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Connecting

June 01, 2020

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Demonstrators start a fire as they protest the death of George Floyd, Sunday, May 31, 2020, near the White House in Washington. Floyd died after being restrained by Minneapolis police officers (AP Photo/Alex Brandon)

Colleagues,

Good Monday morning on this the first day of June 2020,

Protesters took to the streets across America again Sunday, with violence flaring in pockets of largely peaceful demonstrations fueled by the killings of black people at the hands of police. A truck driver drove into demonstrators in Minneapolis nearly a week after George Floyd died there after pleading for air as an officer pressed a knee into his neck.

That's the lead of one of the latest Associated Press story on protests that sprang up from Boston to San Francisco. Hundreds of journalists – including many from the AP - are putting themselves in harm's way to tell the story and we lead today's issue with stories relating to their work.

Some of you have covered protests during your careers. How about sharing your experiences and how they compare with what you've been watching and

viewing.

Click [here](#) for a U.S. Press Freedom Tracker review of incidents involving journalists.

Today's issue brings the sad news of the deaths of **Al Orton Jr .** and **Joe Yeninas** , a former AP illustrator in New York. Orton, a veteran AP journalist who died in Ohio at the age of 84, worked for the AP from 1963-2006. His father, **Alvin Orton Sr .**, also was an AP editor. Yeninas worked for the AP for 16 years.

We also bring you an essay that ran on the wire by our colleague **Amanda Barrett** , a deputy managing editor in AP's New York headquarters. It is titled: "**AMERICAN DIARY: To be black and a journalist at this moment.**" In it, she writes: "I am tired. Tired of how routine violence against African Americans at the hands of white people has been and continues to be. Angry as a journalist that this has happened so often that we all know the angles that must be covered, the questions to be asked, the stories to be written. Angrier still that as an African American journalist, I must explain, again and again, how dehumanizing this all is."

Our colleague **Marcia Dunn** , veteran AP aerospace writer in Cape Canaveral, provides for Connecting an account of Friday's launch of SpaceX's first astronaut flight, the biggest launch in nearly a decade. She was among four AP journalists on hand to cover the event.

Finally, for a project relating to the life of AP reporter **Kathryn Johnson** (1926-2019), archivist **Valerie Komor** would like to be in touch with anyone who may have worked with Kathryn in Atlanta (1947-78), in Washington, D.C. (1978-79 as Southeastern bureau chief at U.S. News and World Report) or at CNN in Atlanta (1988 until her retirement from full-time work in 1999.) Kathryn held a Nieman Fellowship at Harvard 1976-77. You can contact Valerie at – vkomor@ap.org

Be safe, stay healthy.

Paul

AMERICAN DIARY: To be black and a journalist at this moment



A boy holds a sign during a protest in downtown Los Angeles, Friday, May 29, 2020, over the death of George Floyd, who died in police custody on Memorial Day in Minneapolis. (AP Photo/Christian Monterrosa)

EDITOR'S NOTE: Amanda Barrett, a Connecting colleague, is a deputy managing editor at The Associated Press in New York.

By AMANDA BARRETT

For many Americans, “space” means leaving the Earth’s atmosphere and exploring the galaxy. They think of this weekend’s SpaceX launch. Or going where no one has gone before on “Star Trek.”

But the concept of space has a different meaning for African Americans. It’s about finding places in American society — white society — where we are free to just be. Those spaces have been shrinking in recent months. With the flames lit in Minneapolis spreading to other cities after yet another black man’s death, it felt like only an airhole was left.

I am tired. Tired of how routine violence against African Americans at the hands of white people has been and continues to be. Angry as a journalist that this has happened so often that we all know the angles that must be covered,

the questions to be asked, the stories to be written. Angrier still that as an African American journalist, I must explain, again and again, how dehumanizing this all is.

And I think: Is doing this kind of job enough? Shouldn't I be doing something to stop the racism, the violence against us?

For years, my identities as an African American and a journalist have been in sync. Growing up, I was curious (my family would say nosy). I read my hometown newspaper religiously and watched the evening news. I especially loved how journalists used facts to shine a light on the world's injustices while also telling stories people needed to know to make decisions in their lives. As a teenager, I attended a two-week minority journalism workshop and my career choice was set.

But in recent times, the dissonance between the two parts of me has grown louder.

Read more [here](#) . Shared by Adolphe Bernotas.

‘The norms have broken down’: Shock as journalists are arrested, injured by police while trying to cover the story

By Paul Farhi and Elahe Izadi
The Washington Post

Ali Velshi knew almost instantly what had happened when he felt a sharp pain in his leg Saturday night in Minneapolis: He'd been hit with a rubber bullet fired by police.

“As a kid growing up in Canada, it felt familiar. It felt like a puck hit me in the shin,” said the MSNBC anchor, who was covering what he described as a peaceful march of protesters. “It hit in a place that hurt.”

Welsh, who suffered minor bruises, was one of at least a dozen journalists injured in cities across America this weekend — including a photographer who was blinded in one eye — as police fired rubber bullets, pepper spray and tear gas to quell unrest. Not since the 1960s, when the nation was racked by civil rights demonstrations, antiwar protests and urban riots, has the press been embroiled in so much violence on American shores.

Read more [here](#) . Shared by Mark Mittelstadt.

Fox News reporter attacked, chased from demonstration

By **DAVID BAUDER**

NEW YORK (AP) — A Fox News reporter was pummeled and chased by protesters who had gathered outside the White House early Saturday as part of nationwide unrest following the death of George Floyd.

For several journalists across the country, the demonstrations were taking an ominous, dangerous turn.

A television reporter in Columbia, S.C., was hurt by a thrown rock Saturday and a journalist in Minneapolis was shot in the thigh by a rubber bullet. A television news photographer in Pittsburgh said he was beaten by demonstrators, and police in Louisville, Kentucky, apologized after an officer fired what appeared to be pepper bullets at a television news crew.

Fox's Leland Vittert was rattled following the Washington attack that he said was clearly targeted at his news organization.

“We took a good thumping,” he told The Associated Press. A live shot he was doing was interrupted by a group of protesters who shouted obscenities directed at Fox. Flanked by two security guards, he and photographer Christian Galdabini walked away from Washington's Lafayette Park trailed by an angry group before riot police dispersed them.

Read more [here](#) .

AP photo of flag-bearing protester rockets around the world



A protester carries a U.S. flag upside down, a sign of distress, next to a burning building Thursday, May 28, 2020, in Minneapolis. Protests over the death of George Floyd, a black man who died in police custody Monday, broke out in Minneapolis for a third straight night. (AP Photo/Julio Cortez)



Associated Press photographer Julio Cortez is photographed at the scene of a protest on Thursday, May 28, 2020, in Minneapolis. (AP Photo/John Minchillo)

By DAVID CRARY

NEW YORK (AP) — It had been a tense, challenging Thursday evening in the riot-torn Twin Cities for Associated Press photographer Julio Cortez. Midnight was fast approaching, and so was a lone protester carrying an upside-down U.S. flag.

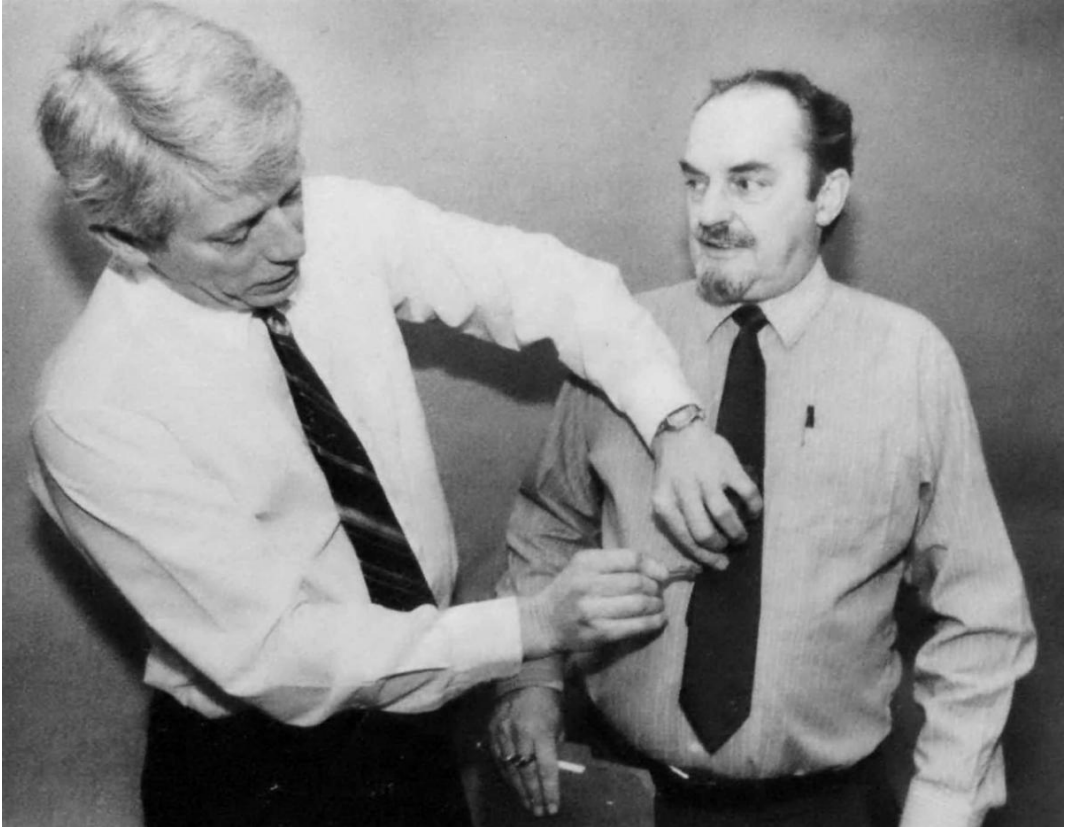
Aware of the flag's power as a visual symbol, Cortez followed the man down the rubble-strewn street and took a photograph that soon rocketed around the world — the protester silhouetted against the flames of a burning liquor store, the light of the fire glowing through the fabric of the flag.

Taken at 11:59 p.m. and transmitted a few moments later, it swiftly produced powerful reactions — perhaps the most indelible image yet of the racial divisions and violent protests flaring after the death of George Floyd, a handcuffed black man who pleaded for air as a white Minneapolis police officer knelt on his neck.

TV networks featured it on their newscasts. Twitter at one point used it to lead its “What’s Happening” page. Multiple commentators on social media depicted it as “Picture of the Year.”

Read more [here](#) . Shared by Valerie Komor, Paul Albright.

Veteran AP journalist Alvin Orton Jr. dies in Ohio at age 84



FILE - In this 1988 file photo, Associated Press overnight supervisor at the time, Al Orton Jr., right, has an AP tie tack pinned to his tie by Columbus Chief of Bureau Jake Booher on Orton's 25th anniversary with the wire service in Columbus, Ohio. Orton, a veteran Associated Press journalist who spent much of his career on the overnight shift, mentoring dozens of reporters along the way, died Wednesday, May 27, 2020, in Columbus, of a heart attack after experiencing several health problems, said his son, Andrew Orton. He was 84. (AP Photo/Gary Gardiner, File)

By **ANDREW WELSH-HUGGINS**

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Al Orton, a veteran Associated Press journalist who spent much of his career on the overnight shift, mentoring dozens of reporters along the way, has died in Ohio. He was 84.

Orton, who used his full name of “Alvin Orton Jr.” in his byline, died Wednesday in Columbus of a heart attack after experiencing several health problems, said his son, Andrew Orton.

Orton worked for the AP from 1963 until he retired in 2006. His father, Alvin Orton Sr., also was an AP editor, joining the news cooperative in Chicago in 1936 and serving as a bureau chief in Indianapolis and Minneapolis before returning to Chicago and retiring in 1971.

“When I asked him what he thought about my going to work for the AP, he said, ‘Fine, but you won’t work for me,’” Orton recalled in a remembrance of his father in 1987, the year he died. “And I told him, ‘That’s OK, because I wouldn’t work for you, anyway.’ That’s the way we both wanted it.”

One of Al Orton Jr.’s first assignments was covering the 1963 execution by electric chair of a man who’d killed a grocery store clerk. Orton was one of only two reporters at the former Ohio Penitentiary, and unbeknownst to him then, he witnessed the last use of the chair in the state.

Read more [here](#) . Shared by Bill Kole.

Covering SpaceX’s first astronaut flight



AP's Marcia Dunn asks a question at an invite-only outdoor NASA news conference at Kennedy Space Center last Friday, the day before a SpaceX rocket blasted off with two NASA astronauts. This photo was taken off NASA TV by AP health and science editor Stephanie Nano, working remotely from home in New York.

Marcia Dunn ([Email](#)) - NASA made it clear early on. The pandemic was going to severely limit the number of journalists allowed into Kennedy Space Center for SpaceX's first astronaut flight, the biggest launch in nearly a decade.

More than 700 journalists requested press credentials, including 15 from the AP. One-hundred-10 made the cut, including four AP staffers: me and photographers John Raoux from Orlando, Chris O'Meara from Tampa and David Phillip from Houston. Orlando newsman Mike Schneider, Miami video journalist Cody Jackson and Kansas City photographer Charlie Riedel were forced to cover last week's countdowns and double launch attempts from outside the space center gates.

Privately, NASA told me it got ugly once news organizations learned how few would get entree. Some claimed discrimination, while others argued they couldn't possibly cover the launch without more staff on site. NASA insisted it couldn't have been more generic. Safety and medical folks provided a maximum crowd count to maintain safe distancing, then NASA considered the audience size. Even the largest, far-reaching news organizations, like AP and

the TV networks, copped no more than a handful of launch passes in order to leave room for others.

It got worse.

NASA told the AP only one of us could cover the astronauts' arrival from Houston a week before liftoff. With only 20 media spots for this high-profile event on the old space shuttle runway, we should be satisfied, I was told. The AP agreed that a photographer, Raoux, needed to be there. But I kept complaining to NASA. Suddenly, someone canceled, I was told, and I was suddenly included.

The AP got two passes, thankfully, for a day-before-launch news conference with the NASA administrator outside near the countdown clock. That's me behind the mask and sunglasses last Friday, asking questions. The picture was taken off NASA TV by AP health and science editor Stephanie Nano, working remotely from her home in New York.

All other press events were conducted remotely. Reporters were forced to call in to ask questions, even when the news conferences were unfolding just steps away.

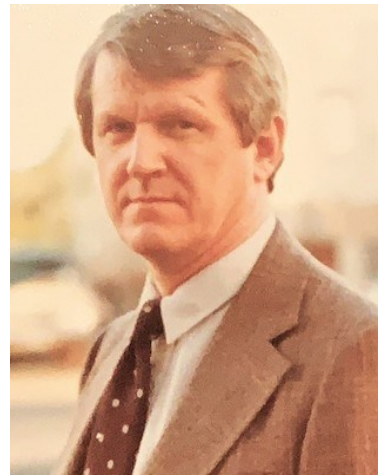
We were under strict orders to wear masks whenever we ventured from our offices, even to run over to NASA's outdoor bathroom or walk to our cars. If we wanted to eat, we needed to bring our own food.

For the first time ever for a launch, Kennedy's news center was locked, and no PR types were milling around outside. No one, in fact, was milling around anywhere. Everyone there was hustling to cover the story with a scaled-back staff. The only way to ask questions _ or socialize _ was via email or phone.

With so few people around and no one knocking at my door, it made for a much more focused writing environment. That said, I'm hoping the pandemic is long gone and all my colleagues are back when SpaceX attempts to launch its second crew of astronauts around the end of August. It would be nice to see Musk and his entourage in person next time around.

Joe Yeninas, former AP illustrator, dies at 86

Holmdel, NJ—Joseph J. Yeninas, a newspaper illustrator and cartoonist who worked for The Associated Press and the former Newark Evening News, passed away Friday, May 29, 2020. He died of the effects of inclusion body myositis at Jersey Shore University Medical Center at the age of 86.



Joe Yeninas, a pen and ink illustrator, joined the Newark News—once the country’s 11th largest daily newspaper—after service in the U.S. Marine Corps. He was responsible for the newspaper’s sports cartoons and editorial cartoons, as well as informational graphics for which he received several awards. When the staff at the News struck the newspaper in May 1971, he was a picket line co-captain and met an editor, Barbara Spector, who was his co-captain. Romance bloomed and the two were married seven months later.

He left the News after the strike and joined The Associated Press as a cartoonist and illustrator. Yeninas’ cartoons and drawings appeared on the pages of the 1,500 newspapers the AP served throughout the 16 years he remained there. The historic business newspaper The Journal of Commerce then hired him to establish and lead its art department.

A native of Plymouth, PA, and a long-time resident of North Caldwell, NJ, Yeninas moved to Holmdel, NJ, 15 years ago. He joined the Marines out of high school. After his honorary discharge, he played catcher for the Decatur Commodores, a minor league team of the St. Louis Cardinals. Yeninas loved to draw, and when felt his arm giving out he left baseball and enrolled at the University of Buffalo. Shortly after finishing school, he joined the Newark News. The cartoons he drew sharpened his infamous wry sense of humor.

He is survived by his wife of 49 years; two daughters, Joanna (Scott) Saltz of Bernardsville, NJ, and Laura (Andrews) Newby of Newcastle, CA, and seven grandchildren. Services are private because of the coronavirus social distancing. A memorial service will take place later this summer. Interment is at the Washington Crossing National Cemetery.

Click [here](#) for a link to his obituary. Shared by Joe Bonney.

Best of the Week

Stories of lives lost, told with photos: 2 remarkable projects share Best of the Week



An image of veteran James Sullivan is projected onto the home of his son, Tom Sullivan, left, as he looks out a window with brother Joseph Sullivan in South Hadley, Mass., May 4, 2020. Sullivan, a U.S. Army WWII veteran and resident of the Soldiers' Home in Holyoke, Mass., died from COVID-19 four days shy of his 100th birthday. Seeking to capture moments of private mourning at a time of global isolation, AP photographer David Goldman used a projector to cast large images of veterans onto homes as their loved ones struggle to honor their memory during a lockdown that has sidelined many funeral traditions. AP PHOTO / DAVID GOLDMAN

As the COVID-19 pandemic raged across the world last week, and the confirmed U.S. death toll approached 100,000, AP photographers on two continents found unusual and meaningful ways to bring home the tragedy of lives lost.

They were David Goldman, a global enterprise photographer based in Providence, Rhode Island, who met with the families of COVID-19 victims at a Massachusetts soldiers' home, literally projecting their images onto the exterior of their homes for a series of arresting, ghostly and emotion-laden scenes, and Rodrigo Abd, global enterprise photographer, Lima, Peru, who spent weeks with Venezuelan migrants collecting bodies in a poor area of Lima to show the abject desperation of that city's victims. The photographers' affecting work wins them AP's Best of the Week. Also honored is Lima reporter Franklin Briceño who accompanied Abd, documenting the funeral home workers on their grueling rounds, writing their story while also collecting interviews on his smartphone for a strong video piece.

Goldman came up with an unconventional storytelling approach, focused on the deadliest outbreak of coronavirus at any nursing facility in the country – more than 70 veterans died from COVID-19 at the Holyoke Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts. The victims' families not only lost their loved ones, but the virus took away their normal grieving process and, in some cases, their chance even to say a last goodbye.

Read more [here](#) .

Best of the States

AP takes a rare behind-the-scenes look into the complex world of contact tracing



AP Photo/Rick Bowmer

One of the keys to stopping the coronavirus is finding out who has it, tracing every person they've had contact with, and warning those people to isolate. The pandemic has taken this little-known job – contact tracing – and made it a global matter of life or death.

But what does contact tracing look like? Who are these people, and what do they do for 12 hours a day, six days a week? Across the AP, reporters sought access to the investigators, only to be rebuffed for privacy reasons. In Utah, correspondent Brady McCombs pitched to a local health department that he and photographer Rick Bowmer could show the world how contact tracing is conducted, and would be careful not to reveal legally protected health details.

Once they were in the door, the curtain rolled back. Bowmer and McCombs are both the kind of journalists who put people at ease, engendering trust. They spent hours across parts of five days shadowing several investigators, listening and watching. McCombs, a text native who has learned video, wrote the story and shot the video, working closely on the edit with video journalist Krysta Fauria, who voiced the piece. And in a county office with seemingly modest visual potential, Bowmer made telling photos.

Read more [here](#) .

Connecting mailbox

On that image from Hong Kong



Cliff Schiappa ([Email](#)) – in response to post in Friday’s issue by Jim Reindl - Jim, thanks for being an engaged viewer. I think you ask some very valid questions, and of course only the photographer of the Hong Kong skyline can answer them completely. If I was the editor handling this photo, I would have asked similar questions.

If one was to crop the image so just a thin sliver of water remains under the skyline, it would make for an impressive panorama image, especially with the visually interesting fog that shrouds some of the buildings. That in itself could suggest the uncertain future confronting the city. By adding the rocks and person in the foreground, it inserts a visual tension, forcing the viewer to go back and forth between the skyline, to the rocks, to the man, to the bay, and so forth. And, of course, as Jim points out, it raises questions in the viewer’s mind.

As with any created work, whether it's written, photographed, painted, composed, sculpted, brewed, fermented, etc., there are intentional results and sometimes serendipitous results. In the case of this photo, I suspect the photographer wanted a visual anchor for the lower part of the image, a place for the viewer to return to after inspecting the skyline. The man happened to be there when the photographer was there, so timing may have dictated this result. If the photographer was there an hour earlier or later, perhaps it would have been a person casting a fishing line instead.

There are no right or wrong answers to your questions, Jim. One thing the photo does very well is give a truthful representation of what was seen and occurring at a specific moment of time, which is job number one of a photojournalist.

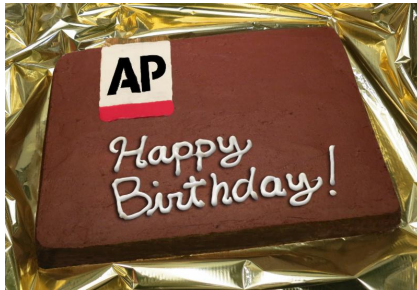
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Connecting series: Using the telephone



Carolyn Carlson ([Email](#)) - I made a point of scoping out a pay phone on my way to every assignment for the AP. But most of my AP career, by far, was spent in the office and for the majority of that time I had a phone glued to my ear. I would be taking notes from a source or, more likely, taking dictation from an AP staffer in the field. I learned to type as fast as our sports writers could talk, taking their dictation at the end of a ball game in the days before laptops, so we'd be sure to have the story on the wire before UPI. This photo shows me in my usual position, in front of what we then called a CRT, at the Atlanta bureau in the mid-1980s.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Julie Davey – jdavey@fullcoll.edu

Jerry Jackson – gsjackson43@gmail.com

Rob Kozloff – rmkozloff@att.net

Dayle Olson – dayfla@aol.com

Cyndy Scoggins – cyndyscoggins@yahoo.com

Welcome to Connecting



Ben Dobbin - dobbinben0302@gmail.com

Stories of interest

Police targeted journalists covering the George Floyd protests (Vox)



A journalist is seen bleeding after police started firing tear gas and rubber bullets into crowds near the Fifth Police Precinct in Minneapolis, on May 30. Chandan Khanna/AFP/Getty Images

By Katelyn Burns

On Friday night, photojournalist Linda Tirado was shot in the eye by a rubber bullet while covering an anti-police brutality protest in Minneapolis — one of more than two dozen incidents of journalists experiencing violence while covering the recent demonstrations.

Tirado says she's permanently blind in her left eye. (She is thankful she uses her right eye to take photos, so the injury is not career-ending.)

The Minneapolis Police Department and Mayor Jacob Frey's office didn't respond to requests for comment about Tirado's injury.

Across the country journalists have been targeted by police, facing arrest, detention, and violence, including being pepper sprayed and shot by rubber

bullets. Journalists were targeted by police in the Ferguson protests in 2015 and during the civil rights era, and that pattern of violence and arrests continued into this weekend's protests.

“Targeted attacks on journalists, media crews, and news organizations covering the demonstrations show a complete disregard for their critical role in documenting issues of public interest and are an unacceptable attempt to intimidate them,” said Carlos Martínez de la Serna, program director at the nonprofit advocacy group Committee to Protect Journalists, in a statement Saturday. “Authorities in cities across the U.S. need to instruct police not to target journalists and ensure they can report safely on the protests without fear of injury or retaliation.”

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

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Trump has sown hatred of the press for years. Now journalists are under assault from police and protesters alike. (Washington Post)



Demonstrators protest at CNN headquarters in Atlanta, defacing the logo at the front of the building on Friday in one of the many protests across the country following the death of George Floyd in police custody in Minneapolis. (Mike Stewart/AP)

By Margaret Sullivan
Media columnist

There are those who argue that President Trump’s endless disparagement of the news media is harmless — perhaps a little extreme at times, but mostly just a lot of talk.

Sure, he throws around terms such as “enemy of the people,” claims that accurate reporting unflattering to him is “fake news” and gleefully insults individual reporters — especially women of color. True, he likes to threaten to use the powers of his office to interfere with the business concerns of media companies he does not favor or to punish their owners.

But, come on, what has he really done that’s so bad?

On Friday, the bottom dropped out of that argument.

Read more [here](#) . Shared by Len Iwanski.

Today in History - June 1, 2020



By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, June 1, the 153rd day of 2020. There are 213 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On June 1, 1939, Lou Nova defeated Max Baer at Yankee Stadium in the first U.S. televised heavyweight prizefight.

On this date:

In 1813, the mortally wounded commander of the USS Chesapeake, Capt. James Lawrence, gave the order, "Don't give up the ship" during a losing battle with the British frigate HMS Shannon in the War of 1812.

In 1916, Louis Brandeis took his seat as an associate justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, the first Jewish American to serve on the nation's highest bench.

In 1926, actress Marilyn Monroe was born Norma Jeane Mortenson in Los Angeles.

In 1939, the British submarine HMS Thetis sank during a trial dive off North Wales with the loss of 99 lives. Mexico officially abolished the siesta.

In 1943, a civilian flight from Portugal to England was shot down by Germany during World War II, killing all 17 people aboard, including actor Leslie Howard.

In 1958, Charles de Gaulle became premier of France, marking the beginning of the end of the Fourth Republic.

In 1967, the Beatles album "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band" was released, as was David Bowie's debut album, eponymously titled "David Bowie."

In 1980, Cable News Network made its debut.

In 2003, leaders of the world's seven wealthiest nations and Russia pledged billions of dollars to fight AIDS and hunger on the opening day of their summit in Evian, France.

In 2008, fashion designer Yves Saint Laurent died in Paris at age 71.

In 2009, General Motors filed for Chapter 11, becoming the largest U.S. industrial company to enter bankruptcy protection.

In 2017, President Donald Trump declared he would pull the U.S. from the landmark Paris climate agreement. (The U.S. remains a part of the agreement until November of this year.)

Ten years ago: Attorney General Eric Holder said federal authorities had opened criminal and civil investigations into the BP oil spill. A divided U.S. Supreme Court ruled, 5-4, that criminal suspects had to explicitly invoke their right to remain silent, and that simply remaining silent was not sufficient to stop police questioning. Former Vice President Al Gore and his wife, Tipper, announced their separation after 40 years of marriage.

Five years ago: South Carolina Sen. Lindsey Graham opened his campaign for the Republican presidential nomination. The Supreme Court threw out the conviction of a Pennsylvania man prosecuted for making threats on Facebook, but the justices stopped short of laying out broad constitutional protections for such comments. A cruise ship capsized in China's Yangtze River, killing 442 people. Vanity Fair released its cover photo featuring the former Bruce Jenner with the headline, "Call Me Caitlyn" as the Olympic gold medalist publicly completed his gender transition.

One year ago: Serena Williams suffered her earliest loss at a major tournament in five years, losing a third-round match at the French Open to 20-year-old American Sofia Kenin, 6-2, 7-5; hours earlier, top seed Naomi Osaka was eliminated by 42nd-ranked Katerina Siniakova of the Czech Republic, 6-4, 6-2.

Today's Birthdays: Singer Pat Boone is 86. Actor Morgan Freeman is 83. Opera singer Frederica von Stade is 75. Actor Brian Cox is 74. Rock musician Ronnie Wood is 73. Actor Jonathan Pryce is 73. Actress Gemma Craven is 70. Actor John M. Jackson (TV: "NCIS: Los Angeles") is 70. Blues-rock musician Tom Principato is 68. Country singer Ronnie Dunn is 67. Actress Lisa Hartman Black is 64. Actor Tom Irwin is 64. Singer-musician Alan Wilder is 61. Rock musician Simon Gallup (The Cure) is 60. Country musician Richard Comeaux (River Road) is 59. Actor-comedian Mark Curry is 59. Actor-singer Jason Donovan is 52. Actress Teri Polo is 51. Basketball player-turned-coach Tony Bennett is 51. Actor Rick Gomez is 48. Model-actress Heidi Klum is 47. Singer

Alanis Morissette is 46. Actress Sarah Wayne Callies is 43. Comedian Link Neal (Rhett & Link) is 42. TV personality Damien Fahey is 40. Americana singer-songwriter Brandi Carlile is 39. Actor Johnny Pemberton is 39. Actress-writer Amy Schumer is 39. Former tennis player Justine Henin is 38. Actor Taylor Handley is 36. Actress Zazie Beetz is 29. Actress Willow Shields is 20.

Thought for Today: “When a thing ceases to be a subject of controversy, it ceases to be a subject of interest.” [-] William Hazlitt, British essayist (1778-1830).

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

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