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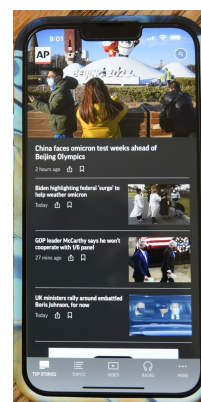
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Connecting

March 21, 2022

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Colleagues,

Good Monday morning on this March 21, 2022,

“A great tribute to AP journalism - makes us all proud!”

That comment from colleague **Myron Belkind** accompanied his contribution of a Washington Post story on how two Associated Press journalists managed to share the horror stories of Mariupol, Ukraine, with the world. And **Mstyslav Chernov** and **Evgeniy Maloletka**, the story said, are enduring the same catastrophe they are covering.



CNN's Reliable Sources and its host **Brian Stelter** also featured their work in Sunday morning's program and interviewed AP Executive Editor **Julie Pace** about the journalists' work.

It's a horrific story, but yes, Myron, they make all of us associated with the AP - active, former or retired - and everyone in journalism so very proud.

Here's to a great week ahead – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

How two journalists managed to share the horror stories of Mariupol with the world

In besieged Mariupol, Mstyslav Chernov and Evgeniy Maloletka of the Associated Press are enduring the same catastrophe they are documenting



People settle in a bomb shelter in Mariupol, Ukraine, on March 6. (Evgeniy Maloletka/AP)

**By Elahe Izadi
The Washington Post**

If it were not for two Associated Press journalists in the besieged city of Mariupol, the world might not have learned what has been happening there as immediately as we have — nor in such irrefutable, horrifying detail.

For three weeks, Mstyslav Chernov and Evgeniy Maloletka have documented the destruction of the southern seaport by Russian forces who have encircled the city and trapped its people there. The journalists have reported on mass graves filling with the bodies of children, the desperate measures to which the hungry populace is turning, and the destruction of a maternity hospital.

Maloletka's March 9 photo of medics carrying a bloodied pregnant woman ran on the front page of every major American newspaper the following day. Chernov also filmed the scene. On Wednesday, they published an account of Mariupol's devastation, including jarring details of the deaths of individual children by shrapnel and how, cut off from water, people have been reduced to boiling snow — stories that contradict Kremlin claims that its forces are not attacking civilians.

The picture they've painted of Mariupol — where residents lack heat, electricity and the ability to easily communicate with the outside world — is so bleak that readers might wonder: How are the journalists even able to do their work?

"They've been subject to the same conditions as anybody else who's been in Mariupol," said Julie Pace, senior vice president and executive editor of the Associated

Press. "When you consider how difficult getting that information out has been, it really just makes me extremely proud of their commitment to making sure that people know what's happening in that location."

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

Click [here](#) for Vanity Fair story: "This Is Personal for Them": Two Ukrainian AP Journalists Capture the Most Devastating Moments of War

And this, with strong AP mention, from the Post:

[What you can do to help save Ukraine from a looming news apocalypse](#)

Top AP editor on keeping war correspondents safe, AP's continuing presence in Russia

CNN Reliable Sources, Poynter Report

Associated Press executive editor Julie Pace says war zone deployments and security precautions are an "ongoing, almost 24/7 conversation." She reveals that "when it comes to safety and security, there's a lot of great cooperation that happens across news organizations."

Interesting insights from Julie Pace, the senior vice president and executive editor of The Associated Press, on Sunday morning's "Reliable Sources" on CNN. Pace told host Brian Stelter that the AP continues to "have a presence in Russia" despite Russian laws that potentially punish independent journalists for reporting the truth about the war.

"We feel like it's incredibly important for us to report from there, particularly as we see other news organizations leave the country," Pace said. "Obviously, the new laws have put restrictions on journalists, but we're very committed to continuing to tell that story."

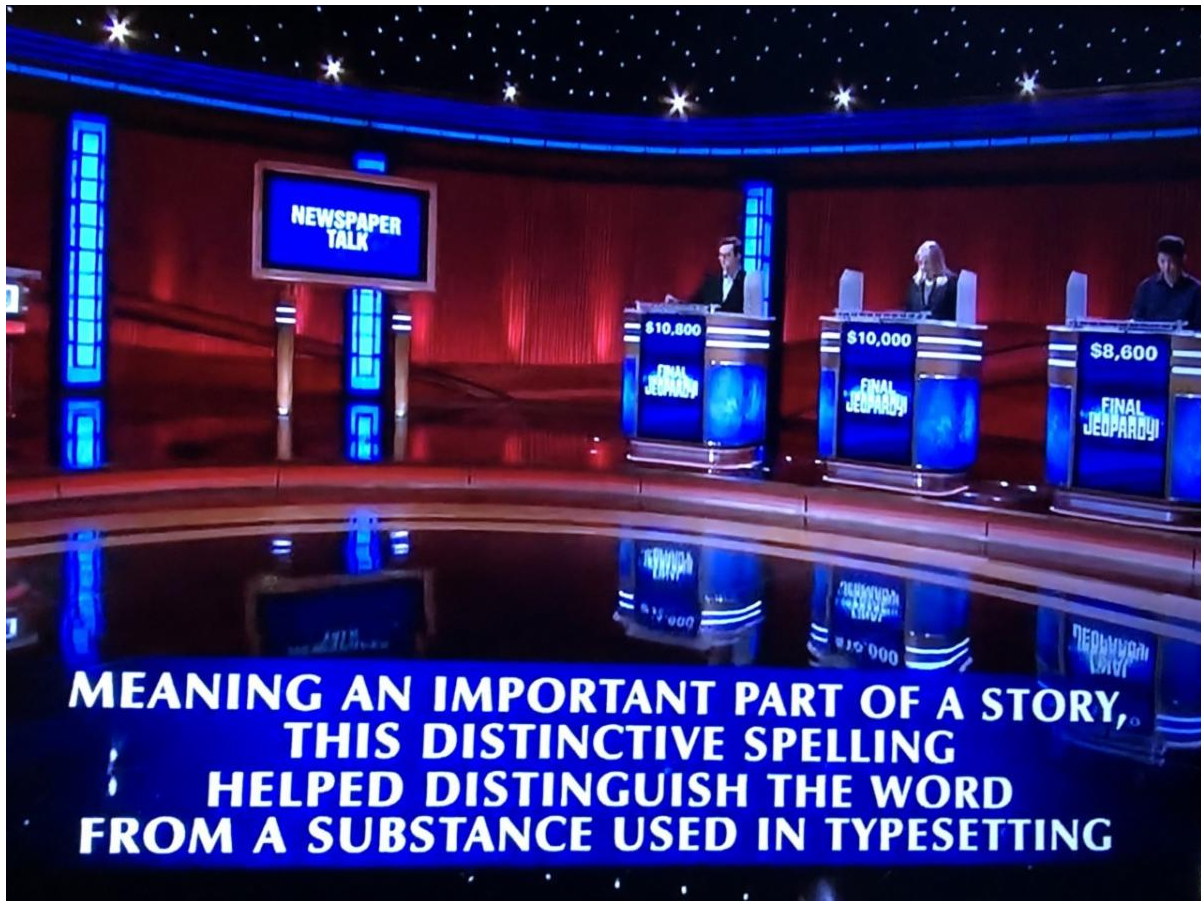
But how? How do you report in a country that doesn't want the truth reported?

Pace said she didn't want to get into details about the "how" so as not to put her journalists in jeopardy. "But," Pace said, "I can tell you that these are decisions and conversations that we have every day, multiple times a day. We cover a lot of difficult places around the world, a lot of places where there are intense restrictions on journalists, so this is something that we're pretty experienced at."

She said the safety of AP's journalists is at the "top of the list."

View more [here](#).

Lead vs Lede – it’s now reached Jeopardy



Hal Buell - The subject of recent CONNECTING banter regarding the proper use of “lead” and/or “lede” turned up on Friday night’s Jeopardy TV quiz show.

There was no comment regarding which term is proper but Jeopardy host Ken Jennings prize for a correct answer was generous.

Jeopardy’s final topic was Newspaper Talk, and the clue delivered to the three contestants was: “Meaning an important part of a story, this distinct spelling helped distinguish the word from a substance used in typesetting.”

The three contestants, Michael Qin, an attorney, Debra Duress, a college professor, and Finn Corrigan, a student, each answered the clue correctly with the word “Lede.”

Corrigan won an evening total of \$19, 601, about half of it thanks to his knowledge of newspaper jargon.



Cynthia Rawitch – offers this conclusion: “I guess it really has replaced lead in the public's mind. My husband and I thought no one would get it!” **Steve Graham** – contributes [this](#). Thanks for screenshots above from **David-Tirrell-Wysocki**. And thanks for shares from **Harry Dunphy**, **Dave Lubeski** and **Joe Galu**.

Connecting mailbox

Honoring memory of Chuck Lewis



A great way to honor him . . . from Vivian Chen, Chuck Lewis' widow. Sunday was the first anniversary of the death of Chuck, who served as Washington bureau chief for the AP and Hearst Newspapers. She noted in this Facebook post:

“Today marks a year of transition. It’s a beautiful spring day and to honor Charles or CJL, I went out to his favorite haunts to treat him to the breakfast junk food he always liked. We didn’t eat at these places often, but he always would if he could. I light this

candle for him in his memory and offer him his goodies. I hope he is happy and smiling! Have a loving day. Onward as he would say." (Shared by John Brewer)

-0-

Kudos to Charlie Hanley

[Joseph Carter](#) - Kudos to Charlie Hanley for his "investigative" report on the incredible, misleading claims about the so-called start-up news service. (Headline: The era of the foreign correspondent is over.") As I read [the NYT dispatch](#), I was awestruck that so-called news service would make such claims. News folks who covet the value of truth surely know that the AP and Reuters both provide unvarnished news written mostly by locals who were educated and trained journalists.

As an ex-wire service reporter, I am more interested in the financial soundness of the Associated Press. My wire service time was with UPI that finally perished from lack of funds. This must not happen to the Associated Press.

Thanks, again, Charlie, for setting the record straight. I hope the copy editors at the NYTIMES read your piece.

And...

[Ed McCullough](#) - Catchy lede, perhaps, but as meaningless as "The End of History," "Castro's Final Hour" or any number of books or concepts jazzed up by authors looking to make a splash or a buck. History marches on, Francis Fukuyama notwithstanding. Castro outlived Andres Oppenheimer's book (and prediction) by 24 years.

Starting from an employment, revenue and client base apparently close to zero, the Smiths aspire to compete with AP and Reuters which spend a combined \$1B+ a year, producing news in all the traditional formats - text, photos, video, audio, graphics - and in a variety of languages, and barely break even. That's IF they break even at all. Mr. Smith was "reluctant to share too many plans." So, too, was Elizabeth Holmes at the start of Theranos.

It's hard to believe this project has "captured the fascination of the media industry" outside of the NYT which also fusses about the purported plan to choose a brand "that is the same word in 25 or 35 different languages." Here's a suggestion: The word that's the same in the most languages, according to the Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, is "Huh." (I made no effort to fact-check that, either.)

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Meeting up with Mike Martinez



Victoria Ekstrand – Mike Martinez and I meet up nearly every year at the annual conference of media academics at something called the AEJMC Southeast Colloquium. This year we walked in Memphis together. :) (Not sure I'll ever be able to hear that song again the same way. I tripped on a curb there and Mike helped out!). I was on a panel that focused largely on what to do about platform liability and Sec. 230; Mike managed all the paper submissions for the law and policy division as he has done for many years now. We both teach and research media law and the 1A-- Mike at UT and me at UNC. We relive our AP days, of course, and catch up with our colleagues. With the 1A and the press under attack, we are a passionate if sometimes weary group these days!

Margie Mason of the AP was the keynote at the conference: Journalism That Matters: Listening to the World's Most Vulnerable Voices and Exposing Abuses.

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Uppick agencies

Henry Bradsher - Harry Dunphy's mention of some London tabloid correspondent's reportedly sending his office "I today rode into Dacca on a tank uppick agencies" reminds me of a piece I contributed to Connecting last May 24. It was about the London Daily Mail's Noel Barber, who specialized in "I was there" reporting to titillate Underground riders. Other reporters accused him of filing "Awestruck, I watched as . . . uppick agencies" and going to the nearest bar. I recounted for Connecting an episode in Calcutta (now Kolkata) in 1959 in which he fabricated a first-person report using information I had filed for AP a couple of days earlier.

Incidentally, when the Indian army arrived in Dacca (now Dhaka) on Dec. 16, 1971, it did not roll tanks into town. It had already defeated the Pakistani army outside town to free East Pakistan and create Bangladesh. I was there, where the Indians entered Dacca in Jeeps.

As for Steve Wolgast's recollection of his time at The NY Times, perhaps then reporters with little experience were not sent overseas. (My son, Keith, had 13 years Times experience before being posted to Hong Kong and China in 2002 – now the Beijing bureau chief.) But there was a notable earlier exception, alongside whom I reported in India, Hong Kong, and Indochina.

This was Putnam Welles Hangen (whose byline did not use Putnam). Starting college at the age of 15, at the age of 18 he reported for the NY Herald Tribune on a UN session in Paris. The Times hired him in Paris when he was 20. At 23 he established a Times bureau in Ankara and then moved to Moscow. However, on a break from Moscow in 1958 when he was 28, his public criticism of Soviet controls on journalists so embarrassed The Times that he had to quit. NBC hired him. After NBC tours in Cairo, Delhi and Germany, he was based in Hong Kong when captured by the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia in 1970 and beaten to death.

Reporting on America's longest war

An oral history with eight journalists who covered the war in Afghanistan over two decades

By Andrew McCormick, Columbia Journalism Review

Excerpt:

So, for CJR, I spoke with journalists who reported from Afghanistan, at different times during the war and for a wide variety of outlets. I wanted to know: What memories from Afghanistan stood out to these journalists? In hindsight, what had they gotten right or wrong in their coverage? And did the war's grim end, as it did for many veterans, recast to them the work they'd done there?

Two of them:

Kathy Gannon has reported from Afghanistan since 1986. She is the news director for Afghanistan and Pakistan for the Associated Press.'

Laura King is a national correspondent for the Los Angeles Times. King traveled frequently to Afghanistan between 2007 and 2009 as the paper's Istanbul bureau chief and served as Kabul bureau chief from 2009 to 2012; earlier, she had covered Afghanistan for the Associated Press. King lives in Washington, DC.

Read story [here](#).

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AP sighting



AP Administative Assistant

Rocky Mountain Contractors

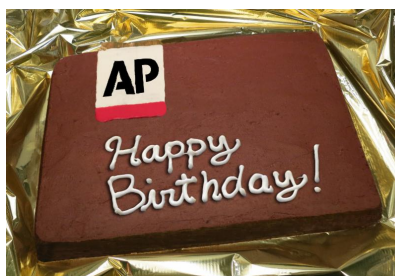
Location: Helena, MT

Post Date: 3/17/2022

APPLY

[Len Iwanski](#) - Turns out, AP stands for Accounts Payable. (And there's a spelling miscue in the title...)

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Lew Wheaton

Stories of interest

US news company takes on the Kremlin in a battle of messages and technology (The Hill)

BY THOMAS KENT, OPINION CONTRIBUTOR

Vladimir Putin's campaign to eliminate free media has forced a U.S. news company financed by Congress to suspend its operations inside Russia. Its challenge now is to leverage its news gathering and technology to keep serving its Russian audience.

For nearly seven decades, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty has brought Russian citizens news and information free of Kremlin censorship. With Putin's unrelenting pressure on Russia's own news outlets, the American company — with more than 200 contributors across Russia — became perhaps the biggest independent source for Russians about events in their own country.

In recent weeks Putin has blocked the websites of RFE/RL's main Russian service and of Current Time, its 24/7 television network. The network's other sites with local news for specific parts of Russia also were blocked, along with its accounts on Russian social networks.

Read more [here](#). Tom Kent, former AP Moscow bureau chief and AP International editor, is a Connecting colleague.

-0-

Blind sports writer Craig Lynch dies at 72 (Sun-Times)

By Mike Clark

One day in 1982, Craig Lynch walked into the old Sun-Times building on Wabash Avenue and asked Taylor Bell for a job.

"He said that some of his friends had heard we were looking for [freelance writers] to cover high school sports," said Bell, the now-retired Sun-Times prep sports editor.

Bell's philosophy was to give pretty much any would-be writer a chance. The ones who couldn't file accurate copy on tight deadlines tended to weed themselves out pretty quickly.

That wasn't a problem for Lynch, even though he was different from most journalists: He was blind since birth.

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

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Authorities: Virginia reporter among 2 killed in shooting (AP)

NORFOLK, Va. (AP) — A Virginia newspaper reporter was one of two people killed during a shooting early Saturday outside a restaurant and bar, authorities said.

Sierra Jenkins, 25, who covered education for The Virginian-Pilot of Norfolk, died at Sentara Norfolk General Hospital after the shooting outside Chicho's Pizza Backstage, according to officials.

Norfolk police detectives were investigating the shooting, which also resulted in injuries to three others. Jenkins was caught in the crossfire as she was leaving the bar, restaurant manager Rory Schindel told the newspaper. No arrests had been announced as of Saturday afternoon.

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

The Final Word

'Never do anything that you wouldn't want to read about in the next morning's paper.'

Doug Pizac - After retiring from full-time photography I'm finding new pleasures in woodturning such as bowls, platters, honey dippers, etc., and have joined the American Association of Woodturners plus a couple clubs to learn this new craft and expand/focus my creativity. AAW publishes a bi-monthly magazine and a bi-monthly PDF newsletter chocked full of interesting subjects and techniques. A couple months ago the newsletter featured forty "Pro Tips: Universal truths" about woodturning and life in general. It is a collection of thoughts by a former accomplished turner in Post Falls, ID who passed away in 2011 by the name of Russ Fairfield.

His last "truth" in the long list pertains to far beyond woodturning, and should be practiced by politicians, business executives, PR people dealing with clients, etc. -- and be on the back of every journalist's business card.

It says, "Never do anything that you wouldn't want to read about in the next morning's paper."

Simple words, simple philosophy, simple truth.

Today in History - March 21, 2022



By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, March 21, the 80th day of 2022. There are 285 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 21, 1965, civil rights demonstrators led by the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. began their third, successful march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama.

On this date:

In 1685, composer Johann Sebastian Bach was born in Eisenach, Germany.

In 1935, Persia officially changed its name to Iran.

In 1945, during World War II, Allied bombers began four days of raids over Germany.

In 1952, the Moondog Coronation Ball, considered the first rock and roll concert, took place at Cleveland Arena.

In 1972, the Supreme Court, in *Dunn v. Blumstein*, ruled that states may not require at least a year's residency for voting eligibility.

In 1990, Namibia became an independent nation as the former colony marked the end of 75 years of South African rule.

In 1997, President Bill Clinton and Russian President Boris Yeltsin wrapped up their summit in Helsinki, Finland, still deadlocked over NATO expansion, but able to agree on slashing nuclear weapons arsenals.

In 2006, the social media website Twitter was established with the sending of the first "tweet" by co-founder Jack Dorsey, who wrote: "just setting up my twttr."

In 2007, former Vice President Al Gore made an emotional return to Congress as he pleaded with House and Senate committees to fight global warming; skeptical Republicans questioned the science behind his climate-change documentary, "An Inconvenient Truth."

In 2016, laying bare a half-century of tensions, President Barack Obama and Cuban President Raul Castro prodded each other over human rights and the longstanding U.S. economic embargo during an unprecedented joint news conference in Havana.

In 2019, President Donald Trump abruptly declared that the U.S. would recognize Israel's sovereignty over the disputed Golan Heights, a major shift in American policy.

In 2020 during a White House briefing, President Donald Trump doubled down on his support for the malaria drug hydroxychloroquine as a possible treatment for the coronavirus, while Dr. Anthony Fauci said the evidence was "anecdotal."

Ten years ago: A previously divided U.N. Security Council sent a strong and united message to the Syrian government and its opposition, telling both sides to immediately implement proposals by international envoy Kofi Annan to end Syria's yearlong bloodshed. Meting out unprecedented punishment for a bounty system that targeted key opposing players, the NFL suspended New Orleans Saints head coach Sean Payton without pay for the coming season and indefinitely banned the team's former defensive coordinator; Commissioner Roger Goodell fined the Saints \$500,000 and took away two draft picks.

Five years ago: U.S. and British officials announced they were barring laptops and tablets from the cabins of some international flights because of longstanding concerns about terrorists targeting jetliners. On the second day of his Senate confirmation hearing, Supreme Court nominee Neil Gorsuch declared he'd made no promises to President Donald Trump or anyone else about how he would vote on abortion or other issues. Chuck Barris, whose game show empire included "The Dating Game," "The Newlywed Game" and "The Gong Show," died at his home in Palisades, New York, at age 87.

One year ago: Officials in Miami Beach extended an emergency 8 p.m. curfew for at least another week; the move came after after fights, gunfire, property destruction and dangerous stampedes broke out among huge crowds of people during the spring break season.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Kathleen Widdoes is 83. Songwriter Chip Taylor ("Wild Thing") is 82. Folk-pop singer-musician Keith Potger (The Seekers) is 81. Actor Marie-Christine Barrault is 78. Singer-musician Rose Stone (Sly and the Family Stone) is 77. Actor Timothy Dalton is 76. Singer Ray Dorset (Mungo Jerry) is 76. Rock singer-musician Roger Hodgson (Supertramp) is 72. Rock musician Conrad Lozano (Los Lobos) is 71. R&B singer Russell Thompkins Jr. is 71. Comedy writer-performer Brad Hall is 64. Actor Sabrina LeBeauf is 64. Actor Gary Oldman is 64. Actor Kassie Depaiva is 61. Actor Matthew Broderick is 60. Comedian-actor Rosie O'Donnell is 60. Actor Cynthia Geary is 57. Hip-hop DJ Premier (Gang Starr) is 56. Rock musician Jonas "Joker" Berggren (Ace of Base) is 55. Rock MC Maxim (Prodigy) is 55. Rock musician Andrew Copeland (Sister Hazel) is 54. Actor Laura Allen is 48. Rapper-TV personality Kevin Federline is 44. Actor Sonequa Martin-Green (TV: "The Walking Dead") is 37. Actor

Scott Eastwood is 36. Tennis player Karolina Pliskova is 30. Actor Jasmin Savoy Brown is 28. Actor Forrest Wheeler is 18.

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.**

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