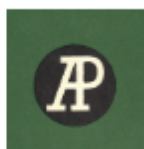


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Connecting November 10, 2020

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Colleagues,

Good Tuesday morning on this the 10th day of November 2020,

Have you ever been threatened in your work life?

AP media writer (and Connecting colleague) **David Bauder** ([Email](#)) shared this on Facebook:

“My first social media threat in a while, from a nobody who urges me to ‘consider retiring, it's going to get ugly for people like you in the coming months.’ Makes me appreciate the people - particularly women journalists - who have to deal with this kind of stuff and much worse on a regular basis.”

Had this experience during your work career? Share it with Connecting.

Are you a veteran? Let us honor you

Veterans Day 2020 will be observed this Wednesday and we want to recognize your service in the Connecting issue that day. I invite you to send me the following by this evening: Your branch of service, years and locations of service, and in 150 words or fewer, how your military service affected your life. I look forward to hearing from you. Thanks to the dozen or more who responded Monday.

What would George Esper think?

"Trump fires Esper as Pentagon chief after election defeat" This was the headline of an AP story Monday on President Trump firing Defense Secretary Mark Esper that noted it was an unprecedented move by a president struggling to accept election defeat and angry at a Pentagon leader he believes wasn't loyal enough.

To which Ye Olde Connecting Editor asks, what would our late colleague **George Esper** have to say about what happened to his nephew? In his distinguished career as a reporter, including 10 years covering the Vietnam War, George never backed down from asking U.S. military the tough questions.

Mears on the 2020 election

Longtime political reporter and Washington chief of bureau Walter Mears wrote about the 2020 presidential election in Monday's issue – and there were a couple points missed by his Connecting editor. Here is the story with corrections made:

Walter Mears (Email) - One point I found striking was all the attention paid to the fact that Trump did not concede when he lost. Concessions don't change anything - they only confirm the obvious.

Two examples - Barry Goldwater conceded to LBJ in 1964 but there was some delay while he waited out the vote count. So conceding was redundant. He belatedly confirmed the landslide. In 1980 Jimmy Carter conceded early - 9 or so Eastern - to Ronald Reagan. Polls were still open in the West and some Democrats said the Carter concession that the presidential race was over led later voters not to bother and cost Democratic voters for House and other down-ballot contests. Tip O'Neill said the quick concession cost the Democrats voters and some House seats in close Western contests.

Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

Dancing in streets over presidential election evokes memories of covering Grenada



Dan Sewell records audio of U.S. soldiers firing upon Cuban positions at the Grenada airport the Cubans had been building for the pro-Castro government. Sewell, then the Caribbean news editor and now Cincinnati correspondent, represented The AP in the first press pool flown to the island in late October 1983. He returned many times, including to cover elections in 1984.

Dan Sewell ([Email](#)) - The scenes of young Americans dancing joyously in the streets after the presidential election brought back memories of covering the Caribbean island of Grenada, which held elections in 1984 after a U.S.-led invasion the year before helped restore democracy. The popular leftist Prime Minister Maurice Bishop had been executed in a coup led by his deputy, giving Ronald Reagan an opening to remove a pro-Castro government from the region.

Sir Eric Gairy, who had run the island with his thuggish "Mongoose Gang" was overthrown by Bishop's New Jewel Movement in 1979. He returned from exile to run in the elections. Also running was the U.S.-backed candidate, conservative Herbert Blaize.

In the run-up to the election, Blaize and I (San Juan-based Caribbean news editor) both stayed in Mitchell's Guest House (the nice hotels were on the beach, but I preferred to stay in the capital of St. George's to be close to the action, and saved The AP a heckuva lot of money in the bargain). So I and the future prime minister ate our meals together and at least once, showered together (there was a communal shower room, like high school). He had degenerative arthritis and sat on a stool under a shower.

Back to Gairy. On election night, young people danced in the street outside his home singing "All the Gairyites' bum-bums burning!" Steel drums and regular drums

provided the music.

The next day, Sir Eric, who had used a United Nations general assembly speech to address the need for more UFO research, held a press conference in which he said he really had won, but the CIA had used a special chemical on the ballots that made all the votes for him disappear.

Blaize died just 5 years later, but Grenada has been peaceful since. I would have liked to return as a tourist, but the island has developed as a high-end destination beyond my travel budget. The Cuban-built airport has hosted a lot of wealthy capitalists.

[Good obit on Gairy](#) by Hugh O'Shaughnessy: The island that "he loved and tyrannized"

Connecting mailbox

Recognize this AP reporter?

Arnold Zeitlin ([Email](#)) - I am asking a favor. Mofidul Hoque, who is a founder trustee of the Bangladesh Liberation War Museum in Dhaka and a long-time friend of mine, has sent me a video link to a January 1972 interview an AP reporter conducted in Dhaka with Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, at that time the president of the country. He is trying to get the identity of the reporter. I was in West Pakistan at the time. I do not recognize the reporter. I know Peter O'Loughlin covered the independence of Bangladesh in December 1971. Peter is no longer with us.

Would you mind posting the link on Connecting in the hope someone might know the reporter? Click [here](#) for the link.

-0-

Hearing thwack thwack of rotor blades took him back to Vietnam



Neal Ulevich ([Email](#)) - After a few hours of sedate flying in a Cessna, I was back at Crosson field, a sleepy municipal airport in NE Colorado, when a familiar thwack thwack of rotor blades grew louder. It was a gummint UH-1, a few generations removed from the Huey flying carpets of my Vietnam days. The helicopter stopped for fuel, and a crew and riders, armed to the teeth, emerged. The chopper was from Cheyenne, Wyoming and Warren Air Force Base, which oversees a cluster of nuclear missile silos in the dry landscape east of the Rockies. The unit provides rapid reaction security should sensors at any of the silos indicate a breach. The same unit also does search and rescue. I thought the Army had long ago bid farewell to the UH-1, but some late models are maintained for special assignments. This one had heavy duty night vision - technology not well developed during the late Vietnam war - and a door mounted machine gun, just like the old days.

-0-

A telling image



Bob Daugherty (Email) - This is the most telling image of the president, made by Richmond staffer Steve Helber as he departed his Virginia golf club Sunday.

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Rocking Chair Memories

Gene Herrick (Email) - While rocking in my chair, and worrying about the election outcome, my memory floated back to the 1950's while working as an AP staff photographer out of the Memphis, TN office.

There were some pretty good heroes of that period, Memphis' E. H. "Boss" Crump, the Memphis mayor and one of the nation's political bosses, a young fellow name Elvis Presley, "The Hips," Lloyd Binford, Memphis' censor and ruler over what movies may be shown, W.C. Handy, "The father of the blues," A.D. "Gatemouth" Moore, a Blues and Gospel singer. Also at that time was Emmitt Till, a 14-year-old boy from Chicago, who was slain in Money, MS., in the northern delta near Memphis. Then came Autherine Lucy being kicked out of the University of Alabama and this was followed by Rosa Parks being removed from a public bus in Montgomery, Alabama, and quickly followed by the arrest of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

One might say that is a lot of big news leaders, all within a short time, and relatively close together. It was also the start of the Civil Rights Movement.

Since it was the “Deep” South, race may be considered. Segregation of whites and blacks was still in full action. Of the people I have mentioned and covered, three were white - Crump, Presley, and Binford, and six were Black - Handy, Moore, Till, Lucy, Parks, and King.

Crump was a smiling, happy controller, who even made his “Machine” employees play games at outings whether they wanted to or not. He controlled the governorships of the state, and also Congress persons for Tennessee for a long time.

Presley, who was born in a sharecroppers house – where one could open the front and rear doors and fire a shotgun through the openings and not hit anything. He was a poor Mississippi boy who came to Memphis and made a national and international name for himself as a Rock & Roll singer. I went to his Memphis home often to cover loads of children dropped off at “Graceland” for Presley to “Baby sit” on weekends. Also, I went with him to the Sun Recording studio in Memphis where he made his first recording.

Binford was one of a few movie censors in this country. He was very, very strict, and cancelled many good movies for Memphis. He got very mad at me for taking his picture and wanted to physically hit me.

Handy was a Memphis Beale Street favorite who created the “Blues” music. Very late in his life I covered him receiving a big honor on Beale Street.

“Gatemouth” Moore was a developed Blues singer, who told me that he was the one who took the “Blues” to New Orleans. When I talked with him on the day Handy was honored, he said he was now being a preacher. I responded, “If you took the “Blues” to New Orleans, why did you turn to preaching?” He replied, “I just returned from Birmingham where I held an outdoor revival. At a dollar a head, man, I can’t make that kind of money singing the Blues!”

Emmitt Till was a 14-year-old Black boy from Chicago who came to Mississippi to visit relatives. Reportedly he whistled at two white women running a store in Money, MS. They reportedly told their husbands who took Till to a barn, beat him severely, shot him, and wrapped his body with a huge cotton mill fan and barbed wire, shot him, and then threw his body into the Tallahatchie River. The white husbands and half-brothers were arrested, indicted, and tried in court. Of course, they were found innocent. I investigated a lot of the story, and covered the trial, the most interesting and meaningful of my career as an AP staff photographer.

Autherine Lucy was kicked out of the U.of A. because she was Black.

Rosa Parks was kicked off the bus and arrested because she was Black.

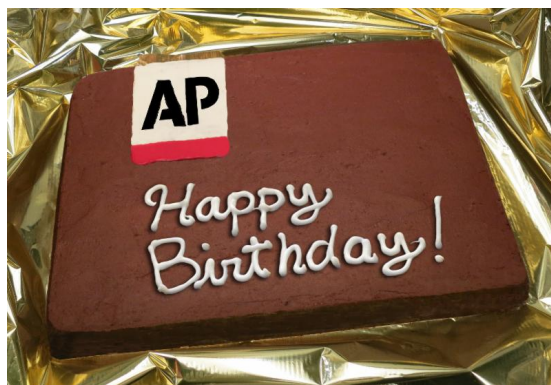
Rev. King was arrested for starting the Civil Rights Movement, which also included the Parks case, the Lucy and Till cases.

I covered them all, including King's assassination in Memphis in 1968.

I personally believe all of the Black people mentioned here would be thrilled at the outcome of last Tuesday's election, since there were so many Black people who voted, especially since Kamala Harris, a Black lady won the vice-presidency. In the old South, Black people were disenfranchised and heavily segregated. Millions were prevented from registering or voting. A lot of this still prevails in many places, but this election, Black people were open and demanding. They successfully fought for their rights to vote. Many Black candidates for various political offices were successful.

I feel certain that Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. is happy and smiling.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Tim Curran - kcurran106@gmail.com

Eva Parziale - eparziale@ap.org

Stories of interest

Boomers have seen the changing face of news in America (Boomer Cafe)



How many different ways can baby boomers wax nostalgic for “the good ol’ days?” Beyond, we mean, elections without the tensions tearing us apart today. For BoomerCafé’s co-founder and publisher David Henderson, a longtime journalist himself, it’s nostalgia for the good ol’ days when a local radio station was really local. As he writes in this Boomer Opinion piece, today it’s corporate, and remote.

Seems like wired in the nostalgic memory of many baby boomers, there’s a local radio station. For many of us, it was a sort of hub for our shared interests.

A local radio station was a place where we could phone in a song dedication and smile when, within a few minutes, we heard the mention on-air of our special friend. Radio back then broadcast all things local. Not just commercials for local merchants and car dealers but high school sports, local news, and on Sundays, a local sermon in the morning for “shut-ins.”

Read more [here](#). Shared by Lindel Hutson.

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The long love affair between Fox News and Trump may be over. Here’s how it all soured last week.

(Washington Post)

By Sarah Ellison and Josh Dawsey

The last day of Donald Trump's 2020 presidential campaign began just after 7 a.m., as polls opened on the East Coast, with a call to "Fox & Friends," the television morning show that had turned the reality star into a U.S. president. He got his usual hero's welcome. But it was no longer enough.

"This has been a very special show for me," he told the hosts of this broadcasting safe haven where he had workshopped his birther message, shared gossip and conspiracy theories, and repeatedly set the tone for his entire administration's day. "We've had a great relationship, and you have a great show. So, it's my honor."

But his remarks quickly turned pointed that Tuesday morning as he boasted about how well he had done in the job of president, despite unexpected challenges — not from China or Russia or North Korea, he said, but from the United States. And he mused rhetorically about what had changed the most for him since 2016.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Dennis Conrad.

-0-

Gunmen kill reporter in Mexico's most violent state

(AP)

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Officials in Guanajuato, the state with the most homicides in Mexico, said Monday that gunmen killed a reporter for a local news site while he was covering a story.

The state interior department said it lamented the killing early Monday of Israel Vázquez Rangel, a reporter for the online newspaper El Salmantino. It pledged that prosecutors would investigate the crime.

El Salmantino confirmed his death, saying Vázquez Rangel was the victim of a "cowardly and atrocious attack ... while he was carrying out his honorable work as a journalist."

Local media said he showed up at a scene in the city of Salamanca where body parts had reportedly been left on a street. He reportedly arrived in a car with news site's logo. Apparently, the killers were still there when he arrived, and two men opened fire on him.

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

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McCloskeys sue UPI, photographer over iconic image confronting protesters (St. Louis Post-Dispatch)

By BILL GREENBLATT

ST. LOUIS — Mark and Patricia McCloskey, the gun-toting couple who gained recognition after confronting protesters passing by their home in the Central West End, have sued a United Press International photographer and the wire service, alleging a photo that has risen to international prominence was taken on their property.

In a lawsuit filed Friday in St. Louis Circuit Court, the McCloskeys accuse UPI photographer Bill Greenblatt of trespassing to capture one of the most iconic images of the confrontation between the McCloskeys and protesters on their way to Mayor Lyda Krewson's house.

The couple, known for being litigious even before the June 28 encounter, said Greenblatt's photo has contributed to their "significant national recognition and infamy." In addition to Greenblatt and the news service, the McCloskeys are suing Redbubble Inc., a San Francisco-based online marketplace for print-on-demand products based on user-submitted artwork.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Doug Pizac.

The Final Word

Military carrier pigeon message turns up 110 years after it was sent (CNN)



By Jack Guy, CNN

(CNN) A message lost by a carrier pigeon has been found some 110 years after it was sent.

Found in a field in mid-September by a couple out hiking in Ingersheim, northeastern France, the message was sent from one German military officer to another in 1910, when the area was still part of Germany, according to Dominique Jardy, curator of the nearby Linge Memorial museum.

Jardy told CNN the message was folded up inside a small aluminum capsule and the script is difficult to decipher.

A German friend, whom Jardy asked to translate the message, said the officer, who was based in the town of Colmar, is recounting German military exercises in the area.

"Platoon Potthof receives fire as they reach the western border of the parade ground, platoon Potthof takes up fire and retreats after a while," the message reads, according to the AFP news agency. "In Fechtwald half a platoon was disabled. Platoon Potthof retreats with heavy losses."

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

Today in History - Nov. 10, 2020



By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Nov. 10, the 315th day of 2020. There are 51 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 10, 1775, the U.S. Marines were organized under authority of the Continental Congress.

On this date:

In 1766, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, had its beginnings as William Franklin, the Royal Governor of New Jersey, signed a charter establishing Queen's College in New Brunswick.

In 1919, the American Legion opened its first national convention in Minneapolis.

In 1928, Hirohito (hee-roh-hee-toh) was enthroned as Emperor of Japan.

In 1938, Kate Smith first sang Irving Berlin's "God Bless America" on her CBS radio program.

In 1944, during World War II, the ammunition ship USS Mount Hood (AE-11) exploded while moored at the Manus Naval Base in the Admiralty Islands in the South Pacific, leaving 45 confirmed dead and 327 missing and presumed dead.

In 1951, customer-dialed long-distance telephone service began as Mayor M. Leslie Denning of Englewood, New Jersey, called Alameda, California, Mayor Frank Osborne without operator assistance.

In 1975, the U.N. General Assembly approved a resolution equating Zionism with racism (the world body repealed the resolution in Dec. 1991). The ore-hauling ship SS

Edmund Fitzgerald mysteriously sank during a storm in Lake Superior with the loss of all 29 crew members.

In 1982, the newly finished Vietnam Veterans Memorial was opened to its first visitors in Washington, D.C., three days before its dedication. Soviet leader Leonid I. Brezhnev died at age 75.

In 1997, a judge in Cambridge, Massachusetts, reduced Louise Woodward's murder conviction to involuntary manslaughter and sentenced the English au pair to the 279 days she'd already served in the death of 8-month-old Matthew Eappen (EE'-puhn).

In 2009, John Allen Muhammad, mastermind of the 2002 sniper attacks that killed 10 in the Washington, D.C. region, was executed. President Barack Obama visited Fort Hood, Texas, where he somberly saluted the 13 Americans killed in a shooting rampage, and pledged that the killer would be "met with justice [-] in this world, and the next."

In 2017, facing allegations of sexual misconduct, comedian Louis C.K. said the harassment claims by five women that were detailed in a New York Times report "are true," and he expressed remorse for using his influence "irresponsibly."

In 2018, President Donald Trump, in France to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I, canceled a visit to a cemetery east of Paris where Americans killed in that war are buried; rainy weather had grounded the presidential helicopter. Authorities in Northern California said 14 additional bodies had been found in the ruins from a fire that virtually destroyed the town of Paradise.

Ten years ago: President Barack Obama cut short his visit to his boyhood home in Indonesia because of an ash cloud from Mount Merapi, and flew to South Korea for an economic summit. French President Nicolas Sarkozy's reform raising the retirement age from 60 to 62 became law, a victory for the conservative government and a defeat for unions that had waged massive strikes and street protests. Miranda Lambert received three Country Music Association Awards on her 27th birthday, including album of the year; Brad Paisley was named entertainer of the year. Movie producer Dino De Laurentiis, 91, died in Beverly Hills, California.

Five years ago: Jeb Bush and Ben Carson sought to steady their presidential campaigns during a GOP debate held in Milwaukee, with Bush taking advantage of a policy-focused contest to detail positions on the economy and immigration while Carson swatted away mounting questions about the veracity of his celebrated biography. Nine people were killed when a small jet crashed into an apartment house in Akron, Ohio; seven of the dead worked for a Florida real estate development company. Former West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, 96, died in Hamburg. Legendary New Orleans musician and composer Allen Toussaint, 77, died in Madrid.

One year ago: Bolivian President Evo Morales resigned under mounting pressure from the country's military and public after his re-election victory triggered weeks of fraud

allegations and deadly protests.

Today's Birthdays: Blues singer Bobby Rush is 86. Actor Albert Hall is 83. Country singer Donna Fargo is 79. Former Sen. Saxby Chambliss, R-Ga., is 77. Lyricist Tim Rice is 76. Actor-dancer Ann Reinking is 71. Actor Jack Scalia is 70. Movie director Roland Emmerich is 65. Actor Matt Craven is 64. Actor-comedian Sinbad is 64. Actor Mackenzie Phillips is 61. Author Neil Gaiman (GAY'-mihn) is 60. Actor Vanessa Angel is 57. Actor Hugh Bonneville is 57. Actor-comedian Tommy Davidson is 57. Actor Michael Jai (jy) White is 56. Country singer Chris Cagle is 52. Actor-comedian Tracy Morgan is 52. Actor Ellen Pompeo (pahm-PAY'-oh) is 51. Actor-comedian Orny Adams is 50. Rapper U-God is 50. Rapper-producer Warren G is 50. Actor Walton Goggins is 49. Comedian-actor Chris Lilley is 46. Contemporary Christian singer Matt Maher is 46. Rock singer-musician Jim Adkins (Jimmy Eat World) is 45. Rapper Eve is 42. Rock musician Chris Joannou (joh-AN'-yoo) (Silverchair) is 41. Actor Heather Matarazzo is 38. Country singer Miranda Lambert is 37. Actor Josh Peck is 34. Pop singer Vinz Dery (Nico & Vinz) is 30. Actor Genevieve Beuchner is 29. Actor Zoey Deutch (DOYCH) is 26. Actor Kiernan Shipka is 21. Actor Mackenzie Foy is 20.

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

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