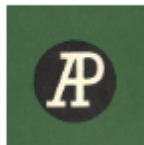


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Connecting April 19, 2021

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Photo/Nick Ut

Colleagues,

Good Monday morning on this the 19th day of April 2021,

We're sorry to bring news of the death of the AP's **Khodeir Majid**, a veteran video producer and cameraman in Iraq. He died last Friday of complications from COVID-19.

If you have a favorite memory of working with him, please send to Connecting to share with your colleagues.

Our colleague **Nick Ut** traveled to the U.S.-Mexico border to document the influx of illegal immigrants. One of his photos is shown above and others are in today's issue.

As the end of the 20-year U.S. involvement in the war in Afghanistan nears, with President Biden's announcement last week, we follow coverage in Friday's Connecting with memories of two colleagues – **Andrew Selsky** and **Robert Reid** – who served with AP there.

Life is full of What-If's – and our colleague **Norm Abelson** explains how the path not chosen affected his career and his life in today's Final Word. Connecting would welcome your own story about your what-if.

Have a great week – be safe, stay healthy.

Paul

Veteran AP producer, cameraman in Iraq dies of COVID-19



This 2014 photo shows Khodeir Majid. (AP Photo/Karim Kadim)

By ZEINA KARAM

BEIRUT (AP) — Khodeir Majid, who covered Iraq's numerous conflicts as a video producer and cameraman for The Associated Press for over 17 years, has died, relatives said Friday. He was 64.

The cause of death was complications due to the coronavirus. Majid had been hospitalized for about three weeks, but his condition rapidly deteriorated in the last few days and he died Friday morning.

Majid joined the AP in Baghdad in March 2004, a year after the U.S.-led invasion that toppled Saddam Hussein in 2003. He went on to cover the breakdown in security and sectarian bloodbath that prevailed for years, as well as the U.S. occupation, the rise of the al-Qaida terror network, and finally, the war against the Islamic State group.

Killings, kidnappings and bombings were an everyday occurrence, sometimes with multiple bombings on the same day.

Through it all, Majid, known as Abu Amjad to family and friends, was a beloved colleague and a calming presence in the Baghdad bureau. He was a dedicated journalist and a good friend to many, working quietly and behind-the-scenes to make sure accreditation and paperwork were secured, badges were collected, interviews were nailed and stories were covered.

"Abu Amjad was a rare source of joy during difficult times working in Baghdad for the past 17 years. He will be remembered as kind and a dedicated professional," said Ahmed Sami, the AP's senior producer in Baghdad.

Samya Kullab, the AP's correspondent in Baghdad, recalled Majid's dedication and commitment toward getting evasive ministers and officials to grant the AP interviews. "He chased the Transport Ministry for months recently. 'He keeps saying next week but don't worry, I will not stop calling' – such was his dedication to getting the story."

"I never forget," he would say.

Kullab and other Baghdad colleagues also recalled his kindness.

"His wife would make these date biscuits he shared with me on one occasion. I mentioned casually that I liked them," Kullab said. "The next day I had date biscuits to last a month."

Majid was buried in Iraq's Shiite holy city of Najaf Friday. He is survived by his wife and five children.

Click [here](#) for link to this story. Shared by Mark Mittelstadt, Sibby Christensen.

A sad photo of Indianapolis tragedy by AP's Michael Conroy



A body is taken from the scene where multiple people were shot at a FedEx Ground facility in Indianapolis, Friday, April 16, 2021. (AP Photo/Michael Conroy)

John Wylie ([Email](#)) - AP still knows how to get the world's best pictures of the world's most important stories. That was proved again by its handling of the Indianapolis shooting in the wee hours of Thursday night/Friday morning at the Indianapolis FedEx facility. Michael Conroy/AP filled the top roughly 1/3 of the Wall Street Journal for the highest circulation April 17-18 edition with his color shot showing a body being carried out, with a FedEx truck in the background and a law enforcement officer obviously in mourning. That one picture told the whole story. I'd seen it dozens of times today as I reviewed news coverage, but the full impact didn't hit me until now when I had a chance to review my weekend Journal. You may remember when the Journal relied solely on Pen and Ink masterpieces for art, but when it converted to color graphics it chose only the best. Of the photos in in today's A-Section, only one source had two credits: AP, for P1 and Raul Castro's exit from power on A8 which was AP photographer Aeiel Ley Ryero (AP /also credited to ACN).

Your memories of covering Afghanistan as 'forever war' nears end

Andrew Selsky ([Email](#)) – Responding to your asker for Afghanistan memories, [here](#) is a video I shot when on assignment in Afghanistan in October and November, 1996, weeks after the Taliban seized control of Kabul and most of the rest of the country.

I shot the video in between doing interviews and taking notes. Among those who appear in it are Abdullah, who was our excellent local-hire reporter and photographer,

and former Associated Press Television News (now APTN) producer-cameraman Frank Smyth.

The scenes show Taliban fighters at the front lines north of Kabul; ruins of Kabul from fighting between mujaheddin groups; AP House in Kabul as anti-aircraft guns are firing against Northern Alliance air raids; a shop on Chicken Street (where I bought some items that I still have); Taliban fighters loading Katyusha rockets; Kabul zoo; graves on a hillside; Taliban tank firing at Northern Alliance positions; me at my computer; a king's bullet-scarred tomb; tea at AP House; a sick photographer being treated at AP House by an MSF doctor during a blackout; sound of a muezzin doing a predawn call to prayer.

My assignment in Afghanistan remains among the most vivid and rewarding of many I had around the world. The video can give a sense of the environment we worked in.



AP Photo/Santiago Lyon

Click [here](#) for one of the stories I wrote, from the perspective of women who suddenly had to live under Taliban rules, including being forced to wear the burqa. Its headline: "In Afghanistan, Head-to-Toe Garment Hides Identity - And Outrage." Our colleague Santiago Lyon took the above picture that accompanied the story.

-0-



Smoke from a car bomb rises above Kabul 2009. Photo/Robert Reid

Robert Reid ([Email](#)) - Seen from the skies through bleary eyes after an overnight flight from Germany, Kabul offered a wondrous vista -- thousands of squat brown structures sprawled across a narrow valley flanked by snow-covered peaks.

On the ground, the view wasn't quite so enchanting.

It was December 30, 1979 only six days after the Soviet Army had swooped into Kabul and seized power to prop up a shaky Marxist regime. In the first of many missteps, the Soviets killed the very Afghan leader who had pleaded for them to intervene.

Apart from a few brief breathing spells, that same conflict has raged on for nearly 42 years.

Forty-two years. That hardly seems possible.

I thought about the events of December 1979 when President Joe Biden announced that all U.S. troops would leave Afghanistan by Sept. 11, the 20th anniversary of the event that sent them there.

From the Afghan perspective, the "American War" is just the latest chapter in a conflict that began in the late 1970s when a Marxist government seized power and tried to impose values anathema to Afghan traditions.

Outside powers come and go like a guest who enters your house, sets fire to the furniture but leaves you to cope with the flames. Whether Sept. 11 brings peace

remains in doubt.

AP had sent me to Kabul not because I knew anything about Afghanistan but because I was available. The first international flight to Kabul since the Soviet attack departed from Germany where I was based.

AP had no Kabul bureau. The AP in-house expert, Barry Shlachter, flew in from Delhi a few hours after me but was stopped at the airport. The flight from Germany landed before the Afghans got their security act together. A handful of journalists on the early flight slipped in without incident.



From left: Deb Riechmann, Robert Reid and Chris Bodeen, all AP staff at the time, at a lake outside Kabul 2010

We found a ramshackle city that was relatively calm but where armed Soviet soldiers were still on the streets, alongside unarmed Afghan troops. Tanks with Afghan markings but with ethnic European Soviets standing in the turrets lumbered down the streets.

Soviet convoys of five-ton trucks, caked in dust and mud, rumbled down the streets bringing reinforcements from Central Asia. After sundown, Soviet motorized patrols fired bursts of automatic fire in the air to intimidate the populace and keep Afghans in their homes.

The Soviets threw in the towel after eight years at the cost of more than 14,400 dead. The United States is calling it quits after more than 2,400 dead and an estimated \$2 trillion.

For Afghans the cost has been incalculable.

On that crisp, sunny morning so long ago, no one could foresee how events would unfold. One American diplomat told me not to expect any more out of Washington than a few hand-wringing statements condemning the attack.

After all, only seven years had elapsed since President Nixon had double-crossed the South Vietnamese and less than a year since the Carter administration had cut loose the Shah of Iran.

Boycotting the Moscow Olympics and arming the Afghan resistance didn't seem possible.

My time in Kabul didn't last long. At sundown on Day One, the authorities took me in custody at my hotel but couldn't get me to the airport in time for the last flight out of the country.

About a half dozen others joined me in comfortable "hotel arrest," which lasted until Jan. 2, 1980 because an overnight snowstorm closed the airport and kept us in town.

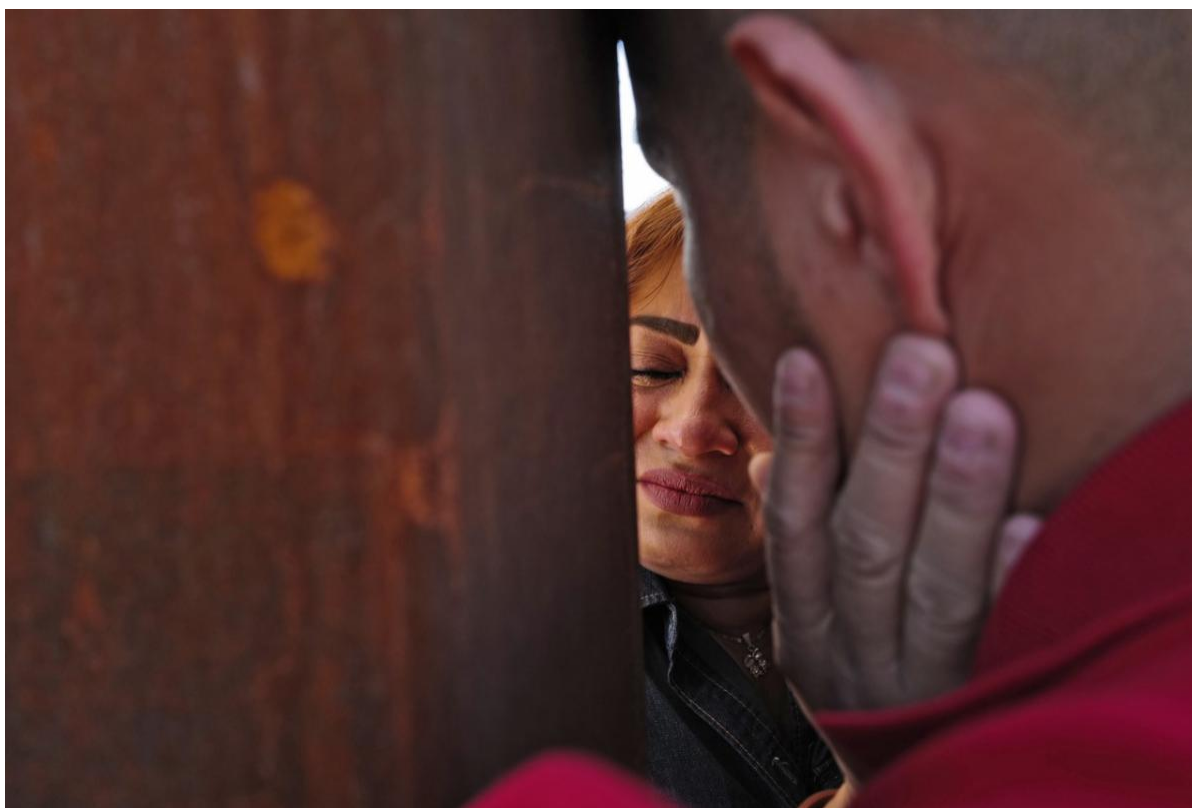
I returned to Kabul briefly in 2007 and for a longer stint as AP news director in 2009. Much had changed. The city seemed more modern, private vehicles clogged the streets, women had joined the workforce and girls were in school.

The war, however, dragged on, especially in the rural and east where little had changed.

Much has been written about the lessons of Afghanistan, including the limits of military power, the folly of Russian and American hubris and the futility of nation-building.

For Americans one lesson is worth remembering: Afghanistan is what a nation looks like when social cohesion dissolves.

Documenting influx of illegal immigrants



Son from San Bernardino, Calif., visits mother from Mexicali US and Mexico border. Photos/Nick Ut.

Nick Ut ([Email](#)) – I just came back from weekend near US and Mexico border, near Yuma, Arizona, documenting the influx of illegal immigrants into the US. The people

crossing that we encountered all day were not Mexican nor Central Americans. Most were from India, Haiti, Venezuela and Cuba. Yuma Border Patrol Sector is being overrun by illegal immigration at over 1,100 per day, throughout the day. Yuma processes the OTMs (Other Than Mexicans). Nick Ut with Sigma 60-600mm Lens and 100-400mm Lens for Leica SL.



My love for an Israel-hating Egyptian writer

By DAN PERRY ([Email](#))
The Times of Israel

Through a smoky haze, I recognized Alaa Aswany across the rooftop at Cairo's Garden City Club. I had already had my share of whiskey, but to fortify I poured another double. I rarely meet authors I love. Because mostly they're long dead.

I'll happily engage with almost anyone in a dive bar, but with literature I am a snob. My shelves creak under the weight of Zweig, Maupassant, Waugh, Maugham, Naipaul ... you get the picture. Newer works tend to bore me; I sense that we ran out of literary elements about 50 years ago and are left with awkward, unreadable composites.

When traveling I often consult with one who knows: What's the one thing I should read?

When I was en route to Haiti, the person replied: "Read *The Comedians* by Graham Greene. He was not Haitian, but it is the book to read." I adored this chronicle of Caribbean skullduggery, mentioned it in a story I wrote, and then bought everything Greene had ever penned.

A few years ago I arrived in Cairo for the AP. "Read *The Yacoubian Building* by Aswany," I was told. The story gripped me instantly. And while the troubles of 1970s shoeshiners and shirt-makers are interesting, what I truly loved was a series of skillfully deployed devices.

Read more [here](#).

Best of the Week
Meticulous planning, near-flawless execution put AP ahead of the pack on

Prince Philip coverage



2011 AP Photo/Alastair Grant

The AP team in London had been preparing its coverage of Prince Philip's death for years to ensure when the moment came, everyone would be ready. That exceptional planning laid the foundation for lightning handling and a major win when Philip passed on Friday.

The preparation included multiple revisions of the main obituaries for all formats and meetings across formats and departments as well as with our broadcast and photo partners and Buckingham Palace. As soon as Philip was admitted to the hospital earlier this year, U.K. news director Susie Blann and the London team updated obituaries and plans. The level of detail was granular: They addressed filing plans for all formats, including the decision to move the news as a Flash, and a strategy for how the newsroom and editorial support teams would communicate to customers.

On Friday, the planning paid off: U.K. photo editor Martin Cleaver picked up rumors of Philip's death and immediately let Blann know. Blann confirmed with her sources and immediately let the wider team know. Editors across formats started pulling up the obit-prepped material while setting video and photo staffers in motion to Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle. Because the team knew in advance that official word would come via an email from the palace, and had prepared for that moment, the coverage team of more than 25 individuals in the United Kingdom, Europe and the United States was poised for action when the email arrived.

Read more [here](#).

Best of the States

AP team embeds in West Virginia city seeing a resurgence of addiction amid the pandemic



AP Photo/David Goldman

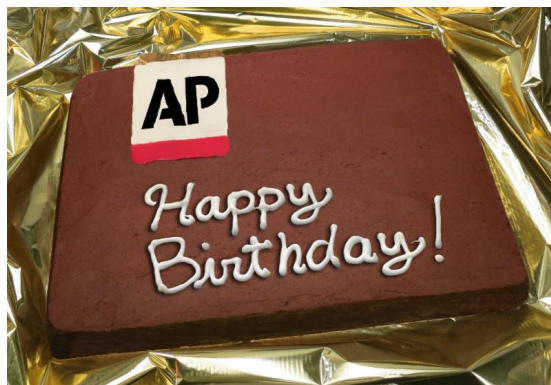
As the COVID-19 pandemic killed more than a half-million Americans, it also quietly inflamed what had already been one of the country's greatest public health crises: addiction.

To tell that story, a multiformat AP team — enterprise writer Claire Galofaro, enterprise photographer David Goldman and video journalist Mike Householder — spent time in Huntington, West Virginia, exploring the resurgence of addiction in a community that had made progress against the epidemic of drug abuse. Then came COVID.

Experts had warned early on that the pandemic was worsening the county's existing crisis of "deaths of despair," from alcohol, suicide and drugs, but national data on overdose deaths is always months delayed. So the journalists explored locally available data and turned to sources in the field to determine where to root a story about the pandemic's toll on those suffering addiction.

Read more [here](#).

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



John Dorfman - jdorfman@dorfmanvalue.com

Stories of interest

Some Jan. 6 defendants try to use journalism as riot defense (AP)

By MICHAEL KUNZELMAN and JACQUES BILLEAUD

The Trump supporters who stormed the U.S. Capitol in January created a trove of self-incriminating evidence, thoroughly documenting their actions and words in videos and social media posts. Now some of the camera-toting people in the crowd are claiming they were only there to record history as journalists, not to join a deadly insurrection.

It's unlikely that any of the self-proclaimed journalists can mount a viable defense on the First Amendment's free speech grounds, experts say. They face long odds if video captured them acting more like rioters than impartial observers. But as the internet has broadened and blurred the definition of a journalist, some appear intent on trying.

At least eight defendants charged in the Jan. 6 riot have identified themselves as a journalist or a documentary filmmaker, including three people arrested this month, according to an Associated Press review of court records in nearly 400 federal cases.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Dennis Conrad, Adolphe Bernotas, Sibby Christensen.

-0-

Chicago Video Tests Newsroom Handling of Graphic Footage (AP)

By DAVID BAUDER, AP Media Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The image that many Americans have of 13-year-old Adam Toledo is frozen in time: He is standing in an alley with his hands up as the gunshot that killed him is heard.

This week's release of Chicago body camera footage of the March 29 shooting was another test for news organizations weighing how much graphic material they should show now that video of police confrontations is becoming commonplace.

One Chicago digital site offered its subscribers a choice to read the story with or without the video.

National television outlets took similar approaches. They showed jumpy body camera footage of officer Eric Stillman chasing Toledo and ordering him to drop a gun, followed by Toledo's empty hands being raised. The video is stopped at the moment of the fatal shot.

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

-0-

CNN reporter confronted during Minnesota protests in heated on-air interview: 'Get away from here'

(Washington Post)

By Jaclyn Peiser

CNN reporter Sara Sidner was reporting live on protests over the police killing of Daunte Wright in suburban Minneapolis on Monday as tear gas billowed behind her and fireworks lit up the sky when a man in a camouflage vest interrupted her.

"Y'all be twisting up the story," he said in a video clip that has since gone viral online.

For nearly two minutes of extraordinary live television, the man berated Sidner and accused the swarm of videographers and reporters on the scene of misrepresenting the protests against the fatal shooting of Wright, an unarmed 20-year-old Black man, by an officer who claimed to mistake her gun for a Taser.

"Tell me what you think about what's going on here," Sidner asked the man, as protesters and police clashed in the background.

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

-0-

Police in Minnesota round up journalists covering protest, force them on the ground and take pictures of their faces (USA Today)

By **Adrianna Rodriguez**

Journalists covering a protest in a Minneapolis suburb Friday night were forced on their stomachs by law enforcement, rounded up and were only released after having their face and press credentials photographed.

The incident occurred hours after a judge issued a temporary order barring the Minnesota State Patrol from using physical force or chemical agents against journalists, according to court documents. It also barred police from seizing photographic, audio or video recording equipment, or press passes.

Minnesota State Patrol on Saturday said in a statement, "troopers checked and photographed journalists and their credentials and driver's licenses at the scene in order to expedite the identification process."

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

-0-

Japan asks Myanmar junta to release arrested journalist (AP)

By **MARI YAMAGUCHI**

TOKYO (AP) — Japan's government said Monday it is asking Myanmar to release a Japanese journalist who was arrested by security forces in its largest city of Yangon the previous day.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Katsunobu Kato told reporters that his government is asking Myanmar authorities to explain the arrest and release him as soon as possible.

He did not identify the detainee, but Japanese media said he is Yuki Kitazumi, a former Nikkei business newspaper reporter currently based in Yangon as a freelance journalist.

"We will continue asking the Myanmar side for his early release, while doing our utmost for the protection of Japanese citizens in that country," Kato said.

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

The Final Word

What if ...

Norm Abelson ([Email](#)) - Recently tossing out some old piles of paper I came upon a newspaper obituary announcing Samuel "Steve" Broidy had died April 28, 1991, in Los Angeles. More than 40 years earlier, I had come within a whisker of mailing a letter I had written asking a favor from him, a man I never had met. If I had dropped that one-

page letter into a mailbox, the entire course of my life could have been changed – dramatically.

Let me tell you why. Broidy was born in 1905 in Malden, Massachusetts, my hometown and that of most of my family. He was, in fact, a member of my family, a first cousin to my father. Forced to quit Boston University because of the Depression, he joined Monogram Pictures, a Hollywood B-movie studio, in 1933 as its Boston sales manager, moved to the West Coast in 1940, and five years later rose to become president of both Monogram and Allied Artists motion picture studios.

Highly regarded for his work both in the film industry and as a philanthropist, in 1963 he received an Oscar - the highly regarded Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award - from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. (Broidy at right)



But the letter I had written was not about him; it was about me. I was asking for a job. At a low point in my young life (I was 19 or 20), without direction or specific goal, I had dropped out of Northeastern University. I got a job sweeping floors in a candy factory, but quit after only two weeks, and was spending most of my time in my bedroom, brooding. And writing self-pitying poems and essays, cursing my fate.

Soon my father issued an edict: I had to get a job and, while living under his roof, I was expected to contribute to the family financially -and soon. My dad was an executive with the Boston Ice Co., and it was in the ice plants where I had my summer jobs all through high school. It was assumed in the family that after graduating I would get a college degree, and head for a different calling. But now I had failed at both higher education and floor sweeping. It looked like, if I didn't do something, I was heading for a career in the ice plant.

I had heard my dad mention Steve Broidy a few times. In the early years, when Dad was laboring at a low level in the ice plants, before moving up the ladder, I had wondered once why he hadn't sought to ask Cousin Steve for a film job. It never occurred to me I'd one day do it for myself. While I hadn't done well at much of anything thus far, there was one constant in my life - writing. I had been writing since my very early years. Like everything else in my life, though, it was undirected with no end goal. But I did know that I was a pretty good at it.

I decided to talk to my father; the conversation, as I recall, went something like this:

"Dad, can I talk to you a minute?"

"What is it?"

"Well, you know, I was thinking I might write to your cousin Steve, and ask for a job at Monogram. You know, just a starting job, like running errands and stuff, and gradually try to do some writing. Remember when I showed you a couple of things I wrote, and

you and Ma thought they were pretty good? Unless you think maybe you should be the one to be in touch with him..."

"Well, it's been so many years since I...No, it's your request, you'd better do it. Give him my regards, though."

Composed sitting at my Dad's old roll-top desk, on his Remington standard typewriter, the letter was not dramatic. I remember first recalling my Dad to him and, then my familial connection. It mentioned my interest in writing, but made clear I would be happy to accept the most menial of jobs, and work my way up - the way he had.

But the letter was never mailed. No further mention of the Hollywood fantasy ever came up, by Dad or me. As usual, I just didn't want to deal with so huge a decision. In the meantime, I did return as a laborer in the Boston Ice plant on First Street in Cambridge. My future seemed sealed.



Two old salts get together as Tom Horgan (right) Boston AP waterfront expert, tells Sterling Hayden, former Gloucester fisherman and now a movie actor, about operations of AP Wirephoto.

1947 photo courtesy AP Corporate Archives

But Lady Fate wasn't through with me yet. One night, on his way home from work in Boston, Dad stopped in to a bar to have a drink. It was quite an unusual thing for him,

and I never did find out what impelled him. He started a lively conversation with the guy sitting next to him. Tom Horgan, it turned out, was a retired Navy captain; my Dad had put in eight years in the Navy. More importantly, Tom also was an editor at the Boston office of The Associated Press.

Dad told Tom of his errant son, who seemed to have a talent for writing. An appointment was made; I got a job as a copy boy at The AP's Boston office, quit the job at the ice plant, and was off, finally, on a life. A damn good one as an AP reporter, U.S. Senate press secretary, Op Ed writer, public radio commentator, author and writing teacher.

I've got a feeling it was a hell of a lot different from the life I would have led if I'd mailed that letter off to Hollywood.

Today in History - April 19, 2021



By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, April 19, the 109th day of 2021. There are 256 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 19, 1995, a truck bomb destroyed the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, killing 168 people. (Bomber Timothy McVeigh, who prosecutors said had planned the attack as revenge for the Waco siege of two years earlier, was convicted of federal murder charges and executed in 2001.)

On this date:

In 1775, the American Revolutionary War began with the battles of Lexington and Concord.

In 1865, a funeral was held at the White House for President Abraham Lincoln, assassinated five days earlier; his coffin was then taken to the U.S. Capitol for a private memorial service in the Rotunda.

In 1897, the first Boston Marathon was held; winner John J. McDermott ran the course in two hours, 55 minutes and 10 seconds.

In 1943, during World War II, tens of thousands of Jews in the Warsaw Ghetto began a valiant but ultimately futile battle against Nazi forces.

In 1977, the Supreme Court, in *Ingraham v. Wright*, ruled 5-4 that even severe spanking of schoolchildren by faculty members did not violate the Eighth Amendment ban against cruel and unusual punishment.

In 1989, 47 sailors were killed when a gun turret exploded aboard the USS *Iowa* in the Caribbean. (The Navy initially suspected that a dead crew member had deliberately sparked the blast, but later said there was no proof of that.)

In 1993, the 51-day siege at the Branch Davidian compound near Waco, Texas, ended as fire destroyed the structure after federal agents began smashing their way in; about 80 people, including two dozen children and sect leader David Koresh, were killed.

In 1994, a Los Angeles jury awarded \$3.8 million to beaten motorist Rodney King.

In 2005, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger of Germany was elected pope in the first conclave of the new millennium; he took the name Benedict XVI.

In 2013, Dzhokhar Tsarnaev (joh-HAHR' tsahr-NEYE'-ehv), a 19-year-old college student wanted in the Boston Marathon bombings, was taken into custody after a manhunt that had left the city virtually paralyzed; his older brother and alleged accomplice, 26-year-old Tamerlan (TAM'-ehr-luhn), was killed earlier in a furious attempt to escape police.

In 2015, Freddie Gray, a 25-year-old Black man, died a week after suffering a spinal cord injury in the back of a Baltimore police van while he was handcuffed and shackled. (Six police officers were charged; three were acquitted and the city's top prosecutor eventually dropped the three remaining cases.)

In 2018, Raul Castro turned over Cuba's presidency to Miguel Mario Diaz-Canel Bermudez, the first non-Castro to hold Cuba's top government office since the 1959 revolution led by Fidel Castro and his younger brother Raul.

Ten years ago: Cuba's Communist Party picked 79-year-old Raul Castro to replace his ailing brother Fidel as first secretary during a key Party Congress. Syria did away with 50 years of emergency rule, but emboldened and defiant crowds accused President Bashar Assad of simply trying to buy time while clinging to power. Norwegian runner Grete Waitz, 57, who'd won nine New York marathons and the silver medal at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics, died in Oslo.

Five years ago: Front-runners Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton swept to resounding victories in New York's primary. Cuban revolutionary leader Fidel Castro delivered a valedictory speech to the Communist Party that he put in power a half-century earlier, telling party members he was nearing the end of his life and exhorting them to help his ideas survive.

One year ago: Canadian authorities brought an end to a deadly weekend rampage, fatally shooting a man who had killed 22 people in shootings and fires across central and northern Nova Scotia; Gabriel Wortman had been driving a replica police car during the rampage. A handful of Eastern Orthodox priests held mass for the Christian holiday of Easter in an empty Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem due to coronavirus restrictions. (Eastern Christian rites mark Easter a week after the Catholic calendar.)

Today's Birthdays: Actor Elinor Donahue is 84. Rock musician Alan Price (The Animals) is 79. Actor Tim Curry is 75. Pop singer Mark "Flo" Volman (The Turtles; Flo and Eddie) is 74. Actor Tony Plana is 69. Former tennis player Sue Barker is 65. Motorsports Hall of Famer Al Unser Jr. is 59. Actor Tom Wood is 58. Former recording executive Suge Knight is 56. Singer-songwriter Dar Williams is 54. Actor Kim Hawthorne (TV: "Greenleaf") is 53. Actor Ashley Judd is 53. Singer Bekka Bramlett is 53. Latin pop singer Luis Miguel is 51. Actor Jennifer Esposito is 49. Actor Jennifer Taylor is 49. Jazz singer Madeleine Peyroux (PAY'-roo) is 47. Actor James Franco is 43. Actor Kate Hudson is 42. Actor Hayden Christensen is 40. Actor Catalina Sandino Moreno is 40. Actor-comedian Ali Wong is 39. Actor Victoria Yeates is 38. Actor Kelen Coleman is 37. Actor Zack Conroy is 36. Roots rock musician Steve Johnson (Alabama Shakes) is 36. Actor Courtland Mead is 34. Retired tennis player Maria Sharapova is 34. NHL forward Patrik Laine is 33.

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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