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Connecting

April 21, 2021

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George Floyd's brother Philonise Floyd wipes his eyes during a news conference, Tuesday, April 20, 2021, in Minneapolis, after the verdict was read.

Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning on this the 21st day of April 2021,

A jury's verdict in Minneapolis resounded around the world Tuesday as former Minneapolis police Officer Derek Chauvin was found guilty of murder and manslaughter for kneeling on the neck of a Black man, George Floyd, until he died last May.

A Connecting salute to members of the AP staff who covered the story – and if the trial wasn't enough, that staff also dealt admirably with the death Monday of former Vice President Walter Mondale.

AP media writer **David Bauder** writes on the aftermath of the verdict with a focus on media covering the trial, in our lead article today.

Today's issue also brings a remarkable story from The Washington Post Magazine's **Patricia McCormick** on the 1970 Kent State shootings and the Pulitzer Prize-winning photograph by student photographer **John Filo** of Mary Ann Vecchio kneeling over the body of a student slain by National Guard bullets.

Filo ([Email](#)), a Connecting colleague, later worked as a photographer for the AP before eventually joining CBS News where he recently retired as vice president for CBS Photography Operations.

Have your thoughts to share about coverage of the Minneapolis trial? Share with your colleagues.

Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy.

Paul

Through the media covering Chauvin case, a collective pause



News of the verdict in the trial of former Minneapolis police Officer Derek Chauvin is displayed on a billboard in Times Square in New York on Tuesday. (AP Photo/Seth Wenig)

By DAVID BAUDER

NEW YORK (AP) — With a collective nervous energy, millions of people paused in front of television sets or other screens Tuesday for a verdict in the case that for nearly a year has exposed the raw nerve of racial relations in America.

Three times they heard a Minnesota judge, Peter Cahill, read the jury's verdict declaring former Minneapolis police Officer Derek Chauvin guilty of murder and manslaughter for kneeling on the neck of a Black man, George Floyd, until he died last May.

Cahill's words led to a visible release of tension, both in the faces of news anchors onscreen and in crowds captured by cameras outside.

“Thank you, Jesus,” responded anchor Don Lemon on CNN.

“My stomach isn’t in knots anymore,” said analyst Eddie Glaude on NBC.

“I do think this will restore some faith in the justice system that was so badly needed,” said Gayle King, CBS News anchor.

Because Floyd’s death had been so vividly captured in cell phone footage by bystanders, the case led to instant protests and reckonings on race last year, moments emotionally relived during Chauvin’s trial.

Shortly after Cahill polled the jury, Chauvin was taken into custody.

“The whole world just got to see that: Derek Chauvin led away in handcuffs,” said MSNBC’s Brian Williams.

On ABC News, commentator Sunny Hostin wiped away tears and spoke about her nervousness about the verdict. She said her 18-year-old son lives in South Africa, and she feels that he is safer there.

“I really believe that this is a movement that we’re seeing,” she said. “For that I am so very thankful that perhaps we will see real change, much needed change in this country.”

On Fox News Channel, former prosecutor Jeanine Pirro said that “clearly the verdict was supported by the facts.” But new late-night host Greg Gutfeld drew some gasps and groans from colleagues for his reaction.

“I’m glad that he was found guilty on all charges,” Gutfeld said, “even if he might not be guilty of all charges. I’m glad that he was found guilty of all charges because I want a verdict that keeps this country from going up in flames.”

Challenged by Pirro, Gutfeld said that there was “a sense of extortion, that if things didn’t go a certain way — I’m speaking the truth — if it didn’t go a certain way, that there was going to be destruction. We know that. Why pretend otherwise?”

Even ESPN cut into its regular programming for verdict coverage, a rare switch away from sports. The network’s “SportsCenter” show tweeted: “George Floyd’s death was a catalyst for the sports world’s racial justice movement.

There was about 90 minutes between when word came down at about 3:30 p.m. Eastern time that a verdict had been reached before the result was known. That was danger zone for television networks: free time to engage in speculation.

For the most part, commentators got it right, reasoning a verdict only a day after closing arguments, and without the jurors reaching out for answers to questions, was a good sign for prosecutors.

“The atmosphere in Minneapolis is extremely tense, but I can also tell you that it is very hopeful,” King said.

CNN's Van Jones said that "people will feel that their humanity has been flushed down the toilet" if Chauvin was acquitted. "Every minute now is just agony," he said.

"We shall see what the value of a Black life is," his colleague Lemon said.

In the end, NBC News' Gabe Gutierrez, stationed outside the courthouse, reported to anchor Lester Holt that a wave had rippled across the crowd after people repeated the verdict that had heard on their smartphones.

"If I could sum it up in one word, Lester, it is relief," Gutierrez said.

Associated Press Writer Jake Coyle in New York contributed to this report.

Find AP's full coverage of the death of George Floyd at:
<https://apnews.com/hub/death-of-george-floyd>

From Poynter.org: [The Derek Chauvin verdict: How did the media do with coverage?](#)

Some vindication for Black people

Gene Herrick ([Email](#)) –Yesterday afternoon, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, Black people across the nation felt some relief and vindication. A local jury returned three guilty verdicts against Derek Chauvin, a fired and disgraced Minneapolis white policeman, who was charged with the choking death of George Floyd, a local black man.

Crowds had formed in Minneapolis and other places across the county. It was felt that if the jury did not convict, there would be many riots across the nation. After the judge read the verdicts, one could almost hear the sighs of relief across the country.

This big event reminds me of the early days in the South when Black people were slaves, and treated as if they were most inferior. As an Associated Press photographer, I understood the social injustices. I remember, and covered the Emmett Till case in Mississippi in 1955. That involved the brutal murder of a 14-year-old Chicago Black boy who went to Money, MS, to visit relatives. However, supposedly, Till and a couple of his cousins went to a store, and Till reportedly whistled at one of the women. As the story goes, the husbands, Roy Bryant, and J.W. Milam got Till out of bed, took him to a barn, beat and shot Till to death. They tied a cotton gin around his neck with barbed wire, and tossed his body into the Tallahatchie River. They were put on trial, but everyone knew there would not be a conviction. There wasn't. This case was actually the beginning of the Civil Rights Movement.

In early 1956, a Black lady, Rosa Parks, was removed from a city bus in Montgomery, Ala., and arrested. Almost immediately, a young Black Preacher in Montgomery came to the forefront, and started preaching and holding big meetings in defense of the Black people of the world, and especially in the belt of southern states. His name was Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Right then the Civil Rights Movement got its original start. I also covered those stories. Despite King's intentions, he was assassinated in Memphis in 1968. I covered that story as well.

The Black people, who were forced to come to this country, and placed into slavery, were treated almost as non-humans, especially in the South. King's movement rather ended with his death. Now, the surge of Black killings and brutality has spread nationwide. Black Americans, plus many white sympathizers, have worked hard to have equal representation in the world of peoples.

Dr. King, and Emmett Till, probably have a smile of happiness tonight, plus a renewed hope for better treatment of the Black people of this country.

The Girl in the Kent State Photo



John Filo/Getty Images)

By Patricia McCormick
The Washington Post Magazine

Last May, when Mary Ann Vecchio watched the video of George Floyd's dying moments, she felt herself plummet through time and space — to a day almost exactly 50 years earlier. On that afternoon in 1970, the world was just as riveted by an image that showed the life draining out of a young man on the ground, this one a black-and-white still photo. Mary Ann was at the center of that photo, her arms raised in anguish, begging for help.

That photo, of her kneeling over the body of Kent State University student Jeffrey Miller, is one of the most important images of the 20th century. Taken by student photographer John Filo, it captures Mary Ann's raw grief and disbelief at the realization that the nation's soldiers had just fired at its own children. The Kent State Pietà, as it's sometimes called, is one of those rare photos that fundamentally changed the way we see ourselves and the world around us. Like the image of the

solitary protester standing in front of a line of tanks in Tiananmen Square. Or the photo of Kim Phuc, the naked Vietnamese girl fleeing the napalm that has just incinerated her home. Or the image of Aylan Kurdi's tiny, 3-year-old body facedown in the sand, he and his mother and brother having drowned while fleeing Syria.

These images shocked our collective conscience — and insisted that we look. But eventually we look away, unaware, or perhaps unwilling, to think about the suffering that went on long after the shutter has snapped — or of the cost to the human beings trapped inside those photos. “That picture hijacked my life,” says Mary Ann, now 65. “And 50 years later, I still haven't really moved on.”

Read more [here](#). Shared by Max Thomson, Scott Dine.

More memories of Walter Mondale



Cheryl Arvidson (Email) - This photo is in honor of former Vice President Walter Mondale who died at 93 after a life devoted to public service. I was fortunate to be assigned to cover him when, as a Minnesota senator, he was chosen as Jimmy Carter's running mate. When they won, I covered Fritz as VP. This picture was taken as we headed off right after the inauguration on the first foreign trip to six countries in Europe and Japan. I also traveled with him to China. I knew Fritz, his wife Joan and his daughter Eleanor and sons Ted and William well, and consider Fritz one of the finest men and most devoted politicians I have ever covered. He believed in the power of government to help those in need and worked tirelessly for racial justice and women's

rights. And he turned the vice presidency into a functioning, powerful position rather than just a ceremonial title. I truly adored him and am honored to have called him a friend.

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Evans Witt (Email) - I covered the 1984 presidential campaign, focused on the Democratic candidates. It was quite a ride: remember John Glenn as the inevitable nominee during 1983? Most will not. Gary Hart, Jesse Jackson and Walter Mondale added up to quite a year.

Mondale went back home to St. Paul, especially in the summer of 1984, before the Democratic convention and then the week of the GOP convention (back when candidates didn't try to step on the other party's party.) The above picture is from a Mondale news conference in the driveway of his house, probably August 1984. Folding chairs were set up and a lectern brought out for Mondale. I'm the young fellow on the right side in the front row. Mark Knoller, then of AP Radio, is on the other end of the row. Dayton Duncan, Mondale's press fellow is standing next to him.

There are lots of stories from that year. I ended up covering Geraldine Ferraro as the Vice Presidential nominee. I had worked my way into covering politics against the wishes of some of my bosses by covering women in politics for a number of years. And I wrote the first stories about the effort to get Mondale to pick a woman as his running mate. The Ferraro campaign plane was the first, I believe, to have a majority of women in almost every category.

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Digging Turns Up Veep Choice Before Announcement

By CHARLES LEWIS
Washington Bureau Chief

The real suspense in advance of the Democratic National Convention involved Walter Mondale's choice of a running mate. It ended with his selection of Rep. Geraldine Ferraro as the first woman ever picked for a major party ticket.

The Associated Press reported that historic selection 12 hours before Mondale announced it.

Donald Rothberg, the AP political writer staking out Mondale at home in North Oaks, Minn., filed an urgent series when Mondale announced that he had made his decision but said he would not reveal the winner's name until the next day.

Rothberg's story also contained the tantalizing nugget that Mondale had talked to the person he wanted, and although name and sex remained a secret, the candidate had accepted.

The AP team covering national politics already had assembled in San Francisco to begin coverage of the Democratic National Convention. When Rothberg's lead moved shortly after 9 p.m. Pacific time, Jon Wolman, Washington news editor, marshaled the convention staff to track down the name of the winner.

Wolman began with the list of possible candidates, eight names that included senators, governors and mayors.

The convention staff working in the AP newsroom in San Francisco's Moscone Convention Center began calling the people on the list or asking local bureaus for help in tracking them down. David Espo, Mike Shanahan, Evans Witt, Cliff Haas all worked the phones.

The first question was: "Are you Mondale's choice



AP newsroom at the Democratic National Convention

for the vice presidential slot?" If there were any "no comment" responses or other dodges, there was a followup question that could evoke a telling clue: "Did you talk with Mr. Mondale today?"

The list gradually dwindled as name after name was eliminated. It came down to three finalists: Ms. Ferraro, Mayor Thomas Bradley of Los Angeles and a surprise—House Speaker Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill told Haas that Gov. Michael Dukakis of Massachusetts was in the running.

Then Shanahan, who's been covering the campaign out of Washington since last December, connected on the phone with one of his sources who knew the name: Geraldine Ferraro.

Urgent leads moved into the early morning hours with word from AP that history would be made at the convention.

Shanahan's score was the result of some old-fashioned reporting. He knew his sources, he knew who would know about Mondale's decision, he knew whom he could trust and he never stopped plugging until he came up with the name.

Graves On Police-Media Relations

Howard Graves, AP bureau chief in Honolulu, was one of three news executives who appeared before the Hawaii County Police Commission recently to discuss relations between police and the media.

Graves urged that a series of public seminars be held to deal with police-press relations. He also called for the release of names of crime and accident fatalities within six hours even if relatives cannot be notified within that time.

William Cox, managing editor of the Honolulu Star-Bulletin, asked that reporters be permitted to see offense reports rather than summaries of the offenses.

Francesca Pitaro (Email) – I found a few items on Walter Mondale. Maybe most interesting is from 1984 when AP reported Mondale's choice of Geraldine Ferraro as running mate 12 hours before it was announced by Mondale.

An AP extra was a byline story transmitted for Friday PMs as written (and spelled) by probably the youngest reporter on the inauguration, 10-year-old Craig W. Sullivan, son of Science Writer Brian Sullivan, New York. Craig reported he had written a letter to Carter during the presidential campaign last September, received a postcard "*responding back. Then on December 29, 1976 I got an invitation to the Inauguration. That's how I got to be here. . .*"

He reported:

" . . . I saw Jimmy Carter and Walter Mondale in the parade. There was an inormus crowd for the Inauguration. . . The Inauuration was a great experience for me. I liked it very much."

The Rochester Times-Union printed the story with a precede note pointing out that both of Craig's parents — Brian and Ann Westburg Sullivan — had been Times-Union reporters in the early 1960s.

Headline in the Youngstown Vindicator:

AP Writer's Son Tells It Lik It Wuz □

Cute item from 1977 when AP ran a story on the inauguration by the son of an AP reporter.



Photo caption of Mondale at UN:
UN correspondent Bill Oatis (standing) busily takes notes as Vice President Walter Mondale (left) pays a visit to UN Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance watches.

On U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan



On a patrol in the Zabul mountains.

Denis Gray ([Email](#)) - With U.S. forces en route to an exit out of Afghanistan, some have asked my opinion on whether American involvement has stabilized the country enough to prevent a return of the Taliban – or whether the only legacy left behind will be 20 years of bloodshed. I have never been able to answer with certainty, neither now nor during my four assignments in the country -- three embedded with U.S. troops and a cold Christmas in Kabul as a vacation relief.

One assignment, in 2010, took me to Zhari District of Kandahar Province, the birthplace of the Taliban where now deceased leader Mullah Omar taught an Islamic school and hung a warlord who had raped two teen-agers from the barrel of a tank.

I was embedded with a battalion of the 101st Airborne Division, hunkered down in a camp astride vital Highway 1 from which we watched helicopter gunships strafe suspected Taliban positions a few hundred yards away. Roadside bombs riddled supply convoys on the highway and patrols would gingerly thread their way through “green monsters,” swaths of picturesque orchards seeded with homemade explosives.

The commander, Lt. Col. Peter N. Benchoff, was one of several officers I encountered during my assignments who were brutally honest about the course of the war. Shortly after my arrival he told me: “Security sucks. Development? Nothing substantial. Information campaign? Nobody believes us. Governance? We’ve had one, hour-long visit by a government official in the last 2 ½ months. Taliban is the home team here.” (It should be noted that after the interview he got a dressing down from his superior).

And this despite five major NATO operations in the district and nine years after the U.S. entered the war.

Just now I googled “Zhari” and found a news item about an Afghan government operation last month “to stabilize peace and security.” In December, U.S. warplanes launched airstrikes to blunt a Taliban attack on a government outpost.

Physically my most challenging assignment was in the Daychophan district of Zabul province. Then 61 years old, trekking with troops on rugged, high-altitude patrols weighed down by body armor took some effort and sweat.

We moved out of a site the soldiers dubbed “Fort Apache,” and indeed it seemed a throwback to the Indian wars of the 19th century. Set in a bowl ringed by treeless hills and distant snow-capped mountains, 50 soldiers were holed up in a rectangular fort built of dried mud, straw and wooden logs along with furry dogs Frances and Smoky and several pet dragon lizards. Supplies came by helicopter. It was combat waged by infantry men from time immemorial – on foot.

Their mission was to secure the utterly destitute, isolated area and attempt to disrupt a key infiltration route by the Taliban from neighboring Pakistan – hardly an easy task given there was only one soldier for every 2.3 square miles of the district. In 2003 one of the largest operations of the war until then was launched in Daychophan, but when Operation Mountain Viper ended and the brigade pulled out, the insurgents moved right back in.

Now, four years later, platoon commander Lt. Jason Cunningham admitted: “I can go any place in this district, but I can’t own it.”

One action was sparked by reports of several Taliban infiltrators purportedly sighted around a nearby village. A day-long hunt ensued, with snipers positioned along the probable infiltration route and a blocking force put into place. The Taliban were never sighted, but one accompanying Afghan soldier was wounded by a trailside explosive. The day ended 1-0 in favor of the insurgents.

Did Flashy get it right? By that I mean Brig. Gen. Sir Harry Paget Flashman, highly decorated coward, charming scoundrel and serial seducer, the 19th century “hero” of a dozen novels to which I had become addicted. So it was with great pleasure that I could write a story about him from Kabul – where improbably another fan set up

Gandamack Lodge, a guesthouse, restaurant and pub on the theme of Flashman and Imperial Britain. (The original lodge had once been home to the fourth wife of al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden who reportedly made a quick getaway without paying \$500 in back rent).

The first novel in the series is set in Afghanistan, whereby deceit and dastardly deeds Flashman manages to survive the historic 1842 massacre of 16,000 British soldiers and civilians by the Afghans. A theme of the book is that time-worn one of Afghanistan being “the graveyard of empires.”

And in the lodge’s cozy Hare and House pub, with its low ceilings, wooden beams and a potbellied stove to ward off the winter chill, talk often veered to that contentious topic: will history repeat itself in Afghanistan? To support his argument one guest repeated the words of a British Flashman fan: “A pity that our leaders didn’t read the first Flashman book before embarking on the Afghanistan fiasco.”

As for Flashman himself, this is what he had to say on the subject: “Shrapnel and rapid fire don’t count for much. Your average savage with a blowpipe or bow or jezzail (Afghan musket) behind a rock has a deuce of an advantage: it’s his rock, you see.”

“Mozart in Kabul,” was the slug on a story I wrote about the Afghan Youth Orchestra, an inspiring effort to revive both Western classical and Afghan music in a country where the Taliban had made even listening to it a crime – and where a generation of musicians had vanished through killings, old age and exile.

The orchestra was founded by Ahmad Sarmast, an Afghan musician who returned home from exile and gathered talented but poor youngsters and funding from foreign donors. When I visited his school, there were 141 fledgling musicians, half of them former street kids aged 10 to 22, all taught free of charge.

Rehearsals were being stepped up because in several weeks the orchestra would be playing – amazingly-- in one of America’s most prestigious music venues, New York’s Carnegie Hall.

In one room, four girls were practicing scales on oboes under the portraits of Bach, Mozart and Beethoven, whose “Ode to Joy” theme emerged from a trumpeter down the hallway.

“When I pick up my cello, the hard times, the bad feelings vanish – I forget,” 15-year-old Fakira told me. She had roamed the mean streets of Kabul hawking magazines at 13 cents a copy to support her impoverished family.

Others expressed anxiety about the future, wedged as they were between the tragic past and an Afghanistan which could again descend into darkness after the departure of U.S. and NATO forces.

I wonder, fear, what would become of Fakir and her fellow musicians were the Taliban to return.

AP among winners of 2021 Hillman Prizes for Journalism

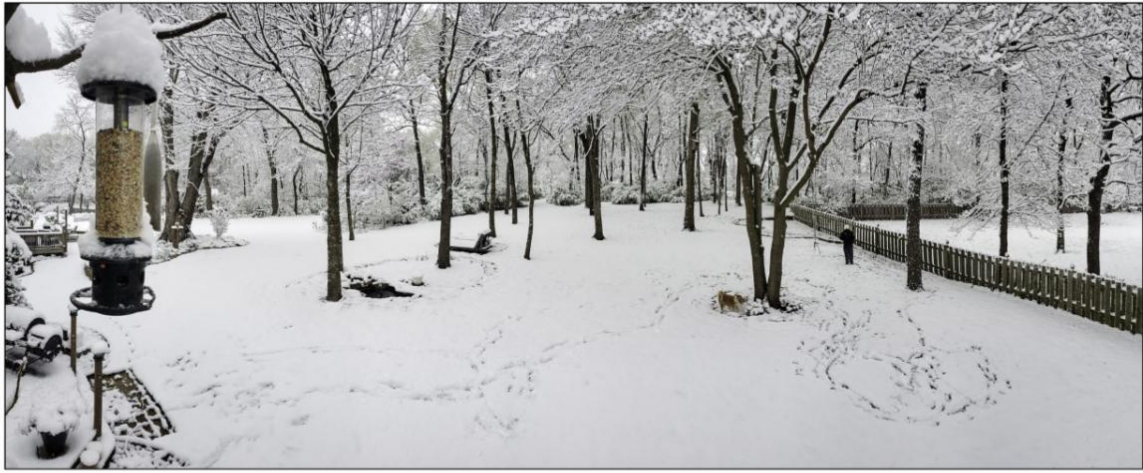
Tuesday the Sidney Hillman Foundation announced the winners of the 71st annual Hillman Prizes, recognizing outstanding investigative journalism that exposes abusive palm oil plantations, police brutality, the long-term detention of immigrant children, and our government's negligent pandemic response. The winners also provided lucid analysis of politics and culture and a fresh accounting of the economic and political history of this country.

The Sidney Hillman Foundation will host an online virtual celebration on Tuesday May 4 at 7pm ET/4pm PT #Hillman21. The award ceremony will feature presentations and conversations with our winners and judges and is free and open to the public.

Winner in the Newspaper category: Margie Mason and Robin McDowell, Fruits of Labor, Associated Press: For exposing the rampant exploitation of workers on the vast palm oil plantations of Southeast Asia.

Read more [here](#).

Fickle Midwest weather



Peter Leabo ([Email](#)) - I mowed the back yard on Monday. By 9am Tuesday we had 4 inches of snow. By 6pm, Kim and I were enjoying wine on the back deck of our home in Kansas City, Mo.

Got a title for this canine?

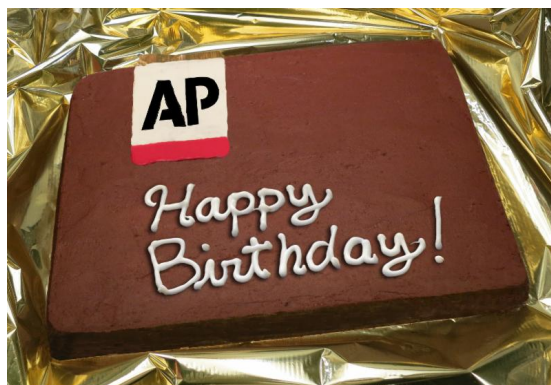


(Photo submitted by George Arfield that ran Tuesday)

Don Cooper - News hound

Paul Stevens - Nose for news

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Marty Steinberg – marcello.steinberg@gmail.com

Stories of interest

Watchdog: Media freedom has deteriorated during pandemic (AP)

PARIS (AP) — There's been a "dramatic deterioration" of press freedom since the pandemic started to tear across the world, Reporters Without Borders said in its annual report published Tuesday.

The group's new World Press Freedom Index, which evaluated the press situations in 180 countries, painted a stark picture and concluded that 73% of the world's nations have serious issues with media freedoms.

It says countries have used the coronavirus pandemic, which erupted in China in late 2019, "as grounds to block journalists' access to information, sources and reporting in the field."

This is particularly the case in Asia, the Mideast and Europe, the media group said.

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

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Dutch police arrest 2 after attack on photojournalist in car (AP)

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — Dutch police arrested two people after a tractor pushed a photojournalist's car — with the photographer and his girlfriend seated inside — onto its roof and into a roadside ditch.

The attack — captured in dashcam footage — happened late Monday night as photographers shot pictures of a car fire in the central Dutch town of Lunteren, about 70 kilometers (around 45 miles) southeast of Amsterdam.

Police said in a statement Tuesday that they arrested the driver of the tractor and another man suspected of threatening and attacking photographers.

"Journalists must be able to do their work in safety," said Naomi Hoekstra, the police chief for the central Gelderland region. "This crosses all boundaries. We will not accept this. Our officers took appropriate action. The investigation is in full swing."

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

Today in History - April 21, 2021



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, April 21, the 111th day of 2021. There are 254 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 21, 1836, an army of Texans led by Sam Houston defeated the Mexicans at San Jacinto, assuring Texas independence.

On this date:

In 1649, the Maryland Toleration Act, providing for freedom of worship for all Christians, was passed by the Maryland assembly.

In 1789, John Adams was sworn in as the first vice president of the United States.

In 1816, Charlotte Bronte, author of "Jane Eyre," was born in Thornton, England.

In 1910, author Samuel Langhorne Clemens, better known as Mark Twain, died in Redding, Connecticut, at age 74.

In 1918, Manfred von Richthofen, 25, the German ace known as the "Red Baron" who was believed to have downed 80 enemy aircraft during World War I, was himself shot down and killed while in action over France.

In 1926, Britain's Queen Elizabeth II was born in Mayfair, London; she was the first child of The Duke and Duchess of York, who later became King George VI and the Queen Mother.

In 1930, fire broke out inside the overcrowded Ohio Penitentiary in Columbus, killing 332 inmates.

In 1975, with Communist forces closing in, South Vietnamese President Nguyen Van Thieu resigned after nearly 10 years in office and fled the country.

In 1976, clinical trials of the swine flu vaccine began in Washington, D.C.

In 1977, the musical play "Annie," based on the "Little Orphan Annie" comic strip, opened on Broadway, beginning a run of 2,377 performances.

In 1980, Rosie Ruiz was the first woman to cross the finish line at the Boston Marathon; however, she was later exposed as a fraud. (Canadian Jacqueline Gareau was named the actual winner of the women's race.)

In 2015, an Egyptian criminal court sentenced ousted Islamist President Mohammed Morsi to 20 years in prison over the killing of protesters in 2012.

Ten years ago: President Barack Obama announced the Justice Department was assembling a team to "root out any cases of fraud or manipulation" in oil markets that might be contributing to \$4 a gallon-plus gasoline prices. Sen. John Ensign, R-Nev., announced he would step down amid a developing ethics probe over how he'd handled an admitted extramarital affair with a former staffer and whether he tried to illegally cover it up. (The Senate Ethics Committee referred the case to the Justice Department, which decided not to prosecute Ensign.)

Five years ago: Prince, one of the most inventive and influential musicians of modern times, was found dead at his home in suburban Minneapolis; he was 57. Queen Elizabeth II, Britain's oldest and longest-reigning monarch, drew crowds of well-wishers and floods of tributes on the occasion of her 90th birthday. Jake Arrieta of the Chicago Cubs pitched his second no-hitter in a span of 11 regular-season starts, shutting down the Cincinnati Reds in a 16-0 rout.

One year ago: The coroner's office in California's Santa Clara County received autopsy results showing that a woman who died there on Feb. 6 and a man who died on Feb. 17 had the coronavirus. (It wasn't until Feb. 29 that the first known U.S. death from the virus was reported in Kirkland, Washington; officials later attributed two Feb. 26 deaths to the virus.) Researchers reported that a malaria drug that had been widely touted by President Donald Trump for treating the coronavirus showed no benefit in large study of its use in U.S. veterans hospitals. In its first-quarter earnings report, Netflix revealed that it had added nearly 16 million global subscribers during the first three months of the year, as stay-at-home orders went into effect.

Today's Birthdays: Britain's Queen Elizabeth II is 95. Actor-comedian-writer Elaine May is 89. Actor Charles Grodin is 86. Anti-death penalty activist Sister Helen Prejean is 82. Singer-musician Iggy Pop is 74. Actor Patti LuPone is 72. Actor Tony Danza is 70. Actor James Morrison is 67. Actor Andie MacDowell is 63. Rock singer Robert Smith (The Cure) is 62. Rock musician Michael Timmins (Cowboy Junkies) is 62. Actor-director John Cameron Mitchell is 58. Rapper Michael Franti (Spearhead) is 55. Actor Leslie Silva is 53. Actor Toby Stephens is 52. Rock singer-musician Glen Hansard (The Frames) is 51. Actor Rob Riggle is 51. Comedian Nicole Sullivan is 51. Football player-turned-actor Brian White is 48. Olympic gold medal pairs figure skater Jamie Sale (sah-LAY') is 44. Rock musician David Brenner (Theory of a Deadman) is 43. Actor James McAvoy is 42. Former NFL quarterback Tony Romo is 41. Actor Terrence J is 39. Actor Gugu Mbatha-Raw is 38. Actor Christoph (cq) Sanders is 33. Actor Frank Dillane is 30. Rock singer Sydney Sierota (Echosmith) is 24.

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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