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TWO NORTH VIETNAM SOLDIERS, AN OFFICER AND HIS SECURITY MAN, entered the Saigon AP bureau two hours after the Saigon Government surrendered to the communists on April 30, 1975, and briefed the three AP reporters who'd stayed behind to cover the last days of the war. Pictured at left, reporter Matt Franjola, center AP Special Correspondent Peter Arnett and Saigon bureau chief George Esper. At right a local Vietnamese who interpreted the meeting.

Colleagues,

Good Friday morning on this Aug. 27, 2021,

Comparisons of the current withdrawal of U.S. forces from Afghanistan and the Fall of Saigon on April 30, 1975, have been in the news of late – and the topic of recent Connecting stories by two AP journalists who were there at the end of the Vietnam War – **Neal Ulevich** and **Carl Robinson**, both Connecting colleagues.

Our colleague **Peter Arnett**, watching the news from Kabul as the United States extracts its forces and allies from a losing war, brings us his memories of the end of America's first lost war that he covered with the AP Saigon bureau chief **George Esper** and reporter **Matt Franjola**.

In the years that followed, Arnett covered major stories in many countries but views his Vietnam experience – for which he won a Pulitzer Prize - as his most professionally formative, and in this piece recalls not just the Fall of Saigon, but also America's coming to terms with its first lost war, seen as an impossible likelihood as desperate American officials and allies fled the South Vietnamese capital Saigon from the weaponry and the dictates of the victorious communist North Vietnamese enemy.

CHUCK LEWIS MEMORIAL SERVICE: Dr. Vivian Chen, and friends and colleagues of Charles J. “Chuck” Lewis, are arranging a memorial service for the veteran Washington bureau chief on Sept. 25 at 10 a.m. at the National Press Club.

Lewis, who led the Washington bureaus of the Associated Press and Hearst Newspapers during a distinguished 45-year career in print journalism, died on March 20 at the age of 80. His ashes were interred in a family plot in his beloved Montana on August 14.

Lewis worked tirelessly as AP bureau chief in the mid-1980s to seek the release of AP correspondent **Terry Anderson** from kidnappers in Lebanon. Lewis also co-wrote “Killing Our Own: Friendly Fire in the Persian Gulf War,” an award-winning expose that revealed the extent of U.S. military fratricide during the 1991 campaign to oust Iraqi occupation troops from Kuwait.



The National Press Club currently requires attendees to be fully vaccinated or have a negative covid test within 72 hours. Proof is required. The DC Mayor currently has a mask mandate in place for indoor gatherings. Masks can be removed while eating or drinking or if speaking at a podium. Additional NPC Covid Guidelines [here](#). (Shared by Stewart Powell ([Email](#)))

LARRY HEINZERLING BIRTHDAY: Saturday would have been the 76th birthday for Larry Heinzerling. The 41-year AP executive and bureau chief died Aug. 11.

This from colleague **Rick Cooper** ([Email](#)) – “My birthday is coming up this Saturday. It’s a little bittersweet because it will be the first time in 40 years I won’t be sending birthday wishes to Larry Heinzerling who shared an August 28th birthday with me.

“I met Larry when I started working in Human Resources on the seventh floor at 50 Rock for Tom Pendergast. I had gone across the hall to see Stan Swinton and introduce myself to Claude Erbsen and learn about AP/Dow Jones.



“Throughout my time at the AP Larry was a guy who was always available to offer a helping hand when needed.”

We miss Chuck and Larry greatly.

Have a safe and healthy weekend.

Paul

When Saigon fell, and afterwards



NORTH VIETNAMESE-MANNED RUSSIAN-MADE TANKS ENTER THE GROUNDS of Saigon's presidential palace mid-morning April 30, 1975. Communist soldiers quickly arrested provisional president General Duong Van Minh and forced him to read a surrender statement on Saigon Radio. This photo was taken by AP stringer Frances Starnes from inside the palace grounds. She was one of the few western journalists to remain in Saigon as the city fell. For the first few days journalists were allowed to roam freely around the capital and take photographs. Censorship was soon established and by months end most newsmen had been ordered out of Vietnam.

Peter Arnett (Email) - AP Saigon Bureau chief George Esper and I made a private pact in the weeks before Saigon fell to the communists in 1975 that we would stay to the very end. We'd worked the story together for the previous 10 years, and we'd made our journalistic reputations there. We would stay, while understanding that most news organizations would view such a decision as sheer bravado, well beyond what they expected of their staffs. After all, Communist North Vietnamese armies were at the gates of Saigon and threatening to use their heavy Soviet artillery guns on city center should the faltering America evacuation effort not end as promised on April 29.

In neighboring Cambodia 12 days earlier, murderous Khmer Rouge communist soldiers had captured the capital, Phnom Penh, evacuated the city of all its people,

even from the hospitals, and forcing them into rural servitude. But to my mind the Vietnamese communists did not share the brutal traits of the Khmer Rouge.

Earlier in April AP headquarters in New York was becoming concerned about the wellbeing of the Saigon staff as the communist military ring was closing round Saigon after its lightning four-month blitzkrieg across the country. We were reminded that all American news organizations would close up shop when Ambassador Graham Martin gave the order to pull out on the final helicopter evacuation. Then, in the early hours of April 29, the runways and terminal buildings at Tan Son Nhut Airport were pounded by communist artillery guns dragged down from the border mountains, leaving aircraft and buildings were burning. The routine air evacuations were ended. By mid-morning, Option 4, the final helicopter pullout, was ordered. While the few Americans left in the bureau were preparing to leave, late morning, Esper curtly informed New York that he, myself and Matt Franjola were staying for the AP. I felt I should offer a fuller explanation for my own decision to remain behind, because to many it would seem foolhardy, especially to my wife Nina. I had promised her to leave when the time came. I sent a message to Gallagher saying that because I was in Vietnam at the beginning, I felt it was worth being there at the end to document to the final hours. I did not tell him that I contrived to miss the last helicopter if I was forced to leave.

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Saigon Surrenders

An Editorial
Responsibility Not Yet Finished

The land war in Asia which could not be won is over—mercifully. As the helicopters which used to remove troops from the battlefield whisked the last Americans from the embassy in Saigon, some South Vietnamese were still trying to follow. But there was nothing else to be done at the end of a 30-year war which had no other logical conclusion.

That old incendiary revolutionist Thomas Paine wrote, "He who is the author of a war, lets loose a contagion of hell, and opens a vein that bleeds a nation to death." Removal of the last Americans from Saigon might be the tourniquet which stanches the flow of blood. It was at least the only decision left open to the United States.

It was not merely the Vietnamese who bled. In the 14 years since the United States first sent military personnel into the harbor of Saigon and on into the steaming rice paddies infested with revolutionaries, this nation paid a price in blood and treasure which cannot be reckoned in mechanical computers nor smothered in endless rhetoric.

Southern Americans, like South Vietnamese, have known the agony of defeat. They will understand the necessity of avoiding recriminations, and of stopping marches to the sea.

What is needed now is humanitarian acts. While the North and South Vietnamese are working out their differences, hungry individuals and maimed soldiers need food and medicine. It is too early for us to forget South Vietnam and all those words stand for until there is stability for those who were forced to remain in that shell-shocked land.

The United States' responsibility is not yet finished. "The Americans have destroyed the economic base of that region they hoped to preserve as a separate country," wrote Frances Fitzgerald in one of the most widely acclaimed books about the area, *Fire in the Lake*. "They have, instead of ending the drive for reunification, destroyed the regional political groups that held out in resistance against it. They have uprooted the sect populations and flattened the local ethnic, religious and cultural peculiarities beneath a uniform, national disaster. If Vietnam is to be independent, it must now have a national government."

Reconstruction is a dreadfully painful time, as any Southern historian can attest. It will be especially painful in Vietnam because there is so much to rebuild and so little to work with. But the American interest lies in maintaining a working relationship with the new structure, scornful though it may be toward Americans.

The United States did not let loose the contagion of hell in Vietnam; that was the normal consequence of a civil war which raged for 30 years. There is no reason for us to carry that burden of guilt forever.

Neither should the United States forget that it has a humanitarian obligation to help those who remain.

Most of all, we must never allow ourselves to be drawn again into a civil war which cannot be won.

—REG MURPHY

Horror Of War

South Vietnamese forces follow terrified children as they flee down Route 1 near Trang Bang, South Vietnam, June 8, 1972, after a Skyraider plane misdirected a napalm strike. The girl at center has ripped off her burning clothing. The picture was made by Associated Press photographer Huynh Cong Ut 1, won a Pulitzer Prize in 1972.

GIs: '65 Heroes, '75 Targets

By PETER ARNETT
AP Special Correspondent

SAIGON — Ten years ago I watched the first U.S. Marines arrive to help South Vietnam. They were greeted on the beaches by pretty Vietnamese girls in white silk robes who draped flower leis around their necks.

A decade has passed.

On Tuesday, I watched U.S. Marines shepherding the last Americans out of South Vietnam. They were the same, clean-cut-looking young men of a decade ago.

But the Vietnamese were different.

Those who didn't have a place on the last helicopters out of Saigon — and there were thousands of them left behind — looked, looked and sufficed with the U.S. Marines guarding the landing zones.

Some Vietnamese threw themselves over walls and wire fences, only to be thrown back by the Marines.

Bloodshed was avoided seemingly only by good luck and bad aim on the part of some angry Vietnamese soldiers who shot at a few boxes and departing helicopters.

But the whole, frantic dash from Saigon by the Americans — and the bitter resentment of the thousands of Vietnamese who couldn't go — seemed a sad but accurate reflection of what relations between Americans and Vietnamese had come to in the 10 years since those flowers were gladly given to the Marines.

Americans and the South Vietnamese used to get along pretty well. That was in the days when the U.S. Marines first arrived in Vietnam imbued with a determination to see the war through.

The South Vietnamese army, dispirited then, watched with wonder as first the Marines and then the paratroopers and the American infantry came to steaming hot Vietnam to trudge the coastal plains and mountain valleys in a punishing, unfamiliar environment.

Vietnamese officers began spying the American way. The Americans seemed always to have better pressed uniforms and more detailed maps and diagrams.

Nearly 20,000 Vietnamese officers flew to the United States for education or advanced training, and they returned with American slang expressions and an American taste for firepower and massive military supplies.

But something went wrong along the way. To win a war like Vietnam, the subject to study was not the American way but the Communist Vietnamese way. They were launching the war in their own country.

The South Vietnamese instead learned the American way to use firepower, blasting at the other side with war planes and artillery, effective only so long as there were bombs and shells.

But it had been obvious that the capital would fall. More than a dozen North Vietnamese-Viet Cong divisions were ring-fencing Saigon, which was defended by less than one division of demoralized green troops.

Associated Press special correspondent Peter Arnett, touring the city, reported nervous soldiers fired occasionally into the air but he saw no dead or wounded. Soldiers near the radio station at the northeastern edge of town said Communist forces had moved up to the Saigon River bridge and were poised to enter the city.

Streets around the abandoned U.S. Embassy and ambassador's residence were littered with papers and broken furniture left behind by looters who charged in after the Americans left.

See WAR, Page 16-A
See INDOCHINA, Page 16-A

PANIC OUTSIDE EMBASSY

AN ALL-AP DISPLAY ON PAGE ONE OF THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION ON Wednesday, April 30, 1975. George Esper is bylined for the lead story on the Fall of Saigon. Peter Arnett has his byline on an analysis of the failed U.S. military campaign. Nick Ut's "Napalm Girl" photo is featured on the page one editorial. The Fall of Saigon was a competitive story, with a UPI reporting team remaining behind to cover it.

The last hours of Saigon were wet, the monsoon season arriving in heavy downpours. From the roof of the Eden building, I watched as the dark shapes of helicopters disappeared into the night. Below in the streetlights a few people were looking into the sky and gesturing, some with small travel bags in their hands. But it was too late

now to fly away. By late into the night the helicopters were gone. I climbed down to the AP office on the fourth floor where our interpreter Huong and his family were stretched out on the floor. George Esper had tried to take them to the embassy evacuation site earlier in the day but the crowds had been too unruly to get near the fence. Esper was on the phone, dialing the embassy even though the officials had stopped answering. I wrote in my autobiography *LIVE FROM THE BATTLEFIELD*, tis about Esper: "He had sat at the same table for a decade pounding out his leads on an old underwood typewriter. He never got the professional credit he deserved. His coverage had appeared in more newspapers than any other reporter's in recent years. He was still unknown and underpaid and the last to complain. And at 3 a.m. in a city about to die, he was phoning dead switchboards and biting the bits of gristle that passed for fingernails. Esper was worrying whether he had written enough that day and I figured he'd already sent ten thousand words to New York. He was gaunt, his eyes were burning with exhaustion. I said to him, 'Let's get to get the hell outa here, George. We've got to get some sleep.' He muttered to himself and returned to the string of arriving telexes."

By mid-morning April 30 our interpreter gave a shout from the Radio Saigon monitoring booth. Complete surrender had been announced by the newly appointed president, General Duong Van Minh, the same "Big Minh" who had led the coup d'etat against President Ngo Dinh Diem in 1963. He was now officially delivering the country to the Communists. Esper typed the bulletin announcement and rushed it to the teleprinter operator. It was concrete evidence to the world that the war was over. The New York foreign desk soon sent us a message that our surrender bulletin had been five minutes ahead of UPI's, proving again that while wars may start and end and leaders rise and fall, the only important determinant in the news industry is to be first with the story.



AP SAIGON BUREAU CHIEF GEORGE ESPER (RIGHT) AND AP SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT Peter Arnett, in Saigon on the morning of the communist takeover of the city, discuss a telex message from the New York foreign desk asking them to try and locate a reporter from a member newspaper who may have been left behind in the previous day's final airlift to U.S. Navy ships offshore. Phone lines were down, but the slow teleprinter communications remained open until early evening of April 30, allowing the AP team, that included reporter Matt Franjola, to send descriptive stories.

At mid-morning Matt Franjola came into our office and announced matter-of-factly, "By the way, they're here." I looked up and asked him, "Who's here." and he responded, "The VC. I was driving behind the British Embassy when a black jeep came by with this guy sitting on the hood in a white shirt, black trousers and shower shoes. He was carrying an AK-47 and yells at me in English 'Everybody go home' and inside the jeep are several others guys in all in black shirts. And by the way they were flying the Vietcong flag." I checked my watch: 11:25 a.m. I told George I was going out to see for myself. A score of South Vietnamese soldiers were running down Tu Do street, or rather they were hopping and skipping because they were tearing off their boots, jackets and trousers on the run. They were down to their skivvies when they ran by me and disappeared through an alley. I heard the sharp beep beep of truck horns. A large vehicle rolled by toward the Saigon River. My heart stopped: it was a Russian Molotov and riding in the back was a score of young communist soldiers dressed in floppy green uniforms and pith helmets. Their faces were filled with seriousness and wonder as they gazed up at the high-rise buildings in the center of Saigon, probably the first tall structures they had ever seen. The Vietnamese civilians in the streets just looked up in surprise. I saw a couple wave at the passing trucks and keep walking. A

large blue and green Vietcong banner suddenly billowed from the Caravelle Hotel flagpole. The staff must have been sewing it in secret for a week. I started back up the stairs. This was it. This was the end of it all, this was what a generation of Americans had fought against and what several Presidents had plotted to prevent. And the end had come so quickly and anticlimactically. The people on the stairways were pressing against me, and someone asked, "What's happening" and I answered, "The VC are outside."

I pushed my way through the crowd milling around our bureau door and fell exhausted to my knees. Esper looked over to me. I was totally tongue tied. George helped me to a typewriter. "Peter what the hell is wrong?" I heard him asking. I gestured for paper and started to write a bulletin that began, "Saigon, April 30. Communist Vietnamese troops occupied Saigon peacefully today, rolling down the tree-lined boulevards in Russian trucks with their flags flying. The people of Saigon watched quietly from the sidewalks. No shooting was heard." I tottered to the teleprinter room and thrust the page at our beefy Vietnamese teleprinter operator Tammy. He read the bulletin and gasped and attempted to flee from the room. Esper and I thrust down on his shoulders until his finished punching the tape and then he disappeared out the bureau door and was gone for days.



THE AP'S PETER ARNETT (THIRD FROM LEFT) EN ROUTE TO HANOI IN MARCH, 1977, with members of a presidential commission sent to Hanoi by newly elected President Jimmy Carter to pursue rapid diplomatic relations and to begin resolving a growing controversy over American soldiers still missing in old war zones. The commission was headed by Leonard Woodcock, head of the United Auto Worker's Union, and also noted for his resistance to the Vietnam War. Pictured are: CBS correspondent John Hart (left), CBS cameraman Chip Brown, Arnett, Maria Edelman, Director of the Children's Defense Fund, and an unidentified aide.

I was one of five reporters chosen to go along on the trip with the Carter Presidential commission, the first American journalists to visit Vietnam since the war had ended two years earlier. Included in the commission was Senate majority leader Mike Mansfield whom I had first met in a hotel room in Saigon in December 1962, when we discussed the problems of the Ngo Dinh Diem regime. Leonard Woodcock was matched against deputy foreign minister, Phan Hien, in the negotiations, a five-day marathon that he later describes as the toughest in his career. Woodcock brought a unique perspective to the talks, a private citizen rather than a professional diplomat. He tells us over a beer the first evening, "If a state department official had been here with me he would have died a thousand deaths. I emphasized that our two countries were meeting as equals. I told him that this was the best group they would ever get from American. I told him that if they closed the door on us then it might take ten more years before we came back." The Vietnamese official told him, "You will not be disappointed." By week's end the remains of 12 missing American pilots were handed over to the commission, a few of the 795 servicemen then still listed as missing by the Defense Department. Hanoi agrees to set up an office to receive information about the missing servicemen.

President Carter never did get his Vietnam policy off the ground. His administration withheld its veto on Vietnam's admittance to the United Nations but both houses of congress flatly refused to provide aid to the Hanoi Government. Vietnam faded as an American foreign policy issue but the human suffering could not be ignored. Many thousands of discontented Vietnamese took to the boats fleeing the communist regime's early draconian Marxist economic policies and shocking the world as they suffered from piracy and death in unseaworthy vessels. I visited Saigon in 1979 while covering efforts by the then United Nations secretary general Kurt Waldheim to improve relations between the Vietnamese and the Chinese communist government of Deng Xiaoping and saw that most of the restaurants and shops that flourished in the American years had been closed, the streets were almost empty of motor vehicles, and friends from my AP years spoke of privation and fear from security agents.



IN HANOI IN 1994, PETER ARNETT presents a copy of his autobiography LIVE FROM THE BATTLEFIELD, to North Vietnamese General Vo Nguyen Giap who had master-minded victories over the French and American military in their attempts -- over thirty years --to crush communist leadership in Vietnam. General Giap told Arnett that his key to victory in the American war was to sustain the Ho Chi Minh Trail's weapons and personnel supply network across a thousand miles of mountains and jungles from North Vietnam to his fighters in the south.

What a difference 20 years make, and not just my opportunity to meet legendary General Giap. Communist officials had thrown over their yoke of Marxism for capitalism beginning in the late 1980s, and western business magazines were seeing Vietnam as the next Asian "tiger". The AP had opened a Hanoi bureau with George Esper the first bureau chief in 1993. President Bill Clinton ended the 16-year trade embargo in 1994 and opened diplomatic relations with Vietnam in 1995. American veterans began visiting old battlegrounds and having cordial meetings with Vietnamese soldiers they had once fought against. As an indication of renewed media interest in the war, CNN's Larry King Show had me travel to Saigon with nine of the U.S. marines who'd been "forgotten" in the embassy in the last hours of the war. I hosted an hour-long live show with the marines from the old American embassy roof from which they had been rescued in the early hours of April 30, 1975. On the 20th anniversary of the Fall of Saigon in 1995, CNN built a stage in Lam Son square in Saigon from where I anchored a week of live evening shows, including an interview with General Giap. As Vietnam's big neighbor China continued to grow menacingly, the U.S. military, once the enemy to Vietnam, began looking more like a partner.



IN 2008, PETER ARNETT (LEFT) VISITED THE HANOI BUREAU OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS with nine Chinese students from the classes he was teaching at Shantou University in southern China. The AP staffers were the first active western journalists they had ever met, and the visit was a highlight of their three-week visit to Vietnam, checking out the photo lab and being briefed by the bureau chief. on the daily news gathering routine.

With my students I visited some of the old battlefields of the war I'd often discussed in my classes as examples of how western journalists, reporting in the field in Vietnam, challenged the optimistic pronouncements of the politicians and the generals while telling the truth of combat as seen by the soldiers. One of these battles was the strategic U.S. Marine firebase at Con Thien on a small hill near the demilitarized zone with North Vietnam, where we found the one surviving feature of the old base, a square concrete strong point of crumbling concrete, its outer walls pockmarked with shell and bullet holes, and inside we saw on moss covered walls the scribbled American names and patriotic sayings. In an impromptu classroom beside the old, battered building, I tell my students how for a whole year from early 1967 the communists threw artillery shells, rockets and human wave attacks against Con Thien. In one action alone, more than 44 marines died along with 100 North Vietnamese attackers. I tell them of the harrowing three days I spent there in a reporter, cringing in a foxhole as the battle raged. Con Thien held throughout the onslaughts.

I wrote about this visit in my AP published book SAIGON HAS FALLEN. Here is how that account concluded: "My students, most of them young women, look attentively at me, some wearing the colorful clothes modeled on the then popular American TV shows "Sex and the City," and "Gossip Girl" they watch on the Internet in their dorms. They are looking at me now, an aged war reporter in baggy clothes telling war stories again, and wiping sweat from his face with a handful of disintegrating Kleenex tissues. One of them, her borrowed English name Hewitt, who is wearing a T-shirt with the antiwar phrase "Scary Random Bombing ", asks me, "You mean to tell us that young

American boys came all the way to this place to fight and die? Why?" I offer no quick answer to her question. And in thinking about it later I realized I had no answer that would make any sense to them."

Connecting mailbox

An Olympic memory

Dan Berger ([Email](#)) - When I was with AP in 1972 and 1976, I was "privileged" to be assigned to cover all the track and field events at both Munich and Montreal Olympics. Covering a sport at the Olympics is no walk in the park — often without a day off for two weeks.

One day while at the IOC offices in Munich, I stumbled onto a fascinating story. An older Korean man, Sohn Kee-Chung, and his translator, were there to see if Sohn could get his 1936 gold medal in the Berlin marathon "fixed," his translator said.

What was wrong with it? I asked. "It says he was Japanese," said the translator. Korea was under colonial rule of Japan in 1936 and Japan mandated that all Korean athletes wear Japanese team singlets. And Sohn's name was changed to Son Kitei at the Berlin Games.

Sohn agreed to an interview. At one point, he got teary-eyed, said he was the first Korean even to win an Olympic medal, and he was devastated and humiliated when it was reported that he was Japanese. My AP story was widely played.

Sohn's complete story now is available on Wikipedia ([link](#)).

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'More-perfect union'

Dinesh Ramde ([Email](#)) - William Winters's note ("There are no degrees of uniqueness. Something either is unique, or it is not") reminded me of my own pet peeve.

With apologies to Jefferson, how do you form a 'more perfect' union?

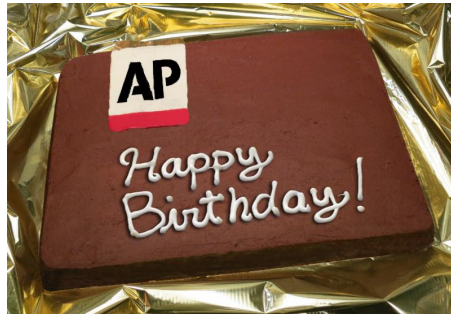
-0-

Nick Ut in Switzerland



Nick Ut ([Email](#)) - I am here in Olten, Switzerland, with the mayor at the opening of the International Photo Festival.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Charlie Monzella - cmonzella@comcast.net

On Saturday to...

(Happy 80th!) - Dan Berger - winenut@gmail.com

Rick Cooper - Rick55Cooper@gmail.com

Randy Evans - revans2810@aol.com

Michael Harper - mharper@mopress.com

On Sunday to...

Barry Bedlan - bbedlan@ap.org

Jeff Rowe - jfrowe@rocketmail.com

Stories of interest

Maggie Haberman and the never-ending Trump story (Washington Post)

By Sarah Ellison

NEW YORK — When the first Donald Trump story of the 2016 election cycle came her way, Maggie Haberman decided not to break it.

It was May 2015, and Trump adviser Sam Nunberg was helping orchestrate the imminent announcement of the reality star's candidacy. He tried to offer an exclusive

jump on the story to Haberman, who had recently joined the New York Times after years of covering politics for several smaller publications.

But Haberman had been down this road before, or so she thought. As a Politico reporter in 2011, she had energetically covered Trump's previous flirtation with a presidential run only to watch him take himself out of the race at an event promoting "Celebrity Apprentice." (Her headline: "The Donald ducks.")

This time, "I didn't want us to get used," she recalled in a recent interview.

Read more [here](#).

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This newspaper revived the evening edition it closed 29 years ago (Poynter)

By: Kristen Hare

When Rob Curley speaks in public as the editor-in-chief of The (Spokane, Washington) Spokesman-Review, he usually hears about another newspaper.

"Well, you know, we were a Chronicle family," people tell him.

It was a reminder of a time when many cities had more than one newspaper, often one in the morning and another in the afternoon or evening.

The Spokane Daily Chronicle was Spokane's evening edition, owned by the same family that owns The Spokesman-Review. The two papers once had two separate newsrooms, separate audiences and fought for scoops. Eventually, the newsrooms merged, and in 1992, the publisher closed the Chronicle, which had fallen from a high of 72,000 print subscribers to about 20,000.

Almost 30 years later, it came back — in a way. The Chronicle is now an eight-page e-edition for Spokesman-Review subscribers, produced by current Spokesman-Review staff, with fresh content and lots of nostalgia.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Myron Belkind, who noted, "The publisher quoted in the article, Stacey Cowles, was a journalist in the AP London bureau from 1982-1984 and, like his late father, William H. Cowles III, served on the AP board of directors."

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The Charlotte Observer names first Black executive editor (AP)

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Rana Cash, executive editor of the Savannah Morning News in Georgia, has been named to the same position at The Charlotte Observer, the North Carolina newspaper's first Black editor in its 135-year history.

Kristin Roberts, McClatchy's senior vice president for news, announced Cash's hiring on Wednesday, the newspaper reported. Cash, 50, begins her new job in early October, replacing Sherry Chisenhall, who announced last month that she was leaving the newspaper.

"She shares our commitment to the mission of independent, essential journalism that serves the full community. And she is an advocate for deep community engagement that ensures we create unique value for our readers, viewers and listeners every day," Roberts said.

In her role in Savannah, Cash oversees the Augusta Chronicle and Athens Banner-Herald for the Gannett chain.

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

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DOJ brands Chinese-owned U.S. newspaper a foreign agent (Axios)

By Lachlan Markay

The Justice Department has forced a major Chinese-owned newspaper's U.S. subsidiary to register as a foreign agent, records show.

Why it matters: The DOJ has stepped up scrutiny of foreign-owned media in recent years, and its demand that Sing Tao U.S. register as a foreign agent comes amid high tensions between Washington and Beijing over the latter's influence efforts in the U.S.

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



Celebrating AP's 175th

AP store for 175th, vintage merchandise



The AP has created a store with 175th anniversary merchandise available for purchase, as well as items branded with some of AP's most historic logos.

Click [here](#).

AP Through Time: A Photographic History



AP Through Time: A Photographic History” - created by Director of Corporate Archives, Valerie Komor, is a keepsake commemorating AP's 175th year. Small in size (6 ¾ x 6 ¾ in.), it is organized chronologically in eight segments that trace the broad outlines of AP's development from 1846 to the present: Beginnings, Evolution, New Century, Modernity, Expansion, One World, Speed, and Transformation. Click [here](#) to view and make an order.

AP at 175 video

This video celebrates the unique role AP has played since 1846.

Oops!

The embed code for this video is not valid.



Today in History - Aug. 27, 2021



By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Aug. 27, the 239th day of 2021. There are 126 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On August 27, 1776, the Battle of Long Island began during the Revolutionary War as British troops attacked American forces who ended up being forced to retreat two days later.

On this date:

In 1859, Edwin L. Drake drilled the first successful oil well in the United States, at Titusville, Pa.

In 1883, the island volcano Krakatoa erupted with a series of cataclysmic explosions; the resulting tidal waves in Indonesia's Sunda Strait claimed some 36,000 lives in Java and Sumatra.

In 1949, a violent white mob prevented an outdoor concert headlined by Paul Robeson from taking place near Peekskill, New York. (The concert was held eight days later.)

In 1964, President Lyndon Baines Johnson accepted his party's nomination for a term in his own right, telling the Democratic National Convention in Atlantic City, New Jersey, "Let us join together in giving every American the fullest life which he can hope for."

In 1967, Brian Epstein, manager of the Beatles, was found dead in his London flat from an accidental overdose of sleeping pills; he was 32.

In 1979, British war hero Lord Louis Mountbatten and three other people, including his 14-year-old grandson Nicholas, were killed off the coast of Ireland in a boat explosion claimed by the Irish Republican Army.

In 1998, two suspects in the bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Kenya were brought to the United States to face charges. (Mohamed Rashed Daoud al-'Owhali (moh-HAH'-mehd rah-SHEED' dah-ood ahl-oh-WAHL'-ee) and Mohammed Saddiq Odeh (sah-DEEK' oh-DAY') were convicted in 2001 of conspiring to carry out the bombing; both were sentenced to life in prison.)

In 2001, Israeli helicopters fired a pair of rockets through office windows and killed senior PLO leader Mustafa Zibri.

In 2005, coastal residents jammed freeways and gas stations as they rushed to get out of the way of Hurricane Katrina, which was headed toward New Orleans.

In 2006, a Comair CRJ-100 crashed after trying to take off from the wrong runway in Lexington, Ky., killing 49 people and leaving the co-pilot the sole survivor.

In 2008, Barack Obama was nominated for president by the Democratic National Convention in Denver.

In 2009, mourners filed past the closed casket of the late Sen. Edward Kennedy at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum in Boston. Jaycee Lee Dugard, kidnapped when she was 11, was reunited with her mother 18 years after her abduction in South Lake Tahoe, California.

Ten years ago: Hurricane Irene, after striking Puerto Rico and the Bahamas, pushed up the U.S. east coast, prompting evacuations in New York City and leaving major flood damage in Vermont.

Five years ago: Republican Donald Trump warned of a "war on the American farmer," telling a crowd in Iowa that rival Hillary Clinton wanted "to shut down family farms" and implement anti-agriculture policies; Trump's speech at the annual "Roast and Ride" fundraiser for GOP Sen. Joni Ernst came hours after Clinton received her first national security briefing as the Democratic presidential nominee.

One year ago: Speaking on the White House South Lawn, President Donald Trump accepted his party's renomination, blasting Joe Biden as a hapless career politician who would endanger Americans' safety and painting a grim portrait of violence in American cities run by Democrats; Trump spoke for more than an hour to a tightly-packed and largely maskless crowd. Hurricane Laura roared ashore as a Category 4 storm near Cameron, Louisiana, bringing 150 mile-an-hour winds, torrential rains and

a storm surge as high as 15 feet; the storm, one of the strongest ever to strike the U.S., would leave more than 20 people dead in Louisiana and Texas. A white supremacist who slaughtered 51 worshippers at two New Zealand mosques, Brenton Tarrant, was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole; it was the first time that maximum available sentence had been imposed in New Zealand.

Today's Birthdays: Author Lady Antonia Fraser is 89. Actor Tommy Sands is 84. Bluegrass singer-musician J.D. Crowe is 84. Actor Tuesday Weld is 78. Actor G.W. Bailey is 77. Actor Marianne Sagebrecht is 76. Country musician Jeff Cook is 72. Actor Paul Reubens is 69. Rock musician Alex Lifeson (Rush) is 68. Actor Peter Stormare is 68. Actor Diana Scarwid is 66. Rock musician Glen Matlock (The Sex Pistols) is 65. Golfer Bernhard Langer is 64. Country singer Jeffrey Steele is 60. Gospel singer Yolanda Adams is 60. Movie director Tom Ford (Film: "Nocturnal Animals") is 60. Writer-producer Dean Devlin is 59. Rock musician Mike Johnson is 56. Rap musician Bobo (Cypress Hill) is 54. U.S. Director of National Intelligence Avril Haines is 52. Country singer Colt Ford is 52. Actor Chandra Wilson is 52. Rock musician Tony Kanal (No Doubt) is 51. Rapper Mase is 46. Actor Sarah Chalke is 45. Actor RonReaco Lee is 45. Actor-singer Demetria McKinney is 43. Actor Aaron Paul is 42. Rock musician Jon Siebels (Eve 6) is 42. Actor Shaun Weiss is 42. Contemporary Christian musician Megan Garrett (Casting Crowns) is 41. Actor Kyle Lowder is 41. Actor Patrick J. Adams is 40. Actor Karla Mosley is 40. Actor Amanda Fuller is 37. Singer Mario is 35. Actor Alexa PenaVega is 33. Actor Ellar Coltrane is 27. Actor Savannah Paige Rae is 18.

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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