) - Noted Joe's question in today's (06/04/19) Connecting. Spot on and if only those doing all the "talking" would pay heed.

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Doug Kranz ([Email](#)) - In response to your question regarding AP reporters on cable TV talk shows? Thank you!

I scream loudly each time I see an AP White House reporter on CNBC or CNN. Rarely do I see them on FOX. But they do show up now and then.

I cannot help but to recall what then Mrs. Maurene Santini told me while she was the AP's White House reporter for 10 years., "When you lie to me, you harm me the most." Somehow, modern-day reporters should hear her words.

Again, thank you for making mention of AP reporters on cable TV shows.

Connecting mailbox

Pruitt's message should be shared widely

Ray Newton ([Email](#)) - Great statement by (AP President and CEO) Gary Pruitt (in May 31 edition). Needs to be published throughout the nation. Hope some folks pick up on it.

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D-Day memories have provided interesting, thought-provoking stories

John Willis ([Email](#)) - Kudos to all who contributed to the last few days of Connecting, and those who I've not yet read. I thought D-Day memories and connections was a marvelous subject when Paul sent out the note last week, and I think all contributors have given us some interesting and thought-provoking stories. Most of all I thank Paul for his dedication. It must be a labor of love because I love getting my Connecting every day, and I have made many new friends through this aptly named medium.

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'My Deer, This Breakfast Is Wonderful'

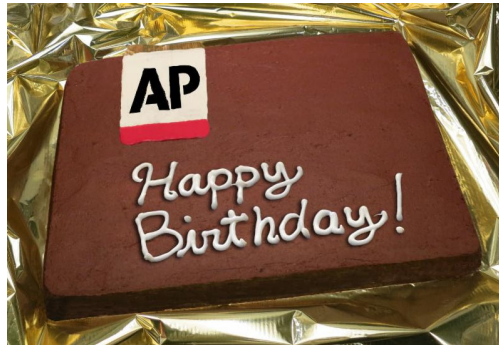


Gene Herrick ([Email](#)) - My mate, Kitty Hylton and I were having breakfast Tuesday morning, when suddenly, just 15 feet away, we happily saw Mrs. Deer (left), and her husband, partaking in some bird feed and grass.

Even though we live in Rocky Mount, VA., there are nice deep woods behind the homes in our area. Usually, there are some seven squirrels, two chipmunks, lots of various birds. At night, other animals finish off what the day crew didn't finish.

Ah, retirement gives one time to enjoy the wonders of nature.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



to

David Espo - davidmespo@gmail.com

Tom Jory - thjory@gmail.com

Nolan Kietnitz - nolanktx@outlook.com

Stories of interest

How did journalists file before Google Docs?

(CJR)

By Amanda Darrach

In the early 1820s, when the only international news came in with the ships, several New York newspapers banded together to keep a small newsboat ready to meet incoming schooners. But in 1827, one of the papers on board, the Journal of Commerce, withdrew from the agreement: the editors didn't want the boaters to work on the Sabbath. The Journal bought its own schooner. "One of its rivals then bought an even faster boat, and things escalated from there," Andie Tucher, a

historian and journalist who directs the Communications Ph.D. program at Columbia Journalism School, says. The first scoop war was born.

By the summer of 1863, competition was fierce. A New York Tribune reporter was about 10 miles from Gettysburg, trying to cover a cavalry raid, when the battle opened. The town's telegraph operator told him the wires had been cut. "The Trib's man gathered up a work crew, rented a handcar from the president of the railroad, and took off to find the break and repair it," Tucher says. "In return, he demanded that the telegraph operator not let anyone else but him use the wire, and sent off a scoop."

After that, editors got creative. A January 1939 issue of *The Rotarian* documents the New York Evening Journal's "aviary of 75 feathered reporters," carrier pigeons trained to deliver exclusive stories or photographic negatives in lightweight aluminum tubes. "The Hearst papers in New York did this in the 1930s, when (for example) they needed film from Ebbets Field to get back to the office in Manhattan by an early evening deadline," Chris Bonanos, city editor of New York magazine explains in an email.

Recently, when the Justice Department delivered Special Counsel Robert Mueller's report to Congress on CD-ROM, journalists began comparing notes about how they submit and revise their work for editors. In the age of Google Docs, it can be hard to imagine what came before. We decided to take a historical look, by asking journalists whose careers spanned the past several decades about how they have filed. Their memories have been lightly edited for length and clarity.

Read more [here](#).

One of those quoted in this story was **Lynne Sladky**, AP Miami staff photographer, 1990-present, who said: "My first big job was at UPI in Miami. They sent me to Haiti to cover the overthrow of Duvalier. When you left Miami, you had to take an enlarger, chemicals, paper. You would set up a darkroom in your hotel bathroom. I can't believe the airlines let us on with all the toxic liquid chemicals."

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Le Anne Schreiber, 73, Dies; a First Among Sports Editors (New York Times)

By Richard Sandomir

Le Anne Schreiber, who became the first woman to run a major American daily newspaper's sports section when The New York Times appointed her to that position in 1978, died on Friday at a hospital in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. She was 73.

The cause was lung cancer, said Jennifer Shute, a close friend.

Ms. Schreiber, who was later an ombudswoman for ESPN, was an untraditional choice to be The Times's sports editor: She had never covered sports for a daily newspaper, though she had gained some experience writing about the subject. She had reported for Time magazine from the 1976 Summer Olympics in Montreal, prompting the tennis star and feminist Billie Jean King to name her editor of her magazine, womenSports.

Read more [here](#).



Le Anne Schreiber in 1978, shortly after being named sports editor of The New York Times. AP Photo

The Final Word



Today in History - June 5, 2019



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, June 5, the 156th day of 2019. There are 209 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 5, 2004, Ronald Wilson Reagan, the 40th president of the United States, died in Los Angeles at age 93 after a long struggle with Alzheimer's disease.

On this date:

In 1794, Congress passed the Neutrality Act, which prohibited Americans from taking part in any military action against a country that was at peace with the United States.

In 1917, about 10 million American men between the ages of 21 and 31 began registering for the draft in World War I.

In 1933, the United States went off the gold standard.

In 1947, Secretary of State George C. Marshall gave a speech at Harvard University in which he outlined an aid program for Europe that came to be known as The Marshall Plan.

In 1950, the U.S. Supreme Court, in *Henderson v. United States*, struck down racially segregated railroad dining cars.

In 1963, Britain's Secretary of State for War, John Profumo, resigned after acknowledging an affair with call girl Christine Keeler, who was also involved with a Soviet spy, and lying to Parliament about it.

In 1967, war erupted in the Middle East as Israel, anticipating a possible attack by its Arab neighbors, launched a series of pre-emptive airfield strikes that destroyed nearly the entire Egyptian air force; Syria, Jordan and Iraq immediately entered the conflict.

In 1968, Sen. Robert F. Kennedy was shot and mortally wounded after claiming victory in California's Democratic presidential primary at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles; assassin Sirhan Bishara Sirhan was arrested at the scene.

In 1976, 14 people were killed when the Teton Dam in Idaho burst.

In 1981, the Centers for Disease Control reported that five homosexuals in Los Angeles had come down with a rare kind of pneumonia; they were the first recognized cases of what later became known as AIDS.

In 2002, Magic Johnson was introduced as a member of the 2002 class elected to the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

In 2013, U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Robert Bales, accused of killing 16 Afghan civilians, many of them sleeping women and children, pleaded guilty to murder at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington, to avoid the death penalty; he was sentenced to life in prison.

Ten years ago: President Barack Obama, while visiting Germany, became the first U.S. president to tour the Buchenwald concentration camp, where he honored the 56,000 who died at the hands of the Nazis. Ex-CIA operative and Watergate burglar Bernard Barker died in suburban Miami at age 92.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama said he "absolutely makes no apologies" for seeking the release of Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl in a prisoner swap with the Taliban, vigorously defending an exchange that caused controversy.

One year ago: Fashion designer Kate Spade, known for her sleek handbags, was found dead in her Park Avenue apartment in New York in what the medical examiner determined was a suicide by hanging; she was 55. After it became clear that most players from the Super Bowl champion Philadelphia Eagles weren't going to show up, President Donald Trump gave the boot to a White House ceremony for the team, and instead threw his own brief "Celebration of America." Former TV mogul Harvey Weinstein pleaded not guilty in New York to rape and criminal sex act charges; he'd been indicted a week earlier on charges involving two women. The Miss America pageant announced that it was eliminating the swimsuit competition from the event; the new head of the organization's board of trustees, Gretchen Carlson, said on ABC, "We're not going to judge you on your appearance because we are interested in what makes you you."

Today's Birthdays: Actor-singer Bill Hayes is 94. Broadcast journalist Bill Moyers is 85. Former Canadian Prime Minister Joe Clark is 80. Author Dame Margaret Drabble is 80. Country singer Don Reid (The Statler Brothers) is 74. Rock musician Freddie Stone (AKA Freddie Stewart) (Sly and the Family Stone) is 72. Rock singer Laurie Anderson is 72. Country singer Gail Davies is 71. Author Ken Follett is 70. Financial guru Suze Orman is 68. Rock musician Nicko McBrain (Iron Maiden) is 67. Jazz musician Peter Erskine is 65. Jazz musician Kenny G is 63. Rock singer Richard Butler (Psychedelic Furs) is 63. Actress Beth Hall is 61. Actor Jeff Garlin is 57. Actress Karen Sillas is 56. Actor Ron Livingston is 52. Singer Brian McKnight is

50. Rock musician Claus Norreen (Aqua) is 49. Actor Mark Wahlberg is 48. Actor Chad Allen is 45. Rock musician P-Nut (311) is 45. Actress Navi Rawat (ROH'-waht) is 42. Actress Liza Weil is 42. Rock musician Pete Wentz (Fall Out Boy) is 40. Rock musician Seb Lefebvre (Simple Plan) is 38. Actress Chelsey Crisp is 36. Actress Amanda Crew is 33. Electronic musician Harrison Mills (Odesza) is 30. Musician/songwriter/producer DJ Mustard is 29. Actress Sophie Lowe is 29. Actor Hank Greenspan is nine.

Thought for Today: "Dare to be naive." - R. Buckminster Fuller, American inventor and philosopher (1895-1983).

Connecting calendar



June 20 - 25-Year Club Celebration, 5:30 - 8 p.m., AP headquarters, 200 Liberty Street, New York, NY. RSVP online [here](#). Any questions may be directed to recognition@ap.org

August 17 - Albany AP bureau reunion (including other upstate bureaus), 1-5 p.m., Marc and Carla Humbert residence on Tsatsawassa Lake, [68 Marginal Way, East Nassau, NY](#). Contact: Chris McKnight ([Email](#)).

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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