The Overseas Press Club of America, we are marching through our 71st year insisting that fact-based, hard-news reporting from abroad is more important than ever. As we salute the winners of our 20 awards, I am proud to say their work is a tribute to the public’s right to know.

As new forms of communication erupt, the incessant drumbeat of the 24-hour news cycle threatens to overwhelm the public desire for information by swamping readers and viewers with instant mediocrity. Our brave winners – and the news organizations that support them – reject the temptation to oversimplify, trivialize and then abandon important events as old news. For them, and for the OPC, the earthquakes in Haiti and Chile, the shifting fronts in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iraq, the drug wars of Mexico and genocides and commodity grabs in Africa need to be covered thoroughly and with integrity.

The OPC believes quality journalism will create its own market. In spite of the decimation of the traditional news business, worthwhile journalism can and will survive. Creators of real news will get paid a living wage and the young who desire to quest for the truth will still find journalism viable as a proud profession and a civic good.

We back that belief with our OPC Foundation, which awards 12 scholarships a year to deserving students who express their desire to become foreign correspondents while submitting essays on international subjects.

Throughout the year, the OPC has highlighted superb foreign correspondence. Kati Marton enlightened us about the Russian repression of Hungary; Seymour Topping treated us to his insights on China as Mao emerged and the U.S. Cold War with the Soviets. John Maxwell Hamilton taught us the history of foreign correspondents. We had great times at our holiday party, a vodka book night and “Tchotchke Night,” when we were entertained by tales of exotic souvenirs lugged back from the far corners of the earth. We also hosted Roxana Saberi’s first press conference after she was freed by Iran. Finally, our Freedom of the Press Committee has been more active than ever. Please take a moment to check it out on our revitalized website: opcofamerica.org. Go ahead and post a blog.

Allan Dodds Frank

OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA BOARD OF GOVERNORS

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The Robert Capa Gold Medal Award,
The Olivier Rebbot Award, The John Faber Award

The Robert Capa Gold Medal Award
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‘War in Gaz’

Feature Photography Award, The Lowell Thomas Award,
The David Kaplan Award

The Edward R. Murrow Award, The Ed Cunningham Award,
The Thomas Nast Award, The Morton Frank Award,
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The Carl Spielvogel Award, The Joe and Laurie Dine Award,
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PR Newswire is the official news release distributor for the OPC.
The recipient of this year's Overseas Press Club President's Award is Andy Rooney, CBS's avuncular, and irascible, 60 Minutes commentator whose experience as a foreign correspondent dates back to his World War II job as a reporter for Stars and Stripes. Earlier this year his son, television correspondent Brian Rooney, gave a talk at a "roast" sponsored by friends and colleagues from both Andy and Brian's alma mater, Colgate University. This tribute by Brian is adapted from that event.

M y father just turned 91 years old. A lot of people say that's a great feat. But when you think about it, it's not something you do intentionally. You survive World War II, avoid fatal car crashes, and maybe you are blessed with good genes. I can tell you in my father's case it is not the result of careful diet and exercise. He's really an amazing physical specimen, incredibly tough. On Christmas day a few years ago – he was 84 at the time – he was run over by a jeep on a snowy road, and he still made it home for dinner. The unbelievable part is that it was his Jeep and he was the driver. He got out to clear ice off the windshield wipers.

A lot of people have asked me if he is really like the man they see on television, and I can assure you he is. This is a man who will send the wine back to the kitchen in his own home.

They elbowed me out of the way to get to him.

He taught me how to cook and schooled me in the basic food groups: garlic, butter and ice cream. He taught me some of the basic skills of being a man: how to use an axe and a chainsaw. He taught me woodworking, how to use a chisel and a table saw.

When I was growing up he used to lay down these little laws of life that were something between philosophy and just rules of good order. Things like, “If you want to get the attention of the chef, you have to start by being mean to the busboy.”

He used to say, “The same things keep happening to the same people.” This was his notion of fate as determined by personality. Those bomber pilots in the war who brought the plane back all shot up later went on to become leaders in the civilian world. This one kept me awake at night when I was cast as “third elf” in my grade school Christmas play.

My favorite was his rule for civic involvement. We lived in a small town with a volunteer fire department. And whenever the whistle blew – in the middle of the night, whenever – he hustled us all into the station wagon and went to the fire.

He said, “When your neighbor’s house is on fire, you have an obligation to go and watch it burn.”

The big Andy Rooney rule is this: “If all the truth was known about everything, the world would be a better place.”

This is how he has lived his professional and his personal life – not always, but more than most human beings. He thinks governments should not have secrets and there is no opinion or information that is too dangerous, or hurtful, to be told. Good ideas and good people would rise in a world in which all the truths were known. In his personal life, he believes in blunt honesty, which he will deliver anywhere from the breakfast table to the boss’s office. Just about every one of my parents’ best friends went through a period when they were so mad at Dad they refused to speak to him.

On television, he doesn't express an opinion because he thinks more people will watch, and he doesn't avoid saying something even if he thinks people will turn him off. And there have been some difficult moments because of that. He had to quit his job a few times, and he nearly got fired.

The advantage I had growing up with my father is that I was raised by a man who was not out to make money. He believes you have to stand for something more than your own good, and just hope you get paid for it. And that's what he stands for: if all the truth were known, the world would be a better place.
Last December, I finally made it back to Baghdad. I’d left on May 29, 2006, unconscious on a stretcher after my CBS News team and the 4th Infantry Division patrol we’d been covering walked into the path of a 300- to 500-pound car bomb. The wall of shrapnel that tore through us took the lives of my colleagues, cameraman Paul Douglas and soundman James Brolin. The officer we’d been following, Army Capt. James Funkhouser, and our translator, known as Sam, were also killed. The explosion badly injured four other soldiers on the patrol.

It took many months of physical therapy and rehabilitation to get me walking, and then running, again. It took painful hours of reliving the attack to begin moving beyond the trauma of that day. What I could not know then was how much work it would take to get back to the job I loved, as a foreign correspondent, if only for a few short days.

My chance came when Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, invited me to join him and other journalists on his annual USO tour— including eight days of nonstop meetings and briefings with commanders in Afghanistan, Pakistan and, finally, Iraq.

For someone who hadn’t been in the field in almost four years, it was like breathing again. I’d asked to go back several times, but CBS had been loath to put me in harm’s way again on the network’s behalf. So with CBS’s permission I took the opportunity the admiral offered to go as a private citizen.

This return trip to Baghdad was a bittersweet glimpse of what used to be, but also a chance to show people that it is possible to heal from the level of injury that I sustained. I’ve tried to send that message in other ways. I wrote a book about the bombing and my recovery, and I regularly speak to groups large and small, military and civilian. I’ve even run a couple of 10Ks, partly to raise money for Fisher House, where my family stayed during much of my hospitalization, and partly to show that I can. That’s where my experience dovetails with that of many of the wounded warriors I’ve met. After proving to yourself that you’re whole, whatever your new definition of “whole” might be, you then have to prove it to your loved ones.

In 2008, a year after I came back to work, I told a New York tabloid that I looked forward to returning to the field, including Iraq. I’d lived overseas covering crises for 14 years. My home was in Jerusalem. I would not be driven away from my life’s work by an al-Qaeda splinter group’s car bomb. “Bomb Girl Wants Back to Iraq” screamed the next day’s headline. It wasn’t meant as an atta-girl compliment. The subtext of the article was clear— this woman is touched in the head. Even close colleagues ventured that seeing Iraq again would trigger some sort of emotional tsunami.

Three years after suffering near-fatal injuries in a bomb blast, the former CBS foreign correspondent makes a redemptive return to Iraq

BY KIMBERLY DOZIER

Last December, I finally made it back to Baghdad. I’d left on May 29, 2006, unconscious on a stretcher after my CBS News team and the 4th Infantry Division patrol we’d been covering walked into the path of a 300- to 500-pound car bomb. The wall of shrapnel that tore through us took the lives of my colleagues, cameraman Paul Douglas and soundman James Brolin. The officer we’d been following, Army Capt. James Funkhouser, and our translator, known as Sam, were also killed. The explosion badly injured four other soldiers on the patrol.

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For someone who hadn’t been in the field in almost four years, it was like breathing again. I’d asked to go back several times, but CBS had been loath to put me in harm’s way again on the network’s behalf.

But it’s not as if the trauma was locked away somewhere, to be released only when I set foot again in the country where I was hurt. The emotional weight of losing Paul and James had been with me for years – from the moment I opened my eyes in Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany. Photos of them are on my office wall, and every week or so I’ll run into someone who knew them, or I’ll see a story from a European or Middle East country we covered together.

When a tube was still down my throat, I poured out everything I could remember from the bomb’s aftermath, scrawling it on a pad of paper with a marking pen. And I kept writing, “Where are Paul and James?” I had to be told that they had died at the scene. In that first month, I had post-traumatic stress, with my brain processing the trauma through nightmares, flashbacks, hyper-vigilance and roller-coaster emotions. But I never developed PTSD – post-traumatic stress disorder – which is diagnosed when those symptoms become coping mechanisms that stay with you. The more I talked about every detail I could remember, the more the symptoms faded.

Yet many people assume I have PTSD, and they assumed going back to Baghdad would make it worse. My idea is that what doesn’t kill you makes you stronger. I’d had ample opportunity to keep “processing” the experience, by meeting just about everyone I could find who was there that day, and giving hundreds of speeches and interviews about the bombing and my recovery. Reliving every part of the attack and grieving for my colleagues was the hardest part of my healing – not traveling down the airport road in Baghdad again and thinking about how it still might be mined with improvised explosives and car bombs. In the previous 3 1/2 years I had gone over far more dangerous emotional territory – like trying to apologize to Paul’s widow for surviving, saying the wrong things and only making her more upset.

I also met Capt. Funkhouser’s widow, Jennifer, who I knew had felt fury toward me for a time. She knew that her husband was chosen for that patrol because he was an articulate spokesman for the U.S. Army’s efforts to train the Iraqi police. If I hadn’t asked for a Memorial Day interview, perhaps he would still be alive. I walked into her house with fear. Instead, I found the a woman who had decided that to be angry that her husband had been on that patrol that day was to dishonor his memory.

As tough as that meeting was, tougher still was meeting James’s 16-year-old daughter when she visited D.C. from London. I’d never met Paul’s and James’s families in person before. I didn’t know what to say. After blurting out surely inappropriate things, I asked her what would most help her to hear. She asked me to walk her through the bombing, detail by detail. I’d been there, and she’d had no one to ask until then.

I told the story of the day of the patrol. When I got to the part where the bomb went off, I spoke of my anger that James – one of the smartest people I had ever known – hadn’t had any warning before it hit him, killing him instantly. His daughter’s face crinkled up, and her eyes filled with tears for a moment. I thought maybe I’d said too much. But she breathed out and wiped the tears from her face. “I thought the same thing,” she said. “I was so angry. And then I decided it was better because he felt no pain.” She told me to stop feeling guilty that I’m still here and that her dad and Paul are not. Her father died doing what he loved.

These journeys were behind me before I stepped on that C-17 headed for Baghdad. And so was much of the pain. The trip became, instead, a small measure of redemption – a chance to be immersed in the action again, following the chairman and his staff as they sized up life-and-death decisions made, and those yet to be made. I revealed in my front-row seat, again getting to witness a slice of history. I felt the same sense of purpose I’d experienced while working with Paul and James, shooting a story in a war zone.

It was a veteran friend of mine, an Army intelligence officer injured in Afghanistan, who found the words for me. She said she too wanted to go back, and that doesn’t make her crazy. “We do what we do because it is who we are and we understand it,” she said. “No one really understands why a soldier wants to deploy again after being injured . . . except us.” She did me the honor of including me in that “us.”

Kimberly Dozier, a former CBS News correspondent, has recently joined the Associated Press, covering intelligence for the AP’s Terror Team. She is the author of Breathing the Fire: Fighting to Report, and Survive, the War in Iraq. This article first appeared in the Washington Post, and was adapted for Dateline.
A DISPATCH FROM GLOBALPOST

News outlets across the country have downsized or closed their overseas bureaus. The new Boston-based online international news service has built a network of 70 correspondents in 50 countries.

BY CHARLES M. SENNOTT

On a winter morning, I was at my desk in the GlobalPost newsroom watching the sun rise over Boston harbor and waiting for a Skype video conference with a reporter in Beijing. GlobalPost’s Boston offices are a mix of old Boston and the digital age. We’re located in what is known as The Pilot House.

In the Pilot House you can feel a continuum of history that connects this place to how Americans have gathered news of the world from the colonial era to today. In the 18th and 19th centuries, the ships brought not just cargo, but news. Today GlobalPost continues that tradition. It has a fulltime staff of 15 in Boston, plus 70 correspondents in 50 countries around the world.

It’s easy to see ominous, dark clouds on the horizon of foreign reporting at traditional news organizations. The Internet has imposed a punishing new economic reality on America’s newspapers, news magazines and networks. By some estimates there are fewer than half as many foreign correspondents working for American news organizations as there were in 2005, when the landscape already looked bleak amid a decade-long downturn for old media.

The Boston Globe, the Chicago Tribune, the Philadelphia Inquirer, Newsday and The Baltimore Sun have all shuttered their foreign bureaus — and several of those papers are in bankruptcy or teetering on the edge of it. News magazines such as Time and Newsweek and network news divisions have been forced into similar retreats, particularly ABC, which in February announced it would lay off 25 percent of its staff.

All of this occurs at a time when the American audience needs more than ever to know about the world. The global economic crisis, the threat of climate change, global epidemics of disease and two raging wars are all proof of that. The modern world has never felt more interconnected, nor under-covered.

But with an eye toward history, maybe we can view these hard years for American journalism as the necessary destruction that comes before an era of dramatic, new possibilities. With a firm — some might say reckless — belief in this understanding of history, GlobalPost set sail in January of 2009.

In our first year, we’ve built a solid team of correspondents and columnists who work with us on contracts akin to what used to be known as “super stringers.” We’ve had a steady rise in traffic with a total of 9 million visits to the site in the first year. Our audience is engaged and loyal, according to Google analytics. We’ve signed important editorial partnerships with CBS News and the PBS NewsHour and developed a solid syndication business that serves some 30 newspapers in America and worldwide — including the New York Daily News, the Newark Star-Ledger, the Pittsburgh Post Gazette, and English language newspapers from Cambodia to the Persian Gulf.

We’ve tried to hold true to simple beliefs. One is that great international journalism is based on powerful story telling by talented reporters who live in the countries about which they write. We have some way to go to meet revenue goals and prove ourselves as a sustainable business, but we are gaining momentum on this journey.

For me, it began on St. Patrick’s Day of 2008, when I took a buyout from the Globe, where I had worked for 14 years, and joined forces with CEO Phil Balboni as co-founder of GlobalPost. It was hard to leave the Globe, the paper I grew up with and where since high school I had dreamed of working. For almost a decade, I was proud to be part of the Globe’s foreign desk, a scrappy team of fighters that punched above its weight. We didn’t have the gravitas of The New York Times, but we relished the freedom we had as under-covered.

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http://www.globalpost.com/taliban

I served as Middle East bureau chief in Jerusalem from 1997 to 2001 and as Europe bureau chief in London from 2001 to 2006. I spent most of my time post-Sept. 11 covering Afghanistan and Iraq and then the Madrid and London bombings. Yet economic realities caught up to the Globe and the foreign desk was shut down in 2007. It was time to move on.

In that spring of 2008, I traveled around the world building GlobalPost’s team of correspondents and columnists. The Boston staff consists of eight editors and seven business-side people. The correspondents in the field include cagey veteran columnists like Mort Rosenblum of CBS News who worked for 40 years all over the world for the AP, and H.D.S. Greenway, who covered just about every major international story in the last half century for the Globe and The Washington Post. It also includes award-winning, mid-career journalists such as Jean MacKenzie in Afghanistan, Caryle Murphy in Saudi Arabia, Matt Rees in Jerusalem, Michael Goldfarb in London, John Otis in Colombia, Matt McAllister as a reporter-at-large and too many others to name.

All are extraordinarily talented correspondents who’ve taken buyouts or been let go from newspapers that have decimated their foreign coverage. Others are young reporters setting up shop as freelancers and relying on GlobalPost as a steady string.

For almost all of our correspondents, GlobalPost is one piece of a freelance portfolio that often includes other newspaper or magazine strings or book projects and documentaries. Our contracts include base pay for four stories per month. We have a separate budget for special projects, which allows us to apply more resources to enterprise reporting. We’ve learned to be flexible and resourceful in helping people assemble lives that will allow them to continue reporting overseas.

We get hundreds of applications for work from young journalists looking for an opportunity. We’ve also set up a Study Abroad page where we host essays and feature stories by college students who are studying abroad.

One challenge is to retain this eclectic team scattered around the world and find a way for them to become more interconnected and reliant on the support they can provide each other. We hope to work with the Overseas Press Club to find new ways to do that.

By the end of our first year, this team of correspondents had produced some 3,500 stories and about 300 photo galleries and videos. Our core audience of about 750,000 readers is 65 percent American, with the rest mostly from English-speaking countries such as the United Kingdom, Europe, India and China. The rest of our readers are from every country in the world.
All of this occurs at a time when the American audience needs more than ever to know about the world. The global economic crisis, the threat of climate change, global epidemics of disease and two raging wars are all proof of that.

Canada and India. More than 30 percent of these readers check the site several times a day.

We started our news service in the middle of the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression. Luckily, we had the startup capital from solid investors to survive the crisis—though like most other businesses, old and new, we failed to meet our revenue goals for the first year. But this year we see advertising picking up and with steady increases in our traffic we believe we can make up that lost ground and stay on track to be profitable in our third year.

We’re working on signing new newspaper syndication agreements, and we’ve started editorial partnerships with CBS News and with the PBS NewsHour, in which we provide two video packages a week and a network of correspondents around the world who can serve as a first line of reporting on a breaking news story. When the Haiti and Chile earthquakes happened, GlobalPost was there. Both CBS and the NewsHour also carried elements of our special report out of Afghanistan and Pakistan titled “Life, Death and the Taliban,” an ambitious multimedia project that included a team of reporters and photographers who set out to tell the story of the Taliban from its origins to Sept. 11 and beyond.

One revenue stream is Passport, a $50-per-year membership fee that invites users of the site to join the GlobalPost community and support the journalism we provide.

OPC member Sennott is executive editor and co-founder of GlobalPost. Before launching the news service, he worked as bureau chief in the Middle East and Europe for the Boston Globe. He was a 2006 Nieman Fellow at Harvard University.

Microsoft salutes excellence in journalism and congratulates this year’s OPC award winners.
The topics may often be bleak, but the Overseas Press Club awards are always inspirational. In spite of the shadow cast by budget and staff cuts at newspapers, magazines and broadcast networks, this year's entries continued to underscore the integrity, quality—and sheer courage—of the reporters who bring us the stories that should not be buried. The 2009 entries are notable for their focus on Iran, Iraq and Afghanistan. Many convey the tragedy and poignancy of the conflict in these and other countries by putting human faces on those caught up in far-flung political agendas. Those like Associated Press photographer Khalil Hamra and The New Yorker’s Jon Lee Anderson risked their lives to get reports and pictures from Gaza and the favelas of Brazil. Others confronted the drug wars in Afghanistan and Mexico to bring us harrowing and insightful analyses.

The winners, though, did not just focus on blood and conflict. Vanity Fair’s Michael Lewis burrowed beneath the statistics to provide a richly reported account of the bursting of Iceland’s financial bubble. Jason Gale, writing for Bloomberg Markets magazine, took a decidedly unglamorous look at how a toilet shortage affects India. The New York Times’ Keith Bradsher examined the contradictions in China’s race to go green. Especially heartening: this year’s awards attracted 436 submissions, signaling an editorial commitment to in-depth international reporting. Our scores of judges demonstrated their own commitment, dedicating hours of their time to read the entries and make difficult choices from the top entries.

We thank the committee chairs and judges for their generosity, and we salute all of our award winners.
1. THE HAL BOYLE AWARD
Best newspaper or news service reporting from abroad

FARNAZ FASSIHI
The Wall Street Journal
“Hearts, Minds and Blood: The Battle for Iran”

Farnaz Fassihi’s courageous reporting gives us an inside view of the unfolding drama in Iran. Operating under tremendous pressure, she covered the opposition’s protests from the perspectives of doctors, students, and even a member of the feared Basij militia that beat demonstrators and broke up marches in the bloody aftermath of the Islamic republic’s disputed presidential election. Her work stood out not just for her courage, but also for her ability to put a human face on the events in Tehran.

CITATION
DAVID ROHDE
The New York Times
“Held by the Taliban”

2. THE BOB CONSIDINE AWARD
Best newspaper or news service interpretation of international affairs

RAJIV CHANDRASEKARAN, KAREN DeYOUNG, BOB WOODWARD
The Washington Post
“Ohba’s War”

This series of pieces about how the Obama administration searched for a new strategy in Afghanistan included strong on-the-ground reporting, smart analysis and a great scoop in obtaining an advance copy of Gen. Stanley McChrystal's assessment of the war. Rajiv Chandrasekaran, Karen de Young and Bob Woodward contributed in different ways, from Kabul and Washington, to a brilliantly executed interpretation of evolving policy decisions and military strategy on what was one of the most important international stories of the year.

CITATION
THE NEW YORK TIMES STAFF
The New York Times
“Upheaval in Iran”

3. THE ROBERT CAPA GOLD MEDAL AWARD
Best published photographic reporting from abroad requiring exceptional courage and enterprise

KHALIL HAMRA
Associated Press
“War in Gaza”

Khalil Hamra’s pictures of the Israeli military incursion into Gaza showed exceptional courage and enterprise by a committed local photographer during a sustained and dangerous conflict. His images are close up, powerful and direct and taken at considerable risk due to the nature of the conflict which had combatants mingling amongst the civilian population. Hamra's personal circumstances are equally compelling: he covered the conflict in spite of concerns about the welfare of his wife, then pregnant with twins.

CITATION
TYLER HICKS
The New York Times
“Swat Valley”

4. THE OLIVIER REBBOT AWARD
Best photographic reporting from abroad in magazines or books

DAVID BURNETT, PHOTOGRAPHER
ROBERT PLEDGE AND JACQUES MENASCHE, EDITORS
National Geographic Books / Focal Point in cooperation with Contact Press Images
“44 Days: Iran and the Remaking of the World”

Due to the high quality of the entries, the judges chose two Rebbot winners. David Burnett is honored for the historically significant and unforgettable images from the Iranian Revolution in his book “44 Days: Iran and the Remaking of the World.” The 1978/79 photographs documenting the fall of the Shah and the rise of Ayatollah Khomeini have taken on new relevance in light of the current political situation in Iran. Burnett's imagery brings back to life the drama of the revolution and the complexities of this important story.

ALVARO YBARRA ZAVALA
Reportage by Getty Images
“The Gunmen of the Bolivarian Revolution”

Alvaro Ybarra Zavala’s evocative images show us the dangerous and murky underworld of political violence in the increasingly polarized nation of Venezuela. Zavala worked hard to gain access to the paramilitary groups allegedly responsible for extrajudicial killings; once his work was complete he left the country ahead of publication because he feared deadly retaliation if he remained in Venezuela.

5. THE JOHN FABER AWARD
Best photographic reporting from abroad in newspapers or news services

SARAH L. VOISIN
The Washington Post
“In Mexico’s War on Drugs, Battle Lines are Drawn in Chalk”

Voisin’s raw and direct visual investigation of the violent and complex drug war in Mexico offers us important insights into the horrifying violence there. Her images leave very little to the imagination; her use of color is extremely effective, and her navigation of the crime scenes and daily lives of Mexican communities ravaged by drugs and gangs is a tribute to her tenacity and courage.

CITATION
TYLER HICKS
The New York Times
“Swat Valley”
THE ROBERT CAPA GOLD MEDAL AWARD

Khalil Hamra
The Associated Press

War in Gaza

Hamra risked injury or death to photograph the aerial bombardment and chaotic battles between the Israeli army and Palestinian Hamas militants that engulfed the Gaza Strip in the first two weeks of 2009.

Left, a Palestinian woman shrieks in agony after relatives are killed in a missile strike outside their home in Beit Lahya, in northern Gaza. Above, frightened Palestinian children are comforted, also in Beit Lahya. Below, a woman in the ruins of her destroyed home in the Rafah refugee camp, southern Gaza.
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6. FEATURE PHOTOGRAPHY AWARD
Best feature photography published in any medium on an international theme

Q. SAKAMAKI
Redux Pictures/Time
"Xinjiang: Shifting Sands"

Q. Sakamaki’s lyrical and poetic imagery from Xinjiang, China was a fresh vision of a region of the world often spoken about but seldom seen. By using black and white photography and through his inherent creative approach, Sakamaki transports the viewer to the heart of age-old tensions between Han Chinese and the Uighur population of Western China. His images are timeless but immediate.

7. THE LOWELL THOMAS AWARD
Best radio news or interpretation of international affairs

SORAYA SARHADDI NELSON,
LAUREN JENKINS, DOUGLAS ROBERTS
National Public Radio
"Afghanistan: Nightmares and Dreams of a Nation at War"

Soraya Nelson’s original and poignant stories about the lives of the Afghan people demonstrate her enterprise and ability to penetrate a complicated society, especially since she was a woman working in a traditional male-dominated society. Even drug abuse is segregated by sex. We hear the cigarette lighters heating the heroin in foil. We feel the utter desperation of a mother who sends one of six children out to find her daily drug dose. Nelson embedded with both Afghan and American forces to tell the military story. But mostly she used her fluency in the language and her compassion for the people she met to make her listeners take notice and care about the people caught in a seemingly endless war.

CITATION
ERIC WESTERVELT AND DAVID GILKEY
National Public Radio
"Israel’s Barrier"

8. THE DAVID KAPLAN AWARD
Best TV spot news reporting from abroad

DAVID MARTIN, MARY WALSH, ROB BLACHE,
KEN CRUMP, WARD SLOANE, RICK KAPLAN
CBS Evening News
“The Battle of Wanat”

In a category with several excellent entries, two stood above the rest this year, and “The Battle of Wanat” by the staff of the CBS Evening News took our top honors in a split decision. In a beautifully crafted and well-reported piece, CBS Correspondent David Martin delves into the circumstances of a deadly ambush suffered by U.S. troops in the exposed Afghan valley of Wanat, where U.S. military tactics came under Army investigation following the deaths of nine soldiers. The exclusively obtained video, interviews with survivors and parents of those killed, and documentary evidence obtained by CBS News exposed the challenges and pitfalls of fighting a guerrilla war in far-flung villages.

CITATION
ORLA GUERIN, ROME HARTMAN, RICHARD COLEBOURN, KAMIL DAYAN KHAN
BBC World News America
“Pakistan’s War”
9. THE EDWARD R. MURROW AWARD
Best TV interpretation or documentary on international affairs
MARCELA GAVIRIA AND MARTIN SMITH FOR RAIN MEDIA
DAVID FANNING FOR FRONTLINE
“Obama’s War”

“Frontline: Obama’s War” flawlessly captures a special moment in the fog of the Afghan War. As the U.S. president’s deployment of additional troops took the conflict to a new level, the producers of Frontline show us, village by Afghan village, the challenges—and sometime hopelessness—of the process of nation-building. The production shows us not only that there is no quick fix, but offers a look at just what the consequences of failure might be.

CITATION
PAMELA YATES, PACO de ONIS, PETER KINOY
Skylight Pictures for American Documentary / POV on PBS
“The Reckoning: The Battle for the International Criminal Court”

10. THE ED CUNNINGHAM AWARD
Best magazine reporting from abroad
ALISSA J. RUBIN
The New York Times Magazine
“How Baida Wanted to Die”

Alissa Rubin’s “How Baida Wanted to Die” explores the background, motivation and training of one of 16 would-be female suicide bomber suspects or accomplices captured by the police in Diyala Province, Iraq, since the beginning of 2008. Rubin’s meticulously researched and artfully crafted narrative begins in Baquba in a darkened Iraqi police office with bombs going off in the distance and ends with a shocking and intimate revelation.

CITATION
ADAM HOCHSCHILD
Freelance for The New York Review of Books
“Rape of the Congo”

11. THE THOMAS NAST AWARD
Best cartoons on international affairs
NATE BEELER
The Washington Examiner

Nate Beeler’s entries stood out for their powerful and vivid composition that brings the message home regardless of whether the cartoon centers on a conversation or a visual punch line. Notable for his use of color and for meticulous art work that, in the words of one of his editors, “treats each cartoon like a painting.”

12. THE MORTON FRANK AWARD
Best business reporting from abroad in magazines
MICHAEL LEWIS
Vanity Fair
“Wall Street on the Tundra”

Lewis writes a richly reported and engaging account of the bursting of Iceland’s financial bubble. Lewis calls Iceland’s experiment with hedge funds and other Wall Street-inspired financial engineering instruments “one of the single greatest acts of madness in financial history.” The country’s economy traditionally was based on fishing, aluminum and geothermal energy. When men who had worked on fishing boats put down their rods and took up banking overnight, they set the stage for the economy’s ultimate collapse.

CITATION
JOSHUA HAMMER
Fast Company
“Bloody Shame”

13. THE MALCOLM FORBES AWARD
Best business reporting from abroad in newspapers or news services
KEITH BRADSHER
The New York Times
“Green China”

Keith Bradsher’s work stood out for its insightful, enterprising, and nuanced look at the contradictions and promise of China’s green ambitions. As Bradsher shows in his compelling coverage, China’s all-out effort to win the race to go green is complicated by the juxtaposition between the country’s hopes – to own and define the world’s new green economic future – and its reality, as the world’s largest polluter.

CITATION
THE NEW YORK TIMES STAFF
The New York Times
“China’s Uneasy Engagement”
THE OLIVIER REBBOT AWARD

Alvaro Ybarra Zavala
Reportage by Getty Images

**Gunmen of the Bolivarian Revolution**

In the slums of Caracas, criminal gangs known as colectivos have set themselves up as political enforcers for the administration of President Hugo Chavez, and are suspected of assassinating government opponents. Above, a Caracas slum. Top left, masked gang members brandish their weapons. Bottom left, the body of a man in the morgue who was allegedly shot because of his anti-Chavez sentiments. Top, the coffin of a man shot to death by members of a rival gang. After these photos were published Ybarra Zavala was told he could never safely return to Caracas.
When the Islamic Revolution broke out in Iran in 1978, David Burnett was one of the few Western photographers to stay behind and document the breathtakingly rapid fall of Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi. Burnett’s book is a photographic account of the 44 days of unrest that later led to the establishment of the hard-line religious regime that still rules Iran today. Photos at left and upper right depict the mass demonstrations that preceded the regime’s ouster. At right young men carry a comrade shot by Army troops. At bottom right the Ayatollah Khomeini is ministered to by mullahs after his triumphant return to the country from which he had been exiled.
14. THE CORNELIUS RYAN AWARD
Best non-fiction book on international affairs
DAVID FINKEL
Farrar, Straus and Giroux
“The Good Soldiers”
In the classic combat reporting tradition of Ernie Pyle, Michael Herr and Dexter Filkins, Pulitzer Prize winner David Finkel has written a harrowing account of one U.S. Army battalion’s experience of the surge, that desperate last-minute effort to win the war in Iraq. The Washington Post’s Finkel spent eight months with the 800 men and women of the 2-16, as the battalion was called. He went on patrols, ate in the mess, met General Petraeus, entered the houses of terrified civilians, and saw up front the handiwork of war – men cut in half, soldiers medicated to the max so they could continue the mission, Iraqi infants wounded beyond repair. What comes through is the courage and decency of American troops, the strength of the Iraqi people, and a deep abiding sense of sorrow and loss.

CITATION
PATRICK RADDEN KEEFE
Doubleday
“The Snakehead”

15. THE MADELINE DANE ROSS AWARD
Best international reporting in the print medium showing a concern for the human condition
ABIGAIL HAWORTH
Marie Claire
“Forced to be Fat”
In a world where the 24/7 media seems omnipresent, Abigail Haworth clearly went where no one else thought to go. In “Forced to be Fat”, she investigates leblouh, the Mauritanian practice of force-feeding young women to give them the rolls of flesh that men consider a sign of beauty. Reluctant teens are threatened with beating if they refuse to eat the oily food served to them at special camps; those who vomit are forced to eat that too. Haworth’s riveting, well-sourced and fascinating story brought to light not only the human condition of women in Mauritania, but also the broader issue of those in societies where absolute power can be used for better or worse.

CITATION
ELLIOTT WOODS
Virginia Quarterly Review
“Hope’s Coffin”

16. THE CARL SPIELVOGEL AWARD
Best international reporting in the broadcast media showing a concern for the human condition
LEON GELLER, MARCUS VETTER, TOM CASCIAITO, NINA CHAUDRY, JEFF SELBACH, AARON BROWN
Thirteen/WNET.org
“Sanitation Nightmare”
In “Sanitation Nightmare”, Jason Gale kicks in the door without knocking to show the stark human, environmental, social, health and economic costs of a problem so obvious and basic that many journalists might choose to ignore it - the lack of toilets in more than half of India’s households. Gale draws upon an impressive array of sources – almost all of them Indian – compelling statistics and excellent photography to support a well-written exposé of a distinctly unglamorous issue that leaves a deep impression on the reader.

CITATION
PERRY BEEMAN
Des Moines Register/International Reporting Project
“Renewal in Rwanda”

OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB AWARDS

CITATION
JON ALPERT, PETER KWONG, MICHELLE MI, MATTHEW O’NEILL, MING XIA
HBO and Downtown Community Television Center
“China’s Unnatural Disaster: The Tears of Sichuan Province”

17. THE JOE and LAURIE DINE AWARD
Best international reporting in any medium dealing with human rights
MAZIAR BAHARI
Newsweek
“118 Days in Hell”
Reporting for Newsweek on Iran’s contested 2009 presidential election, Maziar Bahari was arrested by the country’s notorious security forces and ended up as part of the story. His cover feature based on his harrowing experience in Evin prison, long known for torture of political prisoners, executions, and forced confessions. Bahari’s piece breaks down how Evin prison operates, the paranoid framework of the hardliners now in charge in Iran, and how international pressure on the regime actually does work. Even as he is forced to make a false confession, Bahari writes with humor and insight, giving the world an accessible portrait of Iran’s leaders, people and future. His courageous and eloquent reporting helps Iran’s struggle come alive.

CITATIONS
MONICA GARNSEY, ARASH SAHAMI, KEN DORNSTEIN, DAVID FANNING, SHARON TILLER
Frontline/WGBH
“A Death in Tehran”

BARBARA DEMICK
Los Angeles Times
“China’s Broken Families”

RAVI NESSMAN
Associated Press
“Sri Lanka’s Civil War”

18. THE WHITMAN BASSOW AWARD
Best reporting in any medium on international environmental issues
JASON GALE
Bloomberg Markets
“Sanitation Nightmare”
In “Sanitation Nightmare,” Jason Gale kicks in the door without knowing to show the stark human, environmental, social, health and economic costs of a problem so obvious and basic that many journalists might choose to ignore it - the lack of toilets in more than half of India’s households. Gale draws upon an impressive array of sources – almost all of them Indian – compelling statistics and excellent photography to support a well-written exposé of a distinctly unglamorous issue that leaves a deep impression on the reader.

CITATION
PERRY BEEMAN
Des Moines Register/International Reporting Project
“Renewal in Rwanda”
In Mexico’s War on Drugs, Battle Lines are Drawn in Chalk.

Since 2007, the war between the Mexican government and violent drug lords in Ciudad Juarez and other cities along the Mexico-U.S. border has taken more than 16,000 lives. Washington Post photographer Sarah Voisin documented life in army-occupied Juarez. Left, Mexican drug users; the government decriminalized use of small amounts of drugs in 2009. Above, Rosa Palma kisses the coffin of a friend murdered by men wearing army uniforms. Below, the Mexican military searches vehicles for guns and money coming in from the U.S.
FEATURE PHOTOGRAPHY AWARD

Q. Sakamaki
Redux Pictures/Time

Xinjiang: Shifting Sands

Q. Sakamaki’s photos of China’s majority-Muslim Xinjiang province evoke all the beauty of these western desert lands and the tension that prevailed after riots left hundreds of the local Uighurs and Han Chinese dead. Top, Uighur trinket sellers, including girl in foreground, wait by their donkey carts for customers at a site of ancient ruins. Top right, a belly dancer entertains Han Chinese customers at a club in Urumqi. Bottom right, a Uighur family in Kashgar makes traditional Muslim caps.

34 dateline 2010
THOMAS NAST AWARD

Nate Beeler
The Washington Examiner

THOMAS NAST AWARD CITATION

Clay Bennett
Chattanooga Times Free Press
19. THE ROBERT SPIERS BENJAMIN AWARD
Best reporting in any medium on Latin America

JON LEE ANDERSON
The New Yorker
“Gangland”
Anderson goes deep inside some of Rio de Janeiro’s most dangerous and impenetrable slums, or “favelas,” to portray a world of brazen lawlessness and stunning violence. Well ahead of the world’s focus on Rio hosting the 2016 Olympics, Anderson courageously tackles a subject that has seen other journalists killed or beaten when they have tried to investigate the drug gangs that control Rio’s shantytowns. Anderson’s reporting combines vivid details and superb portraits of a society that has become deeply corrupted in the face of almost unstoppable violence.

CI0TATION
WILLIAM BOOTH AND STEVE FAINARU
The Washington Post
“Mexico at War”

20. ONLINE JOURNALISM AWARD
Best web coverage of international affairs

T. CHRISTIAN MILLER, DOUG SMITH, PRATAP CHATTERJEE
ProPublica
“Disposable Army”

PrePublica’s “Disposable Army” is a remarkable piece of investigative journalism. If not for this thoroughly reported and well-written series, the true plight of the civilian contractors who have been injured or killed in the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan may not have come to light. Working alongside troops, these contractors drove trucks with fuel and ammunition through battle zones. And yet once these civilians returned home, they found getting appropriate medical care and insurance benefits difficult if not impossible.

CI0TATION
CFR.ORG AND MEDIASTORM
“Crisis Guide: The Global Economy”
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