

Government Obtains Wide Set Of AP Records

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department secretly obtained two months of telephone records of reporters and editors for The Associated Press in what the news cooperative's top executive called a "massive and unprecedented intrusion" into how news organizations gather the news.

The records obtained by the Justice Department listed outgoing calls for the work and personal phone numbers of individual reporters, general AP office numbers in New York, Washington and Hartford, Conn., and the main number for AP reporters in the House of Representatives press gallery, according to attorneys for the AP. It was not clear if the records also included incoming calls or the duration of calls.

In all, the government seized the records for more than 20 separate telephone lines assigned to AP and its journalists in April and May of 2012. The exact number of journalists who used the phone lines during that period is unknown but more than 100 journalists work in the offices where phone records were targeted, on a wide array of stories about government and other matters.

In a letter of protest sent to Attorney General Eric Holder on Monday, AP President and Chief Executive Officer Gary Pruitt said the government sought and obtained information far beyond anything that could be justified by any specific investigation. He demanded the return of the phone records and destruction of all copies.

O.J. Simpson Returns To Las Vegas Court

LAS VEGAS (AP) — The shackles and blue prison garb seemed to weigh down O.J. Simpson as he returned to a Las Vegas courtroom on Monday to ask for a new trial in the armed robbery-kidnapping case that sent him to prison in 2008.

Looking grayer and heavier, the 65-year-old former football star and TV pitchman was flanked by guards as he nodded and raised his eyebrows to acknowledge people he recognized in the audience.

A marshal had warned onlookers not to try to communicate with Simpson, and no words were exchanged.

Still, a close friend saw a flash of the old, magnetic Simpson personality.

"Not much muscle tone," observed Sherman White, a former NFL defensive lineman, teammate and friend of Simpson since they both played for the Buffalo Bills. "But you saw a little of the O.J. pizzazz when he came in."

Deadly Car Bomb Targets Civilians In Benghazi

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP) — A deadly car bomb exploded Monday near a hospital in a busy area packed with civilians in the eastern Libyan city of Benghazi, destroying part of the facility, officials said.

Officials gave conflicting casualty figures, with death tolls ranging from three to 10 in the chaotic aftermath of the attack.

Benghazi, which was the birthplace of the revolution that led to the ouster of dictator Moammar Gadhafi, has suffered a series of assassinations and other attacks, including the Sept. 11 assaults on the U.S. diplomatic mission that killed Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans.

The oil-rich North African nation is still largely dominated by militias, many including fighters who battled Gadhafi's forces during the 2011 civil war, and many attacks are blamed on them as infighting is rampant in the battle for control.

But witnesses and analysts said Monday's explosion stood out because it struck during the day in a crowded area, putting civilians at risk.

British PM Visits Boston To Discuss Bombings

BOSTON (AP) — British Prime Minister David Cameron is meeting with Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick to offer his condolences and discuss lessons that can be learned from the deadly Boston Marathon bombing.

The meeting follows a White House visit earlier Monday during which Cameron met with President Barack Obama.

Cameron was greeted by Patrick on the front steps of the Statehouse. The two men then walked together into the building and into the governor's office for a private meeting.

Lt. Gov. Timothy Murray and state Housing and Economic Development Secretary Gregory Bialecki also were in the meeting.

Cameron told Patrick before the meeting he wanted to pay his respects in Boston.

The April 15 bombing killed three people and injured more than 260 others. One suspect died after a gunbattle with police, and the other was arrested.

Vt. Bill Allows Doctors To Help Patients Die

MONTPELIER, Vt. (AP) — The Vermont House approved a measure Monday night that would allow doctors to provide lethal medication to terminally ill patients seeking to end their lives.

If Gov. Peter Shumlin — a strong supporter of the bill — signs on, Vermont will join Oregon, Washington and Montana as states allowing physicians to provide deadly doses of medication to dying patients who seek it.

The vote was a reversal of the defeat of similar legislation in the House in 2007 and marked the first time any legislature in the country had seen such a measure all the way to passage.

By a 75-65 roll call vote, the House approved a bill largely copies a law passed by Oregon voters in 1997 for three years and then shifts to a system with less government monitoring.

Popular Psychologist Joyce Brothers Dies

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Joyce Brothers, the pop psychologist who pioneered the television advice show in the 1950s and enjoyed a long and prolific career as a syndicated columnist, author, and television and film personality, has died. She was 85.

Brothers died Monday in New York City, according to her longtime publicist, Sanford Brokaw. The cause of death was not immediately made public.

Brothers first gained fame on a game show and went on to publish 15 books and make cameo appearances on popular shows including "Happy Days" and "The Simpsons." She visited Johnny Carson on "The Tonight Show" nearly 100 times.

Her game show celebrity opened up doors. In 1956, she became co-host of "Sports Showcast" and frequently appeared on talk shows.

She also dispensed advice on several phone-in radio programs, sometimes going live. She was criti-

cized by some for giving out advice without knowing her callers' histories. But Brothers responded that she was not practicing therapy on the air and that she advised callers to seek professional help when needed.

For almost four decades, Brothers was a columnist for Good Housekeeping. She also wrote a

daily syndicated advice column that appeared in more than 350 newspapers. Briefly, in 1961, she was host of her own television program.

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