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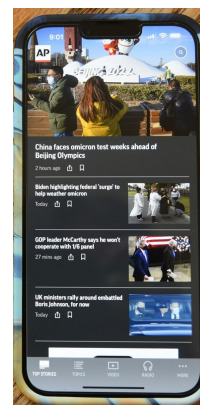
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Connecting

April 10, 2023

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Colleagues,

Good Monday morning on this April 10, 2023,

Our colleague [Frank Bajak](#) wrote a wire obituary story on award-winning Bolivian journalist [Harold Olmos](#), “whose gentlemanly manner belied a remarkable reportorial tenacity and who led Associated Press operations in Venezuela and Brazil after fleeing his coup-convulsed homeland more than four decades ago...”

Connecting carried a story Friday on the death of Olmos at the age of 78 – and we bring you more detail on his remarkable career – and some great memories from his former colleagues – in today’s issue.

Service set for Edward Seaton: A celebration of the life of Edward L. Seaton is scheduled for 11 a.m. on Saturday, April 15, 2023, at All Faiths Chapel on the campus of Kansas State University. All are invited. Seaton, a Connecting colleague and the longtime publisher of The Manhattan Mercury, passed away on Dec. 26, 2022, at age 79. There will be speakers and music. Memorial contributions in his name can be made to the YES! Fund, a charity he helped establish and run for 30 years. It benefits

after-school programs for kids in the Manhattan area. Gifts and flowers can be sent in care of Yorgenson-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home, 1616 Poyntz Ave., Manhattan, KS 66502, which is in charge of arrangements.



Photo/Dale Hearn



Photo/Fred Larson

THE HIGH BRIDGE – A 120-year-old railroad bridge was the topic of my most recent Spotlight in my hometown newspaper, The Messenger of Fort Dodge, Iowa. Click [here](#) for a link to the story, which led: The High Bridge — it's a Fort Dodge landmark that has never missed a day of work in 120 years. And it shows no signs of slowing down anytime soon.

At least two to three times a day, a freight train travels at 10 mph across the single-track railroad bridge that spans the Des Moines River and a neighborhood 182 feet below. The bridge has carried hundreds of thousands of trains since it was constructed in 1902-03 at a cost of \$450,000 — equivalent to \$11.4 million in today's dollars.

Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

Award-winning retired AP journalist Harold Olmos dead at 78



By **FRANK BAJAK**
The Associated Press

Award-winning Bolivian journalist Harold Olmos, whose gentlemanly manner belied a remarkable reportorial tenacity and who led Associated Press operations in Venezuela and Brazil after fleeing his coup-convulsed homeland more than four decades ago, has died at age 78.

Olmos died Wednesday in the eastern lowlands city of Santa Cruz, Bolivia, of a heart attack after a long illness, said his son, José Olmos. He said his father had struggled with diabetes.

The journalist, a role model for younger colleagues with deep experience covering military challenges to democracy, had returned to his native country in 2006 after retiring from the AP. He launched a second career as a columnist, educator and author when Evo Morales, a leftist coca-growers' union leader embraced by the country's indigenous majority, began to dominate Bolivian politics.

"He had very strong and public opinions," his son said, particularly about what he considered to be an assault on press freedom by Morales' governing MAS movement.

Olmos joined the AP in 1969 in La Paz, Bolivia, at age 25, after working as a weekend editor at the *Presencia* daily. An internal company memo the next year described the young reporter running three blocks to the presidential palace during Bolivian coup attempt No. 187 to report on the strafing of the presidential palace for a story that "had no competition" on U.S. front pages.

Olmos was bureau chief in Venezuela for more than a decade until 1993 — years of tumult that saw Hugo Chavez rise to prominence — then in Brazil until his retirement in 2006.

Claude Erbsen, retired former director of World Services for the AP, said Olmos excelled in helping shed light on Brazil's transition from military dictatorship to vibrant democracy. But he and others were most impressed by both Olmos' disarming gentility and fearlessness.

"I think the most important characteristic in him was that he was really a gentle soul, but once he sank his teeth into something you couldn't beat him off with a two-by-four," said Erbsen.



Olmos would display that tenacity in his later years as a blogger and columnist for *El Deber*, one of Bolivia's leading newspapers. In a four-year project that ended with the 2017 publication of a book, "Etched in Memory: Notes of a Reporter," Olmos examined a deadly 2009 government raid that claimed the lives of three foreigners allegedly involved in a terrorist plot against then-President Morales. Ten people spent between six and 10 years in prison for alleged participation, only to regain liberty when charges were dropped in 2020. Olmos attended every court hearing.

Olmos was "a journalist like few others," said Nestor Ikeda, a former AP writer and editor who worked with him in Ikeda's native Peru. Olmos was forced to flee there after one of the multiple coups that then made Bolivia synonymous with political instability.

“He was always at the major news events, as a journalist and sometimes a protagonist,” Ikeda said.

Olmos’ friendship with Lidia Guelier, Bolivia’s first female president, had forced him to clandestinely flee the wrath of Gen. Luis Garcia Meza, the leader of a 1980 coup, Ikeda said.

In Lima, Olmos invited Ikeda to a secret meeting with Bolivian opposition activist Jaime Paz Zamora, whose face and head were wrapped in bandages from a plane crash, later determined to have been plotted by Garcia Meza’s government. Paz Zamora had been the sole survivor.

“Harold and Paz Zamora embraced with the intensity of a reunion of two brothers immersed in the same tragedy,” Ikeda said. In 1989, Paz Zamora would be elected Bolivia’s president.

Olmos became bureau chief in Caracas in 1982. AP reporter Jorge Rueda remembered him as “a maestro for various generations” of AP journalists and “the rock that supported us all in difficult coverages including the 1989 street protests and rioting that came to be known as ‘The Caracazo.’” More than 300 people died in the violence triggered largely by gasoline and transport price increases. Olmos also anchored coverage of the failed 1992 coup led by then-Lt. Col. Chavez, whom Venezuelans would later elect president.

Olmos, “understanding South American political reality and the region’s militarism, was among the first to warn that Venezuela had opened a Pandora’s box by using soldiers to repress protests during the Caracazo,” said Rueda. “After that it would be difficult to make them return to their barracks.”

Born in the Amazonian city of Riberalta, Olmos was educated at the University of San Andres in La Paz and the University of Social Studies in Rome.

An AP internal publication at the time of his hiring, picturing him with a mop of black hair, said “English is still a struggle for him, but he’s coming along.”

Olmos’ English was nearly impeccable.

In 2007, he was awarded Bolivia’s National Journalism Prize.

Upon receiving it, Olmos said that “I left a country enchained by an implacable dictatorship and returned to one gripped by opposing views. In this realm where journalism is trapped in the crossfire of political and ideological disputes it seems the journalist can be considered the enemy.”

Olmos is survived by his wife Cristina, daughter Paula and son José.

Click [here](#) for link to this story.

—

Bajak was the AP’s Chief of Andean News from 2006-2016.

Associated Press reporters Carlos Valdez and Paola Flores in La Paz, Bolivia, contributed to this report.

1982 headshot above courtesy AP Corporate Archives.

Remembering Harold Olmos

[Claude Erbsen](#) - Harold was a quiet, gentle soul who at one point in his youth contemplated becoming a priest. He had the proverbial "heart of gold", but when it came to journalism, he had the equally proverbial tenacity of a bulldog, and a deep commitment to truth, his family, the profession and AP. Rising through AP ranks at a time when long-standing policies and traditions severely limited career opportunities for so called "local hires," Harold prevailed and opened a path for others.

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[Tom Fenton](#) - When I arrived as COB for Chile and Bolivia in 1979 after Somoza was driven out of Nicaragua, I met a pipe-smoking, tweedy and very charming local hire in La Paz named Harold Olmos. More on his charm in a moment. Harold of course eventually became a regular AP employee and went on to serve as longtime COB in Caracas and Rio. One of the issues that landed in my lap when I traveled to La Paz from Santiago was a deadbeat and disagreeable local publisher who wouldn't pay his assessment. He was way in arrears. He could pay. He just wouldn't. I don't now recall the publisher's name nor the newspaper, but I do remember AP had cut off service. Harold and I hounded him for the money and on one call he finally wrote us a check for the outstanding balance. Of course, the check bounced. I probably would have let it go at that point but what happened next speaks volumes about AP's then-local hire. Harold took the bounced check to the bank and unleashed his formidable charm on a young female teller. When he asked her what was in the account, she told him. While the balance wasn't enough to collect on the check, what was there was substantial. So Harold wrote a personal check for the difference and convinced the teller to deposit it into the publisher's account. He then presented the bounced check for collection and the teller, enjoying his attention, honored it. I heard the publisher was mad as hell when he discovered the account had been cleaned out. I don't know whether AP ever restarted LPA service but Harold's legend was growing. Rest in peace my friend.

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[Steve Graham](#) - Sadly, today's Connecting brings news of the death of former Caracas/Rio de Janeiro Bureau Chief Harold Olmos.

Unfortunately, we in the U.S. do not always have a close connection with our colleagues in other lands. This is especially true in communications/technology which can be substantially different from what we are accustomed to.

Caracas was a special case since, for some reason unknown to me, the bureau had a "Mouse" computer and was the only Latin American AP bureau to have one.

Thus, we had a special connection since the technicians there spoke no English and Harold frequently had to translate.

I had the privilege of meeting Harold and working with him during several communications-related trips, including a visit to El Nacional, the country's largest newspaper. Later, we got together on visits to Brazil.

Santa Cruz, Bolivia and Harold and his wife, Cristina, was on our bucket list to visit, but sadly, the pandemic intervened.

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Monte Hayes - Sad news about the death of former Caracas and Rio chief of bureau Harold Olmos. I last spoke with him just before the beginning of the Covid-19 epidemic. I was considering a visit with him at his home in Santa Cruz in eastern Bolivia. We were both excited about the possibility of getting together after so many years. Harold was housebound with nerve damage to the soles of his feet. But he was as jovial as ever as we remembered old times.

A good reporter, an even better chief and, best of all, a great friend. He will be missed.

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Ed McCullough - When I got to Caracas (most probably because of Claude), from Buenos Aires as news editor, I needed a place to stay. Harold and his lovely wife Cristina opened their home, which I eventually rented myself. Big problem, solved.

I had very little experience with subscribers. Harold introduced me to his best contacts. One, a publisher, took me to his favorite (and expensive) French restaurant and regaled himself by waxing poetic about the difference between balsamic and any other vinegar; while I worried about how to politely bring him around to: please pay your AP bill. Then the waiter showed up with a silver platter, whipped off the top, revealing the pièce de résistance: a check for \$25,000.

News-wise, Venezuela had three presidents in my first tumultuous year (1993) including the inimitable Carlos Andres Perez (CAP). Harold schooled me about Venezuela's history, setting the stage for one of my most memorable stories: I interviewed CAP on his cell phone as police were taking him to jail for corruption.

CoB was my best AP job and Harold would have said the same. In fact, I'm pretty sure he did.

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Ricardo Reif - In 1991, Mr. Olmos took a chance on a 21-year-old journalism student and hired him as a correspondent for the AP in Caracas, Venezuela. That student, of course, was me.

Together we covered the tumultuous last years of the presidency of Carlos Andres Perez, who was the target of food riots and a coup attempt -- led by a then-unknown lieutenant colonel called Hugo Chavez -- and eventually impeached.

It was Mr. Olmos who showed me the ropes at the AP, especially how to write in a crisp, attractive style, in English and Spanish, for an international audience.

I would later go on to other postings in Latin America and then to AP HQ in New York. But it was all thanks to Mr. Olmos, to whom I will be forever grateful.

May he rest in peace.

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Gloria Helena Rey - Harold Olmos was one of the best human beings I ever met. I had the pleasure of sharing with him at the AP Office in Rio de Janeiro. I remember him as a great professional and human being. People of that caliber never die in memories. Good trip friend, until we hug again. Gloria Helena Rey, Latin American correspondent in Brazil (1980-1987).

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Kernan Turner - I had a splitting headache when I first met Harold Olmos in La Paz, Bolivia. He recommended coca tea.

We were relatively close neighbors, he in Bolivia as the AP correspondent and I in Lima, Peru, as the newly assigned regional bureau chief.

The headache resulted from flying from sea-level Jorge Chavez International Airport in Lima to 13,325-foot-high El Alto International Airport above La Paz, a mere 11,893 feet above sea level.

I had no sooner arrived at the AP office in La Paz than Harold got word that “something was up” at the legislative palace only blocks away on the city’s main square, Plaza Murillo. Harold jumped up and shouted, “Vámonos!” My heart was racing and my head pulsating with pain as I ran through narrow streets to keep up with Harold. We heard one or two shots fired near the palace, but nothing more. We returned to the AP office confident there wasn’t going to be another Bolivian coup d’état that night.

The Andean country had nine civilian and military governments during my four-year assignment in Lima (1978-1982) and even more later, including one coup that profoundly disrupted Harold’s life.

An ultra-conservative, anti-communist general, Luis Garcia Meza, seized power in Bolivia on July 12, 1980, beginning a one-year reign of terror that included shutting down Congress, outlawing political parties, exiling opposition leaders, and muzzling the press. Years later he was convicted of genocide and imprisoned.

Hounded by the Garcia Meza regime, Harold fled to neighboring Peru in August, arriving with a passport that he said had been stamped “cancelado” by Bolivian immigration officials, leaving him without a country to go home to.

He arrived after the July 28 inauguration of Peru's elected President Fernando Belaunde Terry and the return of democratic rule following a long military dictatorship that confiscated Lima's major newspapers and gave them to "sectors of society," including labor unions, banks, teachers, and others.

Belaunde kept a promise by declaring at his inaugural that the newspapers would be returned to their legitimate owners.

That created a wonderful opportunity for AP to resume delivering our Spanish-language news service to the original publishers. Harold and I spent days visiting publishers and working overtime, writing contracts in English and Spanish for their signatures. All the major papers returned to the AP fold.

Another time on a story assignment we met Peruvian ecologist Felipe Benavides at a vicuña preserve in the Pampas Galeras highlands. The vicuña, a wild, endangered camelid relative of the domesticated llama, is known for its fine wool. Benavides invited us to eat pachamanca, an Inca-style barbecue of llama meat cooked in an underground earthen oven. The idea repulsed Harold. For years, whenever we made contact, mostly by email, he would ask if I had eaten pachamanca lately.

Others have commented on what a perfect gentleman, but determined reporter, Harold was. He was bilingual, polite, and had a deep sense of humor. Perhaps less known was his melodic voice when he sat down with his guitar to sing Latin America ballads.

Memory of Don Deibler

[Arlene Sposato](#) - Don and I both started at AP in the broadcast department. Back then we did all general increases by hand. We worked many nights and weekends. He never complained, always was upbeat. He then moved to Treasury but he would visit me with a joke and a smile for the rest of our many years at AP. He always loved his AP family and always set up retirement lunches. He will be missed by many of his AP Family.

What not to do on the road

[Charlie Hanley](#) – Ed McCullough's curiosity about others' health challenges in reporting brought to mind an example (not mine, thank God) of an A-Number-1 travel no-no. Holed up in the early '90s with a few others at a miserable, buggy place in Baidoa, central Somalia, a lodging with primitive plumbing and a single "shower" pipe emerging from a wall, we awoke one morning to the clatter of a U.S. military medevac chopper landing outside. What happened? "One of the TV guys took a shower and opened his mouth."

Landslide Lyndon

[Larry Margasak](#) - I have long been familiar with L.B.J's 1948 "landslide" Senate victory, thanks to Robert Caro's book, and am so glad that you refreshed my memory with Jim Mangan's AP story.

I couldn't help imagining a phone call between the Jim Wells County, Texas political boss George Parr, and Donald Trump.

Trump: Hi George, how are things in Jim Wells County?

Parr: Well, Mr. President, we were once Democrats, but we are conservatives now. Our people love you. They love MAGA.

Trump: Great to hear. But listen George, we are a little behind in Texas.

Parr: What do you need from us?

Trump: Texans are great people. I love them. But George, there has been a lot of fraud. Dead people. People not registered. Felons. People who live in Alaska. It's terrible. I just need you to find 200 votes.

Parr: Well, you came to the right place. We had people who never got around to voting, but we know they would have voted for you. Well, they'll be voting now.

Trump: Thanks, George. You are a true patriot. They wouldn't find votes for me in Georgia but Texas has real Americans.

Parr: Anything for you, sir.

Trump: Thank you, George. Bye.

Clarence Thomas ... and Jesus

Doug Pizac - Friday you published AP's and ProPublica's pieces on Clarence Thomas' gifts. Here's the [LA Times story](#) on the matter, but with an alarming twist that should be shared. The Times did a story on Thomas getting lavish gifts -- a Bible once owned by Frederick Douglass worth \$19,000 and a bust of Lincoln worth \$15,000 -- in 2004, 19 years ago.

While Thomas refused to comment for the story, he did react to it by stopping his disclosure of received gifts.

Next, in reaction to Trump's arrest, congresswoman Marjorie Taylor Green equated him to Nelson Mandela and Jesus because both of them were arrested too, adding that Jesus wouldn't have died if he had an AR-15. (Wow!) Yesterday, two black state legislators were expelled from the House in Tennessee because they protested the lack of action by the Republicans to pass gun legislation in the wake of the recent school shootings there. The third legislator who was charged is white and was spared expulsion because she allegedly didn't act as militant as her colleagues.



Above is a political cartoon that marries MTG and TN that I find very, very good -- Jesus on the cross whose post is made of an assault rifle -- as a tie-in to Good Friday. It may be Pulitzer worthy.

While it doesn't have a direct link to our journalism, it does reflect on subjects that are being written about. Please consider it for Monday's Final Word whose headline also ties into the drawing and Easter.

BEST OF THE WEEK — FIRST WINNER

3 days, 2 nights, 1 train: Kyiv team crosses Ukraine with Zelenskyy in unprecedented embed



Months of building trust with the Ukrainian government led to unmatched access to President Volodymyr Zelenskyy during his travels across Ukraine. It resulted in a powerful all-formats series of stories that made headlines across the world and gave an in-depth portrait of a wartime leader in perpetual motion.

For months, the AP team has been working on improving access to the Kyiv government. Every press conference was followed by another request to sit down with Zelenskyy and show the world his daily life. Much of the heavy lifting was done by the AP's newly appointed Ukraine correspondent Hanna Arhirova and Kyiv-based photographer Efrem Lukatsky. Visiting managers Susie Blann and Tony Hicks also had pressed AP's case with the government at the highest levels.

Persistence paid off. AP was offered an exclusive interview with the president, to be carried out by AP's Executive Editor and Senior Vice President Julie Pace. She traveled into the country from New York, accompanied by Europe and Africa News Director James Jordan from London. They teamed up with Arhirova, Lukatsky and Prague-based video journalist Adam Pemble, on deployment, for two nights and three days aboard the president's train.

Read more [here](#).

BEST OF THE WEEK — SECOND WINNER

Resourceful, dogged reporting links sheriff's deputies in Mississippi to a pattern of abuses



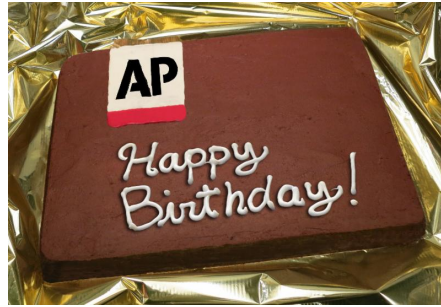
After Michael Corey Jenkins, a Black man, accused Mississippi deputies of firing a gun shoved into his mouth, seriously wounding him, reporter Michael Goldberg in Jackson, Mississippi, combed through records that revealed deputies from the same unit were involved in other violent episodes.

Two Black men said county sheriff's deputies conducting a drug raid in Rankin County, Mississippi, detained and abused them for 90 minutes by pouring milk over their faces and stunning them repeatedly with Tasers, culminating with one deputy putting his gun in Jenkins' mouth and pulling the trigger. Goldberg filed an initial story on Feb. 15, when Jenkins was released from the hospital following weeks of treatment, and the U.S. Justice Department announced it was investigating.

But Goldberg was just getting started. With the Rankin County Sheriff's Office refusing to answer questions, Goldberg spent weeks reviewing incident reports, civil lawsuits, legal depositions, automated Taser reports and medical records, which uncovered facts that corroborated parts of the men's story. The Taser reports, though heavily redacted, showed deputies' Tasers were switched on, turned off or used dozens of times within roughly an hour the night of the raid. Jenkins' medical records showed he suffered a lacerated tongue and a broken jaw from the gunshot.

Read more [here](#).

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[Ed Breen](#)

[Jesus Medina](#)

Stories of interest

Cable-News Networks' Ratings Soar Amid Trump Arraignment Coverage (Wall Street Journal)

By Isabella Simonetti

Former President Donald Trump's indictment and subsequent arraignment gave a viewership jolt to major cable-news networks, all of which posted double-digit percentage increases in ratings from a week earlier.

Fox Corp.'s FOX -0.90% decrease; red down pointing triangle Fox News was the most-watched news network from March 30 through April 5—a period that included the day the grand jury voted to indict Mr. Trump, and the day he was arraigned—averaging nearly 1.5 million total-day viewers, according to Nielsen. Rivals MSNBC and CNN averaged more than one million and 631,000 viewers respectively over that period.

Fox News, which has consistently been a leader in the ratings, saw a viewership spike of 13%. MSNBC and CNN's total-day ratings were up 36% and 35%, respectively, compared with the period from March 23 to March 29.

The ratings boost comes as cable news networks have struggled to keep viewers after the height of the pandemic and the 2020 presidential election.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Peter Gardett.

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Report: Russia charges Journal reporter with espionage (AP)

By The Associated Press

The state news agency Tass and the Interfax news agency said a law enforcement source informed them that Russia's Federal Security Service, known as the FSB, had officially charged the American journalist.

The news outlets didn't say in what form Gershkovich was formally charged or when it happened, but generally suspects are presented a paper outlining the accusations.

In the Russian legal system, the filing of charges and a response from the accused represent the formal start of a criminal probe, initiating what could be a long and secretive Russian judicial process.

Tass quoted its source as saying: "The FSB investigation charged Gershkovich with espionage in the interests of his country. He categorically denied all accusations and stated that he was engaged in journalistic activities in Russia."

Read more [here](#).

2023 Washington, DC, Journalism Hall of Fame, Distinguished Service Award honorees announced

White House correspondent April Ryan, DC Bureau Chief for 7News Sam Ford, and longtime Washington political reporter Jonathan D. Salant will be inducted as members of the Hall of Fame of the Washington, D.C., Pro Chapter, Society of Professional Journalists, on June 13, 2023.

The criterion for membership in the Hall of Fame is simply this: a record of strong journalism for at least 25 years in Washington.

The three inductees will speak at the chapter's annual Dateline Awards and Hall of Fame Dinner in the ballroom of the National Press Club, 529 14th St. NW, Washington, D.C. Cocktails begin at 6 p.m., with dinner at 7 p.m. Business attire, black tie optional.

Also during the evening event, the D.C. Chapter's 2023 Distinguished Service Award will be presented to Paul Albergo, an adjunct educator at American University and Georgetown University, for championing quality journalism as well as diversity, equity and inclusion during his four-decade career with the Bloomberg Industry Group (formerly BNA, or the Bureau of National Affairs). Mr. Albergo also will speak.

Read more [here](#).

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How Fox Chased Its Audience Down the Rabbit Hole (New York Times Magazine)

By Jim Rutenberg

On the evening of Nov. 19, 2020, Rupert Murdoch was watching TV and crawling the walls of his 18th-century mansion in the British countryside while under strict pandemic lockdown. The television hosts at Murdoch's top cable network, Fox News, might have scoffed at such unyielding adherence to Covid protocols. But Jerry Hall, his soon-to-be fourth ex-wife and no fan of Fox or its conservative hosts, was insisting that Murdoch, approaching his 90th birthday, remain cautious.

The big story that day, as it had been every day in the two weeks since the election, was election theft, and now Rudolph W. Giuliani was giving a news conference at the Republican National Committee. With Sidney Powell, the right-wing attorney and conspiracy theorist, at his side, Giuliani, sweating profusely, black hair dye dripping down the side of his face, spun a wild fantasy about Joe Biden's stealing the election from President Donald J. Trump. Dizzying in its delusional complexity, it centered on a supposed plot by the Clinton Foundation, George Soros and associates of Hugo Chávez to convert Trump votes into Biden votes by way of software from Smartmatic and voting machines from Dominion Voting Systems.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Len Iwanski.

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Neal Boenzi, top New York Times photographer for four decades, dies at 97 (ArtDaily)



Firemen scramble to escape falling wall during fire that swept two abandoned buildings on 137th Street near Lincoln Avenue, in Bronx on July 18, 1962. Boenzi, a photographer who for more than 40 years at The New York Times deftly captured aspects of city life from firefighters fleeing a falling wall to a man walking a goose,

died on Monday, April 3, 2023, at an elder care facility in Newhall, Calif. He was 97. (Neal Boenzi/The New York Times)

by Richard Sandomir

NEW YORK, NY.- Neal Boenzi, a photographer who for more than 40 years at The New York Times deftly captured aspects of city life from firefighters fleeing a falling wall to a man walking a goose, died Monday at an elder care facility in Newhall, California. He was 97.

His daughter, Jeanette Boenzi, confirmed the death.

Boenzi's photographs usually accompanied breaking news coverage and longer articles. But they also included many so-called day shots: photographs he took when he was told to be creative and find pictures that brightened readers' days.

"There's an aspect of Weegee in his photographs, that grittiness of New York, but with a lighter touch, less macabre," Fred Ritchin, dean emeritus of the International Center of Photography, said in a phone interview, referring to the celebrated New York City tabloid photographer of the 1930s and '40s. "Maybe even a New York version of the humanism that one sees in the work of French photographers such as Robert Doisneau and Cartier-Bresson."

In July 1962, Boenzi (pronounced boe-EN-zee) left a steakhouse in Manhattan to rush to the Bronx, where a five-alarm fire was sweeping through two abandoned buildings. He found a perch on a nearby roof from which he snapped a picture of the falling wall, five firefighters looking as if they were about to run, and a sixth who had begun running. It lent drama to the Times' short, bare-bones account of the blaze.

"When something like that happens in front of you, you're aware of what's going on," he told the Times in a 2013 video, "but the more important thing is 'get the exposure — did I get it?'"

He would continue to find moments. He shot a famous hug between Fidel Castro, the prime minister of Cuba, and Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev when they visited the United Nations in 1960. From a high floor of the Empire State Building looking south, he took a front-page photo that showed smog eerily shrouding Manhattan on Thanksgiving morning in 1966, one of the city's worst air pollution days.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Paul Albright.

Today in History - April 10, 2023



Today is Monday, April 10, the 100th day of 2023. There are 265 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 10, 1912, the British liner RMS Titanic set sail from Southampton, England, on its ill-fated maiden voyage.

On this date:

In 1866, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was incorporated.

In 1932, German President Paul Von Hindenburg was reelected in a runoff, with Adolf Hitler coming in second.

In 1947, Brooklyn Dodgers President Branch Rickey purchased the contract of Jackie Robinson from the Montreal Royals.

In 1963, the fast-attack nuclear submarine USS Thresher (SSN-593) sank during deep-diving tests east of Cape Cod, Massachusetts, in a disaster that claimed 129 lives.

In 1971, a table tennis team from the United States arrived in China at the invitation of the communist government for a goodwill visit that came to be known as "ping-pong diplomacy."

In 1972, the United States and the Soviet Union joined some 70 nations in signing an agreement banning biological warfare.

In 1974, Golda Meir announced her resignation as prime minister of Israel.

In 1998, the Northern Ireland peace talks concluded as negotiators reached a landmark settlement to end 30 years of bitter rivalries and bloody attacks.

In 2005, Tiger Woods won his fourth Masters with a spectacular finish of birdies and bogeys.

In 2010, Polish President Lech Kaczynski (lehk kah-CHIN'-skee), 60, was killed in a plane crash in western Russia that also claimed the lives of his wife and top Polish political, military and church officials.

In 2017, Justice Neil Gorsuch took his place as the newest addition on the bench of the Supreme Court, restoring a narrow conservative majority.

In 2019, scientists released the first image ever made of a black hole, revealing a fiery, doughnut-shaped object in a galaxy 53 million light-years from earth.

Ten years ago: President Barack Obama proposed a \$3.8 trillion budget that would raise taxes on smokers and wealthy Americans and trim Social Security benefits for millions. The financially beleaguered U.S. Postal Service backpedaled on its plan to end Saturday mail delivery. Robert Edwards, 87, a Nobel Prize winner from Britain whose pioneering in vitro fertilization research led to the first test tube baby, died near Cambridge, England.

Five years ago: During five hours of questioning from a U.S. Senate panel, Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg batted away accusations that he had failed to protect the personal information of millions of Americans from Russians intent on upsetting the U.S. election, though he conceded that Facebook needed to work harder to make sure the tools it creates are used in "good and healthy" ways. The international chemical weapons watchdog said it was sending a fact-finding mission to a Syrian town where a suspected chemical gas attack had taken place over the weekend.

One year ago: Incumbent Emmanuel Macron and face far-right nationalist Marine Le Pen both advanced in the first round of voting in the country's presidential election to set up a head-to-head clash of their sharply opposing visions for France. (Macron would win in a runoff two weeks later.) Pope Francis opened Holy Week on Palm Sunday with a call for an Easter truce in Ukraine to make room for a negotiated peace, highlighting the need for leaders to "make some sacrifices for the good of the people." British author Jack Higgins, who wrote "The Eagle Has Landed" and other bestselling thrillers and espionage novels, died at age 92.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Steven Seagal is 71. Folk-pop singer Terre Roche (The Roches) is 70. Actor Peter MacNicol is 69. Actor Olivia Brown is 66. Singer-producer Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds is 65. Rock singer-musician Brian Setzer is 64. Rock singer Katrina Leskanich (les-KAH'-nich) is 63. Olympic gold medal speedskater Cathy Turner is 61. Rock musician Tim "Herb" Alexander is 58. R&B singer Kenny Lattimore is 56. Actor-comedian Orlando Jones is 55. Rock musician Mike Mushok (Staind) is 54. Rapper Q-Tip (AKA Kamaal) is 53. Actor David Harbour is 48. Blues singer Shemekia Copeland is 44. Actor Laura Bell Bundy is 42. Actor Harry Hadden-Paton is 42. Actor Chyler Leigh is 41. Pop musician Andrew Dost (fun.) is 40. Actor Ryan Merriman is 40. Singer Mandy Moore is 39. Actor Barkhad Abdi (BAHRK'-hahd AHB'-dee) is 38. Actor Shay Mitchell is 36. Actor Haley Joel Osment is 35. Actor Molly Bernard (TV: "Younger") is 35. Country singer Maren Morris is 33. Actor Alex Pettyfer is 33. Actor-singer AJ (AKA Amanda) Michalka (mish-AL'-kah) is 32. Actor Daisy Ridley is 31. Singer-actor Sofia Carson is 30. Actor Audrey Whitby is 27. Actor Ruby Jerins is 25.

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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