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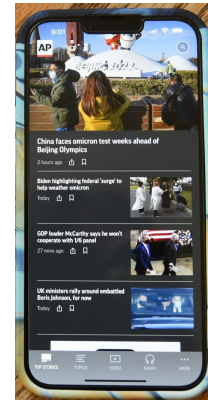
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# Connecting

February 23, 2022

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Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning on this Feb. 23, 2022,

Today is the 77<sup>th</sup> anniversary of one of the most famous events of World War II – U.S. Marines on Iwo Jima capturing Mount Suribachi - and the capturing of that event through the lens of AP photographer **Joe Rosenthal** – taking a photo that many believe is the greatest of all time. Click [here](#) for more from the Pulitzer site.

[Dorothy Abernathy](#), our lone (known) Connecting colleague who celebrated a birthday on 2-2-22, reports that it was a good day. It started with a call from her mother, informing her that sunrise was 7:22 a.m. and sunset is at 6:22 p.m.

Dorothy and her husband **Duncan** picked up burgers – they would have gone for double cheeseburgers if the restaurant had them. “We should have gone to the Cuban restaurant down the street from our house” she said. “It’s called Kuba Kuba Dos.” And Tuesday night, she went to a meeting to the St. Vincent de Paul Society where they sang “Happy Birthday” and sent her home with balloons – two of them, of course.

**Dan Sewell** wrote to add another song to the 2-2-22 play list – [“It Takes Two,”](#) by Rod Stewart and Tina

Turner.

We lead today's issue with news of the death of **Dick Foster**, who served as AP's correspondent in Brasilia for 15 years. His colleague **Bruce Handler** shares the story.

Today's issue provides a repeat of the excellent AP Images blog on Shirley Chisholm, written by our colleague **Francesca Pitaro**, this time with a link to the blog so you can enjoy more of the photos.

Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul



## Dick Foster, AP's Brasilia correspondent for 15 years, dies at 78

**Bruce Handler** - I am sorry to report that the AP family has lost Richard "Dick" Foster, a talented, versatile newsman who was correspondent in Brasilia, Brazil's capital, from 1976-1981.

Dick, who later became a publisher, college professor and novelist, living in Gaithersburg, MD, had been recovering from 2020 sextuple-bypass surgery. But he had an unexpected relapse and died suddenly on Feb. 18 -- a shock to all of us who knew him. He was 78.

A native of New Orleans, Dick got a degree from Yale and was in the Ph.D. program at Columbia, specializing in Brazilian political history. But he decided his true calling was in journalism and left academia to work for the Lancaster, PA, New Era.



The AP hired him in 1973 as a newsman in the NY Bureau and then transferred him to the NY Foreign Desk, which subsequently assigned him to Brasilia.

I first met Dick in Brasilia in 1976 when I was working for Newsweek and The Washington Post, based in Rio de Janeiro. In 1978 I became his "boss" (I guess -- we were the same age) when I took over as AP-Rio COB.

Dick was a first-rate correspondent in Brasilia at a time when Brazil still was under a repressive military regime, and accurate, uncensored information often was hard to come by. His Portuguese was excellent, and, of course, he had political, economic and cultural contacts all over the place.

It was a loss for AP when Dick decided to become a Brasilia-based correspondent for the Financial Times and the Wall Street Journal. He did that for a couple of years before moving to Washington, where he founded and published a Brazil economic and political newsletter and ran it for 31 years.

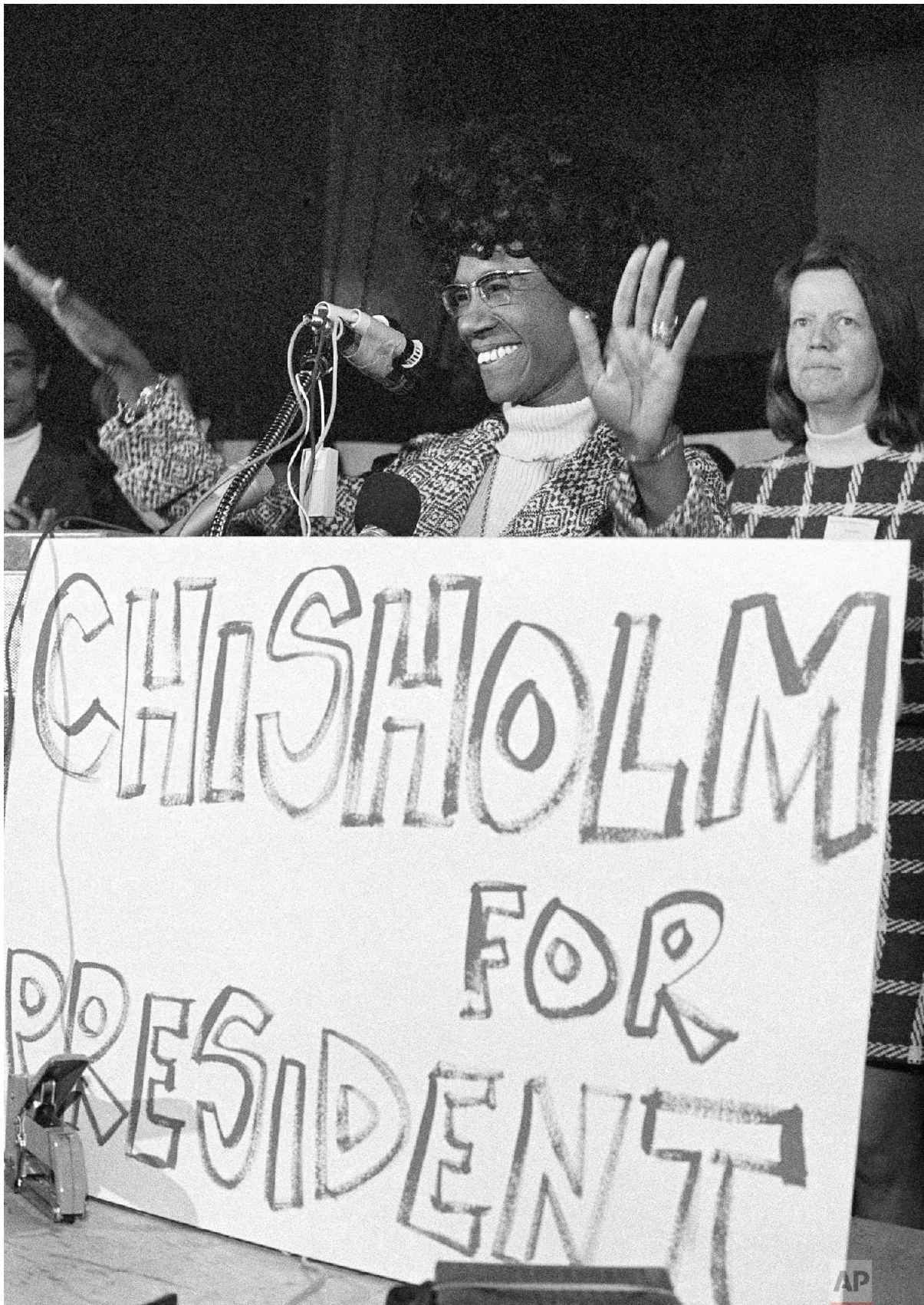
Dick also became a professor and taught English at Maryland's Montgomery County Community College from 2003-2015.

Then he resolved to become an author as well. In 2021 he came out with "Topiltzin at Calakmul," a fantasy for young adults about a superhero who fights to save animals. He was finishing a second novel, a political thriller based in post-World War II Japan, when the heart surgery sidelined him.

Dick Foster is survived by his wife, Etna, a Brazilian, and six children, including a stepdaughter, plus six grandchildren.

As I said, news of Dick's sudden death is a devastating blow to those of us who knew him and worked with him in Brazil.

**Shirley Chisholm: "I am the candidate of the people of America."**



Rep. Shirley Chisholm, (D-NY), addresses about 400 people in the gymnasium of the Cambridge Community Center, Cambridge, Mass., Feb. 15, 1972 where she opened her campaign for the presidency. (AP Photo/Bill Chaplis)

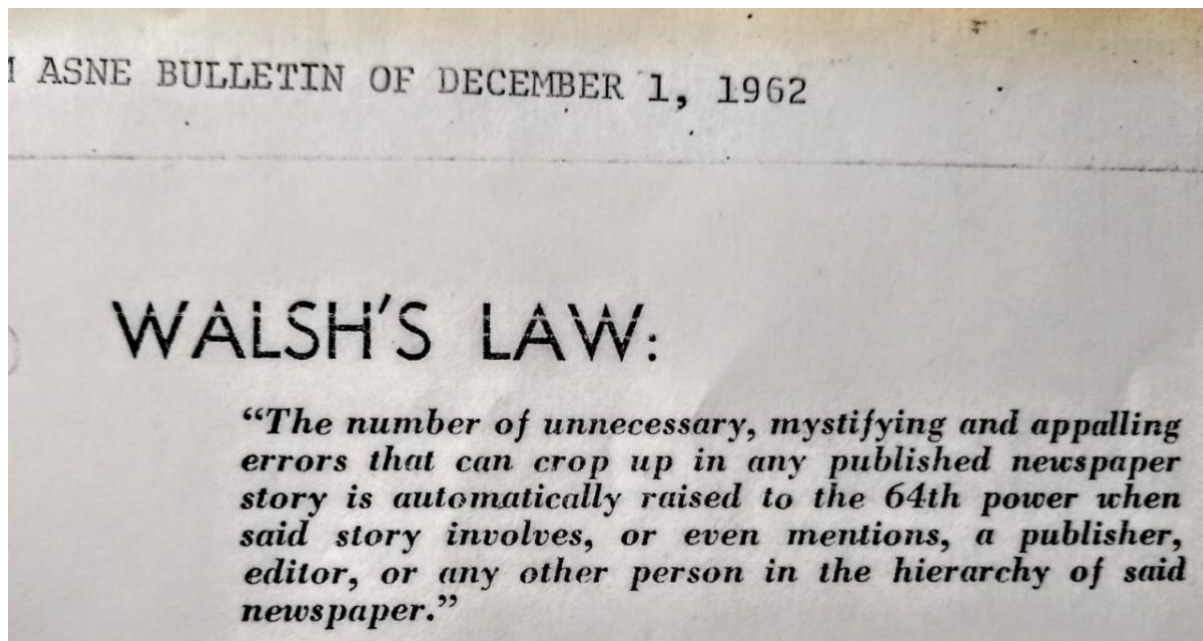
Photo editing and text by Francesca Pitaro.

Shirley Chisholm was known for her many “firsts” – First Black congresswoman, first Black woman to serve on the powerful House Rules Committee, and the first Black woman to seek the presidency of the United States. An outspoken advocate for the rights of women, minorities and working people, Chisholm served seven terms in Congress. She worked to end the war in Vietnam, improve access to education and child care, and to create a more equitable America. She was a founding member of both the Congressional Black Caucus and the Congressional Women’s Caucus.

Read and view more [here](#).

## Connecting mailbox

*2-2-22 topped by ‘Walsh’s Law’*



 **AMAZING!** 

Dear Freddy:  
 Reading—perhaps rereading—the work of my favorite author in the December issue of The Bulletin (Page 15), I was staggered by a sudden realization:

**“Walsh’s Law” is a palindrome!**

There is something frightening about this fact. Nine letters, put together casually and innocently—and the resulting phrase reads the same way backward or forward, from left to right or from right to left. What caused this phenomenon? Was it coincidence? Was it Fate?

In any event, this discovery leads me to issue a challenge: Is there any other member of ASNE who can match this feat?

I chuckle (yes, even gloat) at the inevitable discomfiture of some of our noted ASNE brethren.

Let Ogden try to work his name into a palindrome. What sense can one make of Catledge or Hills or McKnight spelled backwards? Where do palindromic efforts leave a Wolff, a Brucker, a Royster, a Friendly, or even a Jones (whether it be Jenk or Vin)?

A Notson I would challenge with some misgiving. But the others—and many like them—are doomed to failure.

Defiantly,  
 Mason Walsh

P.S. One horrible afterthought: Could this palindromic performance indicate that I don’t know whether I’m coming or going?




[Peggy Walsh](#) - Twosday's 2-22-22 was a great palindrome, topped in our family only by "Walsh's Law."

Our dad, Mason Walsh, was managing editor of the Phoenix Gazette when he wrote this for the Dec. 1, 1962, ASNE Bulletin.

After a sleepless night counting sheep, then palindromes, he realized "Walsh's Law" was a palindrome and wrote the second article for the January 1963 issue.

He enjoyed the hundreds of palindromes sent by editor friends but none more than the original.

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***Thanks for Dennis Kois' memories of Milwaukee***

[Jim Carlson](#) - Thanks to Dennis Kois for his remembrance of work in the Milwaukee AP bureau. That's where he and I went fulltime on the same day, June 7, 1971.

I wound up breaking in during mostly daytime shifts while he worked mostly later duties. That included occasional coverage of the Milwaukee Brewers and other sports.

And he was a quick study at that game coverage. I remember being at work one evening when Lou Chapman, veteran Brewers reporter for the Milwaukee Sentinel, came rushing into the AP's office from the Sentinel upstairs asking "Where's Kois?"

The two had covered the same game and he wanted to make sure he hadn't missed certain quotes that Kois may have gotten. Kois, the newcomer, quickly helped him out.

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## ***Uneasy about AP's acceptance of philanthropic funding***

[Lindel Hutson](#) - I'm curious if other eyebrows were raised as mine were over AP's decision to take more than \$8 million from climate activists to write about climate issues.

I've been concerned since the AP first started taking philanthropy money that a line would be crossed.

In my AP days, there would be no greater sin than to be on the receiving end of a blistering member editorial such as last week's New York Post calling the decision ... ``news-as-prostitution. Pay the media to get the coverage you want.''

AP must survive, but is money taking precedent over concern about our image?

Staffing in most states has been cut to the bone even as elected officials erect roadblocks to coverage. Is AP more concerned about the Brazilian rain forest than media access being denied to parts of the Utah state Capitol?

Just because some other news organizations have decided to accept ``philanthropy money'' to do reporting, it doesn't mean AP needs to follow them. Who's next in line to have their interests directly or indirectly polished by AP?

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## ***Honoring deceased alums, faculty, staff at Princeton***





Representing university staff, Connecting colleague [Dan Day](#) speaks from the eagle lectern during Princeton's Service of Remembrance at University Chapel on Feb. 20. The multi-faith event, part of the university's annual Alumni Day celebration, is held to honor and remember the alumni, faculty and staff who have died in the prior year or, in this case, in 2021 and 2020. The event was not held last year because of the COVID pandemic. (Photo by Sameer Khan/FotoBuddy)

## 'That ain't me': A R.I. man goes viral 80 years after he identified a corpse as not his

By Brian Amaral  
Boston Globe

PROVIDENCE — Eighty-four years after premature reports of his untimely demise, and 66 years after his actual one, old Charles Keville of Narragansett is going viral.

The story goes like this: A man goes to a temporary morgue in Galilee to look at a body that had been identified as him.

"Nope," he said, "that ain't me."

Then he left.

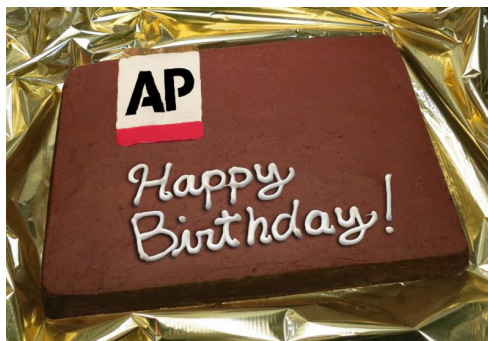
This economical piece of prose appeared on the front page of *The Oregonian* on Sept. 25, 1938, underneath reports of a belligerent European despot poised to invade a portion of a smaller neighbor. Adolf Hitler had his eye on the Sudetenland.

A slightly different version of Keville's tale appeared in the Key West Citizen in early October 1938: "There was one thing Charles Keville was sure of, when he walked into a temporary morgue, and that was that the body identified as his, wasn't."

The Associated Press snippet via The Oregonian is now rocketing around the internet. When the Twitter account "Dudes Posting their W's" posted this particular W, it garnered nearly 7,000 retweets.

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

## Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[Warren Levinson](#)

## Stories of interest

### *'Be Calm,' He Said, as Mortar Shells Fell on the Road Behind Us* (New York Times)

By Valerie Hopkins, Andrew E. Kramer and Ivan Nechepurenko

NOVOLUHANSKE, Ukraine — "Be calm," Denis, the 28-year-old driver, said, after several mortar shells landed on the road behind us. As we sought cover inside the local army headquarters, another half-dozen mortar shells exploded around us.

We had been on a hastily arranged press tour to a tractor repair facility that had been struck by mortar fire just hours before. A Ukrainian commander pointed to two gaping holes left by the blasts, which he said had injured a 27-year-old soldier.

"This was a provocation" from the Russia-backed rebels on the other side of the border, the commander, Anatoly Semenko, said in an interview. He showed a video taken of the soldier's arm bleeding, and said it would probably have to be amputated.

With that, Mr. Semenko said it was not safe for us to linger at the site, and as the small convoy of military vehicles departed, the shelling started again. As far as we

could tell, there was no return fire from the Ukrainian forces.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***CNN reporter describes the challenges of covering the conflict in Ukraine*** (CNN)

By Ramishah Maruf, CNN

New York (CNN) Covering what's really happening on the Ukrainian border is being made even more difficult because of the constant flow of unverified or potentially misleading information, said Clarissa Ward, CNN's chief international correspondent. The prevalence of amateur videos, crowdsourced content and difficult to discern satellite imagery can confuse or perhaps misinform even seasoned journalists.

The far-eastern region of Ukraine includes breakaway, pro-Russian separatist republics, and residents there have been describing scenes of carnage from shells allegedly fired by the Ukrainian military.

But proof of the shelling is much harder to come by. "We've not seen anything to back that up in any way," Ward said of efforts to verify those reports.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***Howard gets \$2M grant to digitize Black newspaper archive*** (AP)

By TALI ARBEL

Howard University has received a \$2 million donation to digitize a major collection of Black newspaper archives in hopes of making it more broadly available to researchers and the public.

The Black Press Archives, dating to the 1970s, contains over 2,000 newspaper titles from the U.S. and countries in Africa and the Caribbean. It includes well-known U.S. papers like the Chicago Defender and New York Amsterdam News as well as publications in French, Xhosa and Kiswahili.

But most of the collection has been inaccessible to the public, with only a small percentage of materials microfilmed and the physical copies fragile, said Benjamin Talton, director of Howard's Moorland-Spingarn Research Center, which houses the archives.

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

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## ***The Post expands coverage of American democracy with new Democracy Team***

**By WashPostPR**

Announcement from Managing Editor Steven Ginsberg, National Editor Matea Gold and Deputy National Editor Philip Rucker:

The Washington Post is excited to announce a major expansion of our coverage of American democracy. Building on the groundbreaking work that The Post has done in recent years, we will be hiring two editors to centralize and expand our reporting on the battles over voting rules and access to the polls, the pressures on election systems across the country and efforts to sow doubt about the outcome of the vote.

The new Democracy Team will include three newly created reporting positions based in Georgia, Arizona and the Upper Midwest that will cover how local and state officials navigate the politicization of the election process, while also tracking legislative and legal battles over voting rules and access to the polls. These reporters will work closely with other members of the team, which will include Post reporters who have played a leading role in this coverage area.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Myron Belkind.

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## ***Local TV station owner Tegna will sell to Standard General in a \$5.4B cash deal*** (Poynter)

**By: Al Tompkins**

Local TV station owner Tegna announced this morning (Tuesday) that it is selling to private owner Standard General for \$5.4 billion (\$24 per share) plus the assumption of debt, which makes the total value of the sale around \$8.6 billion.

It ends the battle for control of the company that began after Standard General became the largest holder of Tegna stock and Standard General head Soo Kim attempted to gain seats on the Tegna board.

Kim had been critical of Tegna's leadership, even while attempting to buy the company. At one point, Kim accused the head of Tegna of being racially insensitive and called for an investigation. He sought to unseat three Tegna board members following that dispute. Kim also was publicly critical of Tegna giving CEO Dave Lougee a 16% pay raise — raising his base compensation to \$6.7 million — while the company's stock prices dropped and Tegna furloughed and cut pay for employees.

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

# The Final Word

## What Washington Was Talking About on the Last 2/22/22 (Washingtonian)

The Roma disaster, Prohibition high jinks, and George Washington's birthday.



WRITTEN BY ANDREW BEAUJON

Tuesday is both a palindrome and a date with repeating numbers: It's 2/22/22. Very few of us will live to see the next iteration of this date, in 2122. We looked up the Washington Post's Wednesday, February 22, issue in 1922 to see what the date in local news looked like 100 years ago.

- Crash of the Roma

The worst disaster in the US's still-young history of aviation took place the day before in Norfolk, Virginia, when the Italian-built dirigible Roma crashed, killing 34 people. The Post striped coverage of the crash across five columns, pushing news about King George and Queen Mary's first wedding party, the arrest of a man some believed to be the murderer of film director William Desmond Taylor, and the deaths of two people, one from Baltimore, who threw themselves into the sea from the Matson liner Buckeye State.

- Police seize whisky

Cops used a series of secret knocks they learned from a secret police agent to gain entrance to an apartment on 12th Street, Northwest, where they said James H. Smith, 22, hid nine gallons of whisky under a trap door in his kitchen. Liquor had been illegal in the US since Prohibition went into effect in January 1920.

Read more [here](#).

## Today in History - Feb. 23, 2022



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Feb. 23, the 54th day of 2022. There are 311 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 23, 1954, the first mass inoculation of schoolchildren against polio using the Salk vaccine began in Pittsburgh as some 5,000 students were vaccinated.

### On this date:

In 1685, composer George Frideric Handel was born in present-day Germany.

In 1822, Boston was granted a charter to incorporate as a city.

In 1836, the siege of the Alamo began in San Antonio, Texas.

In 1861, President-elect Abraham Lincoln arrived secretly in Washington to take office, following word of a possible assassination plot in Baltimore.

In 1903, President Theodore Roosevelt signed an agreement with Cuba to lease the area around Guantanamo Bay to the United States.

In 1942, the first shelling of the U.S. mainland during World War II occurred as a Japanese submarine fired on an oil refinery near Santa Barbara, California, causing

little damage.

**In 1945, during World War II, U.S. Marines on Iwo Jima captured Mount Suribachi, where they raised two American flags (the second flag-raising was captured in the iconic Associated Press photograph.)**

In 1998, 42 people were killed, some 2,600 homes and businesses damaged or destroyed, by tornadoes in central Florida.

In 2007, a Mississippi grand jury refused to bring any new charges in the 1955 slaying of Emmett Till, the Black teenager who was beaten and shot after being accused of whistling at a white woman, declining to indict the woman, Carolyn Bryant Donham, for manslaughter.

In 2011, in a major policy reversal, the Obama administration said it would no longer defend the constitutionality of the Defense of Marriage Act, a federal law banning recognition of same-sex marriage.

In 2013, some 30 NASCAR fans were injured when rookie Kyle Larson's car was propelled by a crash into the fence at Daytona International Speedway, and large chunks of debris flew into the grandstands.

In 2020, Ahmaud Arbery, a 25-year-old Black man, was fatally shot on a residential Georgia street; a white father and son had armed themselves and pursued him after seeing him running through their neighborhood. (Greg and Travis McMichael and neighbor William "Roddie" Bryan were convicted of murder, aggravated assault and other charges and were sentenced to life in prison.)

Ten years ago: President Barack Obama, speaking in Miami, sought to confront public anxiety over rising gasoline prices as he promoted the expansion of domestic oil and gas exploration, as well as the development of new forms of energy.

Five years ago: Seeking to tamp down growing unease in Latin America, President Donald Trump's Homeland Security secretary, John Kelly, pledged during a visit to Mexico City that the United States would not enlist its military to enforce immigration laws and that there would be "no mass deportations."

One year ago: Officials who were in charge of Capitol security at the time of the Jan. 6 riot told lawmakers that missed intelligence was to blame for the failure to anticipate the violent mob. Golfer Tiger Woods was seriously injured when his SUV crashed into a median and rolled over several times on a steep road in suburban Los Angeles.

Today's Birthdays: Pro and College Football Hall of Famer Fred Biletnikoff is 79. Author John Sandford is 78. Actor Patricia Richardson is 71. Former NFL player Ed "Too Tall" Jones is 71. Rock musician Brad Whitford (Aerosmith) is 70. Singer Howard Jones is 67. Rock musician Michael Wilton (Queensryche) is 60. Country singer Dusty Drake is 58. Actor Kristin Davis is 57. Former tennis player Helena Sukova is 57. Actor Marc Price is 54. TV personality/businessman Daymond John (TV: "Shark Tank") is 53. Actor Niecy Nash is 52. Rock musician Jeff Beres (Sister Hazel) is 51. Country singer Steve Holy is 50. Rock musician Lasse (loss) Johansson (The Cardigans) is 49. Film and theater composer Robert Lopez is 47. Actor Kelly Macdonald is 46.

# Got a story or photos to share?

Connecting is a daily newsletter published Monday through Friday that focuses on retired and former Associated Press employees, present-day employees, and news industry and journalism school colleagues. It began in 2013 and past issues can be found by clicking Connecting Archive in the masthead. Its author, Paul Stevens, retired from the AP in 2009 after a 36-year career as a newsman in Albany and St. Louis, correspondent in Wichita, chief of bureau in Albuquerque, Indianapolis and Kansas City, and Midwest vice president based in Kansas City.



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:

- **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.
- **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?
- **Most unusual place a story assignment took you.**

**Paul Stevens**  
Editor, Connecting newsletter



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