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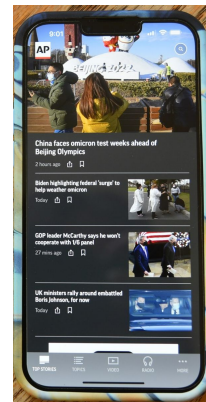
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Connecting

Sept. 9, 2022

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FILE - In this Tuesday, Dec. 18, 2012 file photo, Britain's Queen Elizabeth II looks up and waves to members of staff of The Foreign and Commonwealth Office as she ends an official visit which is part of her Jubilee celebrations in London. Queen Elizabeth II, Britain's longest-reigning monarch and a symbol of stability across much of a turbulent century, has died on Thursday, Sept. 8, 2022. She was 96. (AP Photo/Alastair Grant Pool, File)



FILE - In this Oct. 13, 1940 file photo, Britain's Princess Elizabeth, right and Princess Margaret make their first radio broadcast, in London. (AP Photo, File)

Colleagues,

Good Friday morning on this Sept. 9, 2022,

Our world mourns the death of Queen Elizabeth II, Britain's longest-reigning monarch and a symbol of stability in a turbulent era that saw the decline of the British empire and embarrassing dysfunction in her own family. She died Thursday after 70 years on the throne. She was 96.

The impact of her loss will be huge and unpredictable, both for the nation and for the monarchy, an institution she helped stabilize and modernize across decades of enormous social change and family scandals, but whose relevance in the 21st century has often been called into question.

The Associated Press is providing full coverage of her death and on what comes next as her son ascends the throne as King Charles III. Click [here](#) for a link to the special section.

We bring you the remembrances of the queen by our Connecting colleagues. If you would like to share your own thoughts and experiences, please send along over the weekend.

One of journalism's most iconic journalists, CNN anchor **Bernard Shaw**, died on Wednesday at the age of 82. Shaw, who was CNN's original chief anchor when the network started in 1980, died of pneumonia in Washington.

Our colleague **Peter Arnett**, who worked with Shaw and John Holliman in coverage of the first hours of the U.S. bombing campaign against the regime of Saddam Hussein in 1991, shares memories of that work in a piece written for Connecting.

Have a great weekend – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

Connecting colleagues share memories of covering Queen Elizabeth

[Frank Aukofer](#) - One of the most enjoyable things I have done over the years has been to sit down with veteran news folks to swap war stories—like what you do in Connecting.

The death of Queen Elizabeth prompted memories of a conversation many years ago with Tom Ochiltree, an old AP hand I met in Washington, who said he had covered the queen's ascension to the throne back in 1952. A disclaimer: This story, as told by Tom, is possibly apocryphal. Still, it's great.

Tom said he was in London and was one of the AP reporters assigned to cover Elizabeth's coronation. Following is my memory of his account:

Reporters on the scene, including Tom and dressed in historic clothing, were relegated to a choir loft high in Westminster Abbey. As a medieval building, it had holes in the walls for observation and defense. The AP rented quarters across the street, installed wire teletypes and assembled a crew of copy kid runners. Reporters covering the event wrote a few sentences at a time on foolscap (paper) and wrapped them around British half pennies, which were large and heavy, and secured the copy with rubber bands. They dropped them out through one of the holes, down to the kids waiting below. They picked them up and ran them across the street to the rewrite men, who wrote the story as it happened and turned it over to the teletype operators.

The copy wound up in New York, Tom said, within a couple of minutes, and rewrite men there put it on the AP wire to newspapers all over the country for timely page one stories.

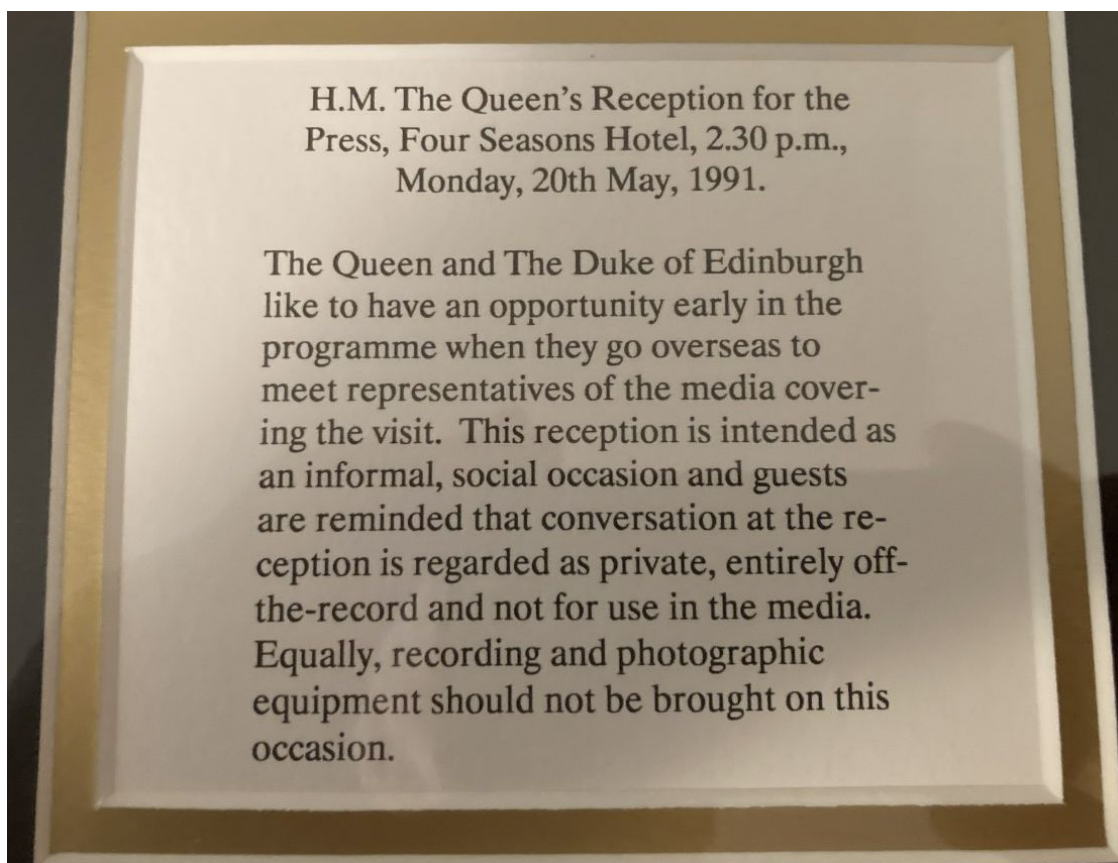
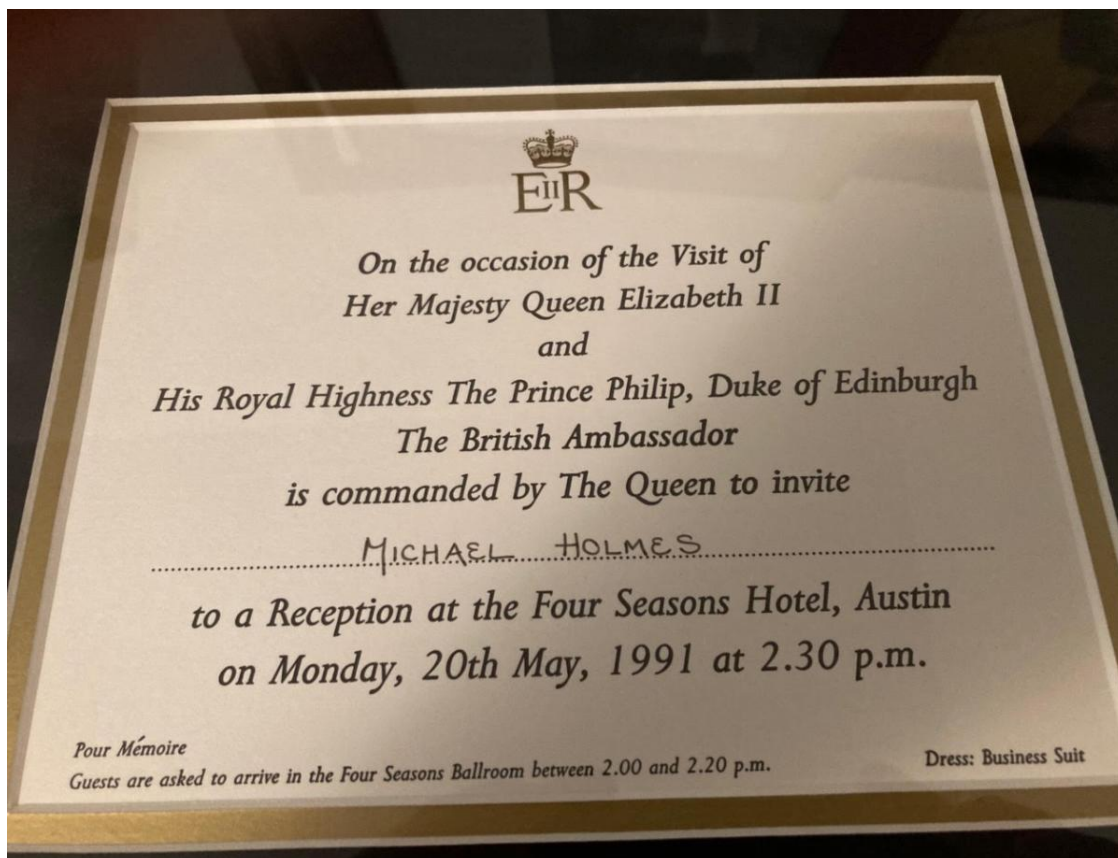
As I said, the story may be apocryphal, but no matter. It's enough to make any newspaperman's heart sing. It's also way too good to attempt to debunk.

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Bob Daugherty - Queen Elizabeth and President Reagan enjoy a horseback ride in 1982. AP Photo/Bob Daugherty.

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Mike Holmes - I'm sure our British colleagues have much better stories about covering the queen, but I'll offer this from my one day in the royal press corps:

One assignment in my reporting career came complete with a protocol briefing -- covering a visit by Queen Elizabeth II. Her trip to Austin included a special reception where we would meet the queen and duke of Edinburgh. My invitation directed me to RSVP by phone to the British Consulate. (One does, of course.)

I spoke with a very nice English lady and made sure to tell her: "My family left England in 1632 to get away from the queen's family. She doesn't hold a grudge, does she?" I think my humor flummoxed the poor woman. "Oh my no," she replied. "That's quite alright."

Sure enough, at the reception the queen made no mention of our ancestral rift.

It occurred to me after hitting send that this second photo might be more interesting for Connecting folks. Certainly, the most polite "this is off the record" statement I've ever seen.

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[Amy Sancetta](#) - I was so fortunate to have the chance to photograph Queen Elizabeth twice over the years for AP. The first time was during her annual horse-buying trip to Kentucky in May 1986. The second was at the Kentucky Derby along with Prince Philip 21 years later.

The 1986 assignment was a pretty simple one, because of Palace protocols. Besides her arrival and departure from the airport, we had the chance to see her one time each of two days, and each time for about 5 minutes tops. The first was at horse farm

and second outside as she attended church. They were some of the most memorable moments of my 30-year AP career.

Godspeed Queen Elizabeth.

And....



Lexington, Ky., correspondent Mike Embry takes cover under a flatbed truck as Philadelphia photographer Amy Sancetta sets up in the rain while covering a visit by Queen Elizabeth in Versailles, Ky., in May 1986. The queen was staying in the area on a multi-day visit to horse farms. (AP Photo/Corporate Archives)



Nick Ut - The Queen opening the new Welcome Wing of the Science Museum in 2000 and meeting AP photographer Nick Ut and Phan Thi Kim Phuc, who Ut famously pictured running from a napalm strike during the Vietnam War.

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WELCOME TO THE QUEEN

TODAY it is Tyneside's turn to welcome Her Majesty The Queen in this her Jubilee year. And Tyneside welcomes her with pride.

The people of this Border region have a turbulent history—and the castles which stud our countryside are a constant reminder of this stormy past. Northumbria was once a kingdom in its own right.

But we are none the less loyal, for all that.

Did not Harry Hotspur spring from these parts? Was not King James the First's grandmother born at Harbottle? And the very castle that gave this city its name was built by William the Conqueror's son.

Northumbria's links with royalty have always been strong, in spite of its distance from the capital.

It is especially fitting that the Royal Yacht should sail through the twin piers at the mouth of the Tyne; from those many fine men and many fine ships have carried the reputation—and the coal—of Tyneside around the world.

The photographs on this page are symbolic of Tyneside's link with the Monarchy. The Tyne Bridge was opened nearly 50 years ago by the Queen's grandfather, King George V, whose portrait is on one of the Ferret's Orders worn by the Queen on her blue Sash of the Order of the Garter.

The other Family Order, hand-painted on ivory and encrusted with diamonds, bears a portrait of her father, King George VI. His son, came to the Tyne—to launch the battleship King George V in 1926.

A link with Queen Victoria, who opened the High Level Bridge in 1849, is the Jubilee Necklace worn by the Queen in this picture. Originally the diamonds and pearls were made into a necklace for Queen Victoria's Jubilee in 1847.

King Edward VII, of course, opened the King Edward Bridge in 1906 and although the Queen is not opening a bridge this time, she is officially opening an example of modern-day Tyne's enterprise. Edwin Lister.

Peggy Walsh - The death of Queen Elizabeth II is the end of an era for many of us who were toddlers when she became queen in 1952.

Early in my AP career I was fortunate enough to meet her at Durham Castle during her Silver Jubilee in 1977.

The occasion was the first flight of the Friendship Force, which Jimmy Carter originated as an exchange between ordinary citizens in different countries to promote peace around the world.

Our group of more than 300 from all around Georgia left Atlanta in July 1977 for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, commonly called Newcastle, in northeast England. Participants lived with families who were matched as closely as possible to their lives. I was the guest of a reporter (Sue) at the Manchester Chronicle. The notable people in the Georgia group were Lt. Gov. Zell Miller and "Miss Allie" Smith, Rosalynn Carter's mother, who worked in a post office.



At the same time a similar group of "Geordies," as Newcastle residents were informally known, came to Atlanta to stay at local homes.

I convinced my bureau chief, the late great Ron Autry, and Bob Johnson (I think) in NY to assign me because I had covered the Friendship Force headquarters in Atlanta.

The entire cost of the trip was \$250 for a flight on a specially chartered Pan Am plane. We were allowed to spend no more than \$50 on souvenirs.

From the day we arrived we were treated like royalty. At a huge celebration the Lord Mayor of Newcastle, wigs and all the regalia, gave us commemorative Newcastle plates (pictured above).

Trips to a coal mine, the local newspaper, a post office with Miss Allie, a Georgia policeman directing traffic were a few activities.

The highlight was when a small group of us were allowed to meet the Queen close up at Durham. Curtsies, your majesty et al. (Newspaper from the visit also attached)

I was struck by her beautiful skin and how tiny she was (5'3" to my 5'9" back then).

There were, sadly, no cell phones then and I didn't have a photographer assigned. I dictated my stories to London. One person taking my dictation was Arthur Sulzberger Jr., before he went to work for his father at the NY Times. When I left AP to be executive editor of the Times News Service, I laughingly pointed that out.

On the future Queen's 21st birthday before I was born, she told the world in a radio address that "my whole life whether it be long or short shall be devoted to your service."

Now she is at peace.

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Gala Dinner

on the occasion of the
Coronation of Her Majesty
Queen Elizabeth II—

MENU

Caviar
Saumon d'Ecosse Fumé
Melon Rafraichi

Consommé Royale
Madrilène en Gelée

Filet de Sole Cardinal

Noisette d'Agneau en Chaud Froid
Salade Verte

Suprême de Reine Monselet
Pommes Duchesse
Petits Pois Frais

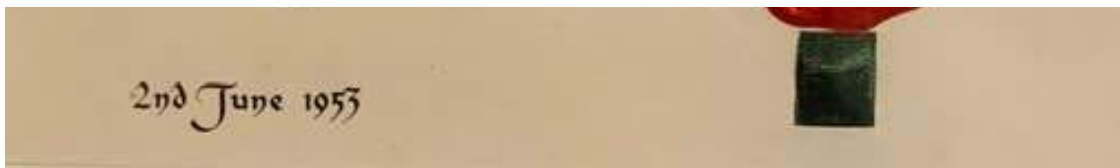
Asperges Lauris
Sauce Mousseline

Pêche Mimosa
Corbeille de Friandises

General Manager

Maitre Chef des Cuisines





Jane Anderson Vercelli - The coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953 was the first public event I remember. My younger brother and I walked to the house of our neighbors on Painter Hill Road in Woodbury, Conn. Sitting cross-legged on the floor, we stared at a small black-and-white television screen rife with static as Queen Elizabeth II walked down a great aisle in a great church in England. I recall wondering how we could be watching an event happening across an ocean.

I could never have foreseen that many years later I would marry into a British family that was ethnically Italian. My late husband was architect Peter Vercelli born two years after Queen Elizabeth II and brought up in London. My late father-in-law was Luigi Vercelli, manager of the Grill Room at the Savoy Hotel for 50 years.

Peter's family often spoke of the royal family's attitude during World War II. When the bombings began, King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, the parents of Queen Elizabeth II, refused to leave London, setting an example emulated by many Londoners, including Peter's family.

Peter himself loved to quote the "Queen Mother" who famously said, "The children will not leave unless I do. I shall not leave unless their father does; and the king will not leave the country in any circumstances."

All through World War II, Luigi worked at the restaurant, walking from the Savoy to the family's flat on Gray's Inn Road through the bombings.

The first night after a curfew was set for Londoners to be off the streets, Luigi was walking home wearing his usual bowler hat when he was detained for being out after curfew and thrown in a jail cell overnight.

The next day, someone came from the Savoy and explained the situation. Luigi's scheduled work at the restaurant did not end until after the curfew began. After that, when Luigi encountered a policeman on his walk home, Luigi would tip his bowler hat and the policeman would motion for him to carry on walking home.

When Elizabeth II was crowned in 1953, a special menu was created at the Berkeley, a sister hotel of the Savoy. Luigi kept the handwritten copy of the dinner menu celebrating the coronation.

After Peter and I were married in 1972, we bought a 1806 federal style house in Connecticut and invited Luigi, then retired and a widower, to live with us full time. Luigi walked into the center hallway, glanced into the dining room and living room, and said, "Blimey! We could invite the Queen to have tea here!"

That was when I knew that Luigi was here to stay.

A year later, Luigi sent Peter and me to London to ship the furnishings from the flat on Gray's Inn Road to Connecticut. In my breakfast room sits the table where Peter's uncles played cards all night during the bombings. In my living room are the sofa and side chairs where Peter's mother and aunts drank cups of tea instead of going underground in the subways.

The rest of the furnishings are arranged throughout my house, including the menu celebrating the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II which has graced my dining room for nearly 50 years.

For Peter, Queen Elizabeth II was the only public figure he admired without reservation because of her steadfast calm through seas high and low. To honor Peter's love of England and his love of the Queen, I concluded his memorial gathering in 2019 with the British national anthem which ends, "God Save the Queen."

Bernard Shaw, CNN's 1st chief anchor, dies at 82



FILE - CNN anchor Bernard Shaw poses in his office at CNN's Washington bureau on Feb. 15, 2001. Shaw, who was CNN's original chief anchor when the network started in 1980, died of pneumonia in Washington on Wednesday, Sept. 7, 2022, according to Tom Johnson, the network's former chief executive. Shaw was 82. (AP Photo/Alex Brandon, File)

By DAVID BAUDER

NEW YORK (AP) — Bernard Shaw, former CNN anchor and a pioneering Black journalist remembered for his blunt question at a presidential debate and calmly reporting the beginning of the Gulf War in 1991 from Baghdad as it was under attack, has died. He was 82.

He died of pneumonia, unrelated to COVID-19, on Wednesday at a hospital in Washington, according to Tom Johnson, CNN's former chief executive.

A former CBS and ABC newsman, Shaw took a chance and accepted an offer to become CNN's chief anchor at its launch in 1980. He later reported before a camera hurriedly set up in a newsroom after the 1981 assassination attempt on President Ronald Reagan.

He retired at age 61 in 2001.

As moderator of a 1988 presidential debate between George H. W. Bush and Michael Dukakis, he asked the Democrat — a death penalty opponent — whether he would support that penalty for someone found guilty of raping and murdering Dukakis' wife Kitty.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Sibby Christensen.

Click [here](#) for CNN story. Shared by Doug Pizac, Adolphe Bernotas, Paul Albright, Richard Chady.

With Bernard Shaw on night that made CNN world-famous



CNN ANCHOR BERNARD SHAW (second from left beside Walter Cronkite) and CNN colleagues Peter Arnett and John Holliman (second from right) and CNN President Tom Johnson at a reception at the National Press Club, DC, mid-March for Arnett after his return from covering the Gulf War.

Peter Arnett - The obituaries of former CNN anchor Bernard Shaw, whose death at age 82 has just been announced, justifiably emphasize his coolness under the pressures of his 20 years as the young CNN's primary news anchor. No greater test did he face than in a suite of rooms on the 9th floor of the Hotel Al Rasheed on January 17, 1991, during the first hours of the massive United States bombing campaign against the regime of Saddam Hussein. I was in that room with Bernie, along with John Holliman who was another former AP guy who had joined CNN. We were tethered to our Atlanta broadcast headquarters by a quietly installed "four wire" communications system that allowed us to broadcast over an open line to CNN's international audience.

Bernie Shaw had arrived in Baghdad a few days earlier for an interview with Saddam Hussein that did not materialize. He hadn't planned on staying, but a few hours before he was to leave the bombing campaign began. In my wire service days, minutes made the difference between a scoop and being second. In live television, seconds made a difference. As the staccato crack of guns firing into the sky confirmed the war had begun, I lurched toward the CNN workplace. I saw Bernie Shaw kneeling, gazing out the 9th floor windows as he groped for the microphone. "Come to Baghdad, come to Baghdad", he was shouting, his fingers stabbing at the control button. "Something is happening".

As I described in my autobiography "Live from the Battlefield", "The glow outside the window was so red it seemed as though the sun had returned to set again. Chains of yellow lights swung across the sky as though suspended from a giant chandelier and I assumed they were tracer bullets from Iraqi anti-aircraft guns." I heard Bernie call, "Peter Arnett, join me over here." Atlanta was taking us live, interrupting an interview firmer defense secretary Caspar Weinberger.

Bernie began saying, "The skies over Baghdad have been illuminated. We're seeing bright flashes going off all over the sky. Peter?" I pressed my face to the mike, I stuttered my own observations and talked of the tremendous lightning effects in the sky. As John Holliman walked into our room the lights went out in the hotel, and so did our four-wire communications system. Holliman fumbled in the dark and managed to replace the battery, talking all the time. "Atlanta, this is Holliman, I don't know if you can hear me but I'm going to talk to you as long as I can."

Our windows rattled. We opened connecting doors to get a panoramic view of the landscape. Then during a break in his monologue, Holliman heard a response from Atlanta. They'd been waiting for ten minutes, waiting for him to stop talking so they could break in. John danced in exhilaration as a large bomb blast crashed three blocks away. I supposed it was Saddam Hussein's Ba'ath Party headquarters.

We passed the microphone back and forth to each other like a relay baton. The executive producer in Atlanta, Bob Furnad, came on the line His voice was animated. "Go for it guys. The whole world's watching."



CNN USED THIS CHRYON to cover the 10 hours of initial phoned coverage of the bombing of Baghdad

We had hours to kill on the air. The raids were coming in every 15 minutes. We compared the bombing to a million fireflies, to Fourth of July fireworks shows. To hurricanes, to shooting stars, to a Space Shuttle launch. We rarely contradicted one another, but one time Bernie challenged Holliman's description of a bombing strike as "beautiful. He commented sharply, "John. that's not beautiful to me."

Part way through our reporting there was a sharp banging on the door. I looked at John and Bernie and suggested they hide. I would handle the situation. Holliman slipped into an adjoining room and squeezed under a bed. Shaw went into another room and hid under a table. I turned off the telephone switch and its yellow light and unlocked the door. Three flashlights hit my face and I was pushed into the room. They were security guards, all much bigger than I. One pinned me against the wall while the others ran through our suite of rooms, opening closets and slamming down windows. They took our cameras off the stands and carried them into the hallway. And they ordered me down to the bunkers.

There was no way I was going downstairs. I simply sat down in the hallway. I announced that I was claustrophobic. I demonstrated with my arms flailing the fear that came over me in enclosed spaces. I said I'd spent 10 years in Vietnam and that the bombs outside did not bother me, but that in a closed room I was maniacal. I protested. I think I wept. The security men made a limp effort to drag me off and then gave up, marching off with our cameras. I watched our flashlights disappear into the stairwell. and ran back into the room. Atlanta thought they had lost us. Anchor David

French had told viewers, "I don't wish to alarm anyone," but that contact with us had been lost. Wolf Blitzer reported from the Pentagon that electronic jamming had finally put us off the air. I turned on the four-wire and told Atlanta we were back in business.

Bernie announced that he was concerned that we not summarily be picked off all at once. "I'm going to yield the microphone to you John and to you Peter, and I'm going back to hide under this table, not because I'm fearful about what's going on outside in the air, but I want to make sure that if there if another sweep, if you two get picked off, at least one of us will be here."

As morning approached, we tuned into a press conference given by Defense Secretary Dick Cheney, a reporter asked if he was worried that the bombing of Baghdad had killed civilians.

He responded, "the best reporting I've seen on what transpired in Baghdad was on CNN. And it would appear, based on the comments that were coming in from that CNN crew at the hotel in Baghdad, that the operation was successful in striking targets with a high degree of precision. at least that's the reporting according to CNN."

When dawn arrived, it was quieter. We had the pleasure o being able to sit in a chair for a change after lying on our stomachs and crawling on our knees. I reminded our audience that the lull did not mean the end of the fighting. Bernie Shaw and John Holliman departed the following day by taxi to Amman. I remained covering the war by satellite phone until the end of the month when a CNN crew arrived driving a truck from Jordan carrying a TV Uplink that allowed me to do live coverage until the end of the war.



PETER ARNETT interviewed Iraq leader Saddam Hussein ten days into the war at a safe

house in the Baghdad suburbs. Saddam was initially defiant, but then appealed to the World's "peace loving people" bring an end to the war.

Connecting mailbox

Remembers the spiking well

Scott Charton - Paul, I shared Dave Ochs' injury anecdote of Thursday with Steve Ehlmann, who I covered in the Missouri Senate as AP Jefferson City correspondent. Steve, who's now county executive, the top elected official in St. Charles County, west of St. Louis, texted this reply:

"I remember it well. Here's the back story. Dave and I were in same class at school and lived in same neighborhood. I had been arguing with my dad that I was old enough to wear spikes. He finally relented and the first time I wore them, I spiked Dave. I felt so bad about it, when we got home, I asked dad to saw off the spikes to half their length. One of my first lessons that "father knows best."

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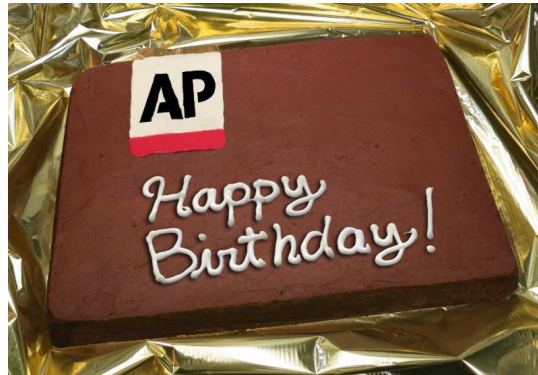
Rainbow over Buzzard's Bay



Chris Carola - We were heading out to dinner around 7 p.m. Sept. 7 when the overcast skies started clearing up and a vivid rainbow spanned Buzzards Bay from the Westport shore to the Elizabeth Islands, southwest of Cape Cod, Mass. That large shiny rock in

the foreground of the photo showing the full rainbow wasn't solid gold after all. I know because I checked. Somewhere there's a leprechaun laughing his Irish tuchus off.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[Bill Hancock](#)

[Tom Tait](#)

Stories of interest

Police: Official's DNA found at slain reporter's crime scene (AP)

By KEN RITTER

LAS VEGAS (AP) — The DNA of a now-arrested public official was found at the site of a Las Vegas investigative reporter's fatal stabbing and the man was "very upset" about upcoming stories the reporter was pursuing, police said Thursday.

County Public Administrator Robert Telles, a Democrat, was arrested late Wednesday after a brief police standoff at his home and hospitalized for what Clark County Sheriff Joe Lombardo described as self-inflicted wounds hours after investigators served a search warrant and confiscated vehicles in the criminal probe of the killing of Las Vegas Review-Journal reporter Jeff German.

Telles, 45, had been a focus of German's reporting about turmoil, including complaints of administrative bullying, favoritism and Telles' relationship with a subordinate staffer in the county office that handles property of people who die without a will or family contacts. Telles went on to lose his bid for reelection in the June primary.

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

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Boston Globe Editor to Step Down (New York Times)

By Katie Robertson

The editor of The Boston Globe, Brian McGrory, will step down in the coming months after leading the organization for 10 years, the newsroom was told on Wednesday.

Mr. McGrory, 60, will stay on until the end of the year or when there is a successor in place, Linda Henry, The Globe's chief executive, said in a memo to the newsroom. Mr. McGrory will become the chair of Boston University's journalism department and will write an opinion column for The Globe.

The Globe has already begun the search for its next editor, Ms. Henry said.

"For the past 10 years, Brian has been a vital part of the leadership of this organization as we embarked on a radical transformation," Ms. Henry wrote in the memo.

Today in History – Sept. 9, 2022



Today is Friday, Sept. 9, the 252nd day of 2022. There are 113 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 9, 1957, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the first civil rights bill to pass Congress since Reconstruction, a measure primarily concerned with protecting voting rights; it also established a Civil Rights Division in the U.S. Department of Justice.

On this date:

In 1776, the second Continental Congress made the term "United States" official, replacing "United Colonies."

In 1850, California became the 31st state of the union.

In 1919, some 1,100 members of Boston's 1,500-man police force went on strike. (The strike was broken by Massachusetts Gov. Calvin Coolidge with replacement officers.)

In 1926, the National Broadcasting Co. (NBC) was incorporated by the Radio Corp. of America.

In 1942, during World War II, a Japanese plane launched from a submarine off the Oregon coast dropped a pair of incendiary bombs in a failed attempt at igniting a massive forest fire; it was the first aerial bombing of the U.S. mainland by a foreign power.

In 1948, the People's Democratic Republic of Korea (North Korea) was declared.

In 1956, Elvis Presley made the first of three appearances on "The Ed Sullivan Show."

In 1960, in the first regular-season American Football League game, the Denver Broncos defeated the Boston Patriots, 13-10.

In 1971, prisoners seized control of the maximum-security Attica Correctional Facility near Buffalo, New York, beginning a siege that ended up claiming 43 lives.

In 1991, boxer Mike Tyson was indicted in Indianapolis on a charge of raping Desiree Washington, a beauty pageant contestant. (Tyson was convicted and ended up serving three years of a six-year prison sentence.)

In 2015, Queen Elizabeth II became the longest reigning monarch in British history, serving as sovereign for 23,226 days (about 63 years and 7 months), according to Buckingham Palace, surpassing Queen Victoria, her great-great-grandmother.

In 2016, Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton, speaking at an LGBT fundraiser in New York City, described half of Republican Donald Trump's supporters as "a basket of deplorables," a characterization for which she ended up expressing regret.

Ten years ago: Two points from defeat, Serena Williams regained her composure and her game to come back to beat Victoria Azarenka, 6-2, 2-6, 7-5, for her fourth U.S. Open championship. Shannon Eastin became the first woman to officiate an NFL regular-season game, serving as a line judge in the St. Louis Rams-Detroit Lions game. (Detroit beat St. Louis 27-23.)

Five years ago: Hurricane Irma hammered Cuba with punishing winds and rain as it headed toward the Florida Keys and the southeastern United States; hundreds of shelters opened in Florida for people looking to escape the potentially deadly winds and storm surge. Dutch officials said Irma had damaged or destroyed 70 percent of the homes on St. Maarten in the Caribbean, leaving it vulnerable to the approach of Hurricane Jose. Sloane Stephens beat her close friend Madison Keys 6-3, 6-0 at the U.S. Open in the first Grand Slam final for both. Guillermo del Toro's "The Shape of Water" won the top prize at the Venice Film Festival.

One year ago: President Joe Biden announced sweeping new federal vaccine requirements affecting as many as 100 million Americans in an all-out effort to curb the surging COVID-19 delta variant; all employers with more than 100 workers would have to require them to be vaccinated or tested for the virus weekly, affecting about 80 million Americans. Biden also signed an executive order requiring vaccination for all employees of the executive branch and contractors who do business with the federal government. The Los Angeles board of education voted to require students 12 and older to be vaccinated against the coronavirus in order to attend in-person classes. Emmy Award-winning character actor Michael Constantine, who reached worldwide fame as the father of the bride in “My Big Fat Greek Wedding,” died at 94.

Today’s Birthdays: Actor Topol is 87. Singer Inez Foxx is 80. Singer Dee Dee Sharp is 77. College Football Hall of Famer and former NFL player Joe Theismann is 73. Rock musician John McFee (The Doobie Brothers) is 72. Actor Tom Wopat is 71. Actor Angela Cartwright is 70. Musician-producer Dave Stewart is 70. Actor Hugh Grant is 62. Sen. Chris Coons, D-Del., is 59. Actor-comedian Charles Esten (formerly Chip) is 57. Actor Constance Marie is 57. Actor David Bennent is 56. Actor Adam Sandler is 56. Rock singer Paul Durham (Black Lab) is 54. Actor Julia Sawalha (suh-WAHL’-hah) is 54. Model Rachel Hunter is 53. Actor Eric Stonestreet is 51. Actor Henry Thomas is 51. Actor Goran Visnjic (VEEZ’-nihch) is 50. Pop-jazz singer Michael Buble’ (boo-BLAY’) is 47. Latin singer Maria Rita is 45. Actor Michelle Williams is 42. Actor Julie Gonzalo is 41. Neo-soul singer Paul Janeway (St. Paul & the Broken Bones) is 39. Actor Zoe Kazan is 39. Author-motivational speaker-businessman Farrah Gray is 38. Actor Kelsey Asbille is 31.

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.

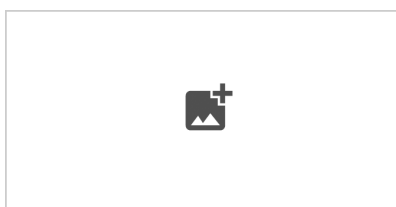
Got a story to share? A favorite memory of your AP days? Don't keep them to yourself. Share with your colleagues by sending to Ye Olde Connecting Editor. And don't forget to include photos!



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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