

Gathering to Celebrate Food on the Frontlines

EVENT PREVIEW: JANUARY 4

by Sonya K. Fry

Although not the usual fare for a holiday party, “mud crabs” is included in the name of a new book, *Eating Mud Crabs in Kandahar*, edited by **Matt McAllester**. The book consists of reports by foreign correspondents that are sometimes harrowing, frequently funny and riveting stories about food and eating under extreme conditions. The names of the correspondents will be familiar — OPC award winner **Barbara Demick** from North Korea, **Janine di Giovanni** on Bosnian siege food, **Scott Anderson** from Northern Ireland, **Joshua Hammer** from Gaza and Israel, **Tim Hetherington** on MREs and a stray cow in the Korengal Valley of Afghanistan and the list goes on. As these journalists report from the most dangerous conflict zones,



Mud Crabs editor, Matt McAllester

they also seek respite in food, drink and stories about food and drink.

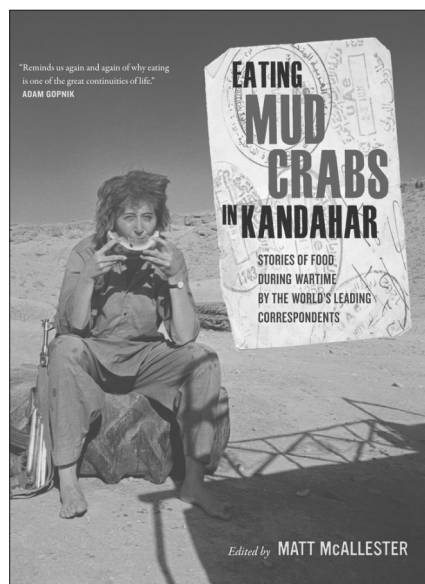
A profile of a former chef of Kim Jong Il of North Korea describes Kim’s exacting standards for gourmet fare, which he gorges himself on while his country starves. An inexperienced female journalist shares mud crab in a foxhole with an equally young Hamid Karzai.

In 1962 the OPC published a similar book titled “Overseas Press Club Cookbook: Famous correspondents’ anecdotes and recipes from all over the world” edited by Sigrid Schultz.

Although OPC Holiday Parties have always been fun, attendance has dwindled and costs escalated so it was decided to have an interesting program with some platters of food and a cash bar.

Matt McAllester has written several books *Beyond the Mountains of the Damned: The War Inside Kosovo*, *Blinded by the Sunlight* about McAllester’s detention in Iraq which was an OPC Book Night, and his best recommendation for editing a book on food *Lessons from My Mother’s Kitchen*. McAllester recently joined the new *Newsweek* team as Senior Editor/News.

Adam Davidson, founder and host of NPR’s Planet Money praises the book “These are powerful, intimate stories from some of the best war correspondents of our time – the kind of stories they tell each other about everyday life in some of the most difficult places on Earth. By seducing you with simple tales of food, your defenses are down, you get lost in a good tale, and then, sud-



denly you realize that you are fascinated by and finally understand a part of the world that had previously just been confusing and overwhelming. With one great read after another, you will remember these scenes, these characters, for a long time.”

McAllester says that the stories are seasoned by tragedy and violence, spiced with humor and goodwill and fortified with “a little more humanity than we can usually slip into our newspapers and magazine stories.” So bring your humor and good will and join your fellow OPC members as we toast the New Year and listen to correspondents McAllester and **Charlie Sennott** of GlobalPost and others tell their tales of deprivation and repression, as well as generosity and pleasure. The Book Night will be held on Wednesday, January 4 at Club Quarters, 40 West 45 Street at 6 p.m. A Reception will follow and books will be available for purchase and for signing.

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Holbrooke's Work and Life Celebrated at Asia Society

EVENT RECAP: NOVEMBER 28

Richard C. Holbrooke, who died in December 2010, was a pivotal player in U.S. diplomacy for more than 40 years. As a diplomatic troubleshooter he worked for every Democrat president since the late 1960s and oversaw negotiations that ended the war in Bosnia.

The Obama administration's Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan from February 2009 until his death, Holbrooke helped shape the civilian component of the administration's Afghanistan strategy, deploying more than 1,000 diplomats and aid workers to help Afghans rebuild their state institutions. President Obama eulogized Holbrooke as "a towering figure in American foreign policy," and "a critical member of my Afghanistan and Pakistan team, and a tireless public servant."

On November 29, the OPC and Asia Society New York commemorated the publication of *The Unquiet American: Richard Holbrooke in the World*, a collection of essays by friends and colleagues who knew him best, as well as excerpts from Holbrooke's own trenchant writing. The event took off with a panel discussion moderated by *New York Times* Op-Ed columnist Roger Cohen that included journalist Kati Marton (Holbrooke's widow), historian Gordon Goldstein, author of *Lessons in Disaster: McGeorge Bundy and the Path to War in*



Lesley Topping

Panel from left: Kati Marton, Roger Cohen, Gordon Goldstein and David Rohde.

Vietnam, and two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist David Rohde.

In the wake of NATO's bombing of a Pakistani military outpost the preceding weekend, which threatened to send U.S.-Pakistani relations to a historic low, the panelists perhaps inevitably reflected on how things might have been different had Holbrooke not died suddenly nearly one year ago. Rohde, for instance, commented that Holbrooke's innate diplomatic instincts enabled him to "get" how America's relationship with Pakistan has to be founded on respect — a position, he suggested, that may be lost on other U.S. officials.

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OPC Into the Future With an Award to Include Twitter Posts

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Forty-four years ago today as I write this, **Seymour Topping**, one of our newest Overseas Press Club Board members, and then the foreign editor of *The New York Times*, took a chance on a young *Newsday* reporter and hired him as his news assistant. His aim was to bring new, young talent onto the foreign staff of *The Times*, many of whose members on that December day in 1968 had begun their careers reporting from the front lines of World War II. I was 24 years old then, and Top set me on a course that has taken me through 72 countries and untold adventures over the ensuing decades.



David Andelman

My mission, when I took over as president 16 months ago, was a similar one — to attract new young blood to our nearly three-quarter century old organization and especially to our awards process, as well as our events and those whose causes we espouse around the world. Above all, my goal is to make the Overseas Press Club as exciting, as vibrant and as relevant to today's media universe and the vastly different world of the overseas correspondent and commentator as it was the day of its founding. Back then, a vastly expanded assemblage of newspapers and magazines and a vastly slimmer world of radio and television were the only media available. No longer. Now, cable, the Internet and social media have earned their place at the international communications table.

So last year, we undertook the biggest single expansion of our prize categories in the history of the Overseas Press Club, adding five online awards. Last April, we presented six prizes recognizing excellence in an increasingly expanding corner of the media universe. Each day, the Internet reaches globally more readers and viewers than any other single category. This year, at the urging of our board member, **Adam B. Ellick** of *The New York Times*, we are taking another big step by admitting Twitter submissions, which is a recognition of the vital importance of such a riveting media this has become in reporting and shaping news from some of the most fraught corners of the world.

The notice, crafted by Adam, is intended for submissions in Best Online Coverage of Breaking News: "Applicants are also allowed to submit an aggregation of live Tweets during a 72-hour period of a break-

ing news event. The Tweets can be submitted as an adjunct to a submission of traditional reporting, or as a stand-alone submission. Screen grabs of a Twitter account can be submitted as .jpgs."

We will also be adding an award recognizing Best International Business Reporting Online while expanding the award for best broadcast reporting on the human condition to include online work as well.

In terms of events, we were privileged to receive at a luncheon **Mikhail Zygar**, the 31-year-old founding head of TV-Rain, the only truly independent television and Internet news operation based in Moscow, which for the past year has provided exhilarating, objective and fearless news and commentary, across the nine time zones of Russia and through most territories of the former Soviet Union as well. Mikhail, who also visited NBC, MSNBC, CBS and CNN and the Committee to Protect Journalists International Press Freedoms Awards gala during his week in the United States, explained to members of the OPC's Freedom of the Press committee the challenges on reporting from a nation that has still not fully escaped its past when the Kremlin controlled every media outlet.

Shortly after I joined *The Times* on December 23, 1968, I recall Top telling me that you could always tell foreign correspondents, home from their first overseas assignment. They would have their Burberry trench coat and Rolex GMT Master. I made sure I was suitably supplied and indeed still have both as part of my accoutrements. Meanwhile, we're confident that going forward, our OPC will continue to meet the needs and recognize the successes of all our colleagues wherever their assignments may take them.

Finally, to all our members, their families and friends, a happy, safe, healthy, and productive New Year!

Best regards,



David A. Andelman

PEOPLE

The People column was written by **Susan Kille**. For news tips, e-mail susan@opcofamerica.org. If you are interested in writing for the People and New Books columns, e-mail the editor at aimee@opcofamerica.org.

PRESS FREEDOM

The OPC has protested the U.S. government's appeal of court decisions quashing subpoenas to force **James Risen** of *The New York Times* to testify against a former CIA officer accused of leaking national security secrets to him. In an October 28 letter to President Barack Obama and Attorney General Eric Holder, **Jeremy Main** and **Larry Martz** of the Freedom of the Press Committee called the appeals a vendetta against

Risen and "an attempt by the Obama administration to undermine a fundamental principle of press freedom."

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court has refused to intervene in the unprecedented award of Rs. 1 billion (\$19 million) in a defamation suit brought by a former chairman of the Press Council of India. In a September 2008 report about a controversy involving judges, the Times Now television channel mentioned Judge P.K. Samantha, but for 15 seconds displayed a photo of P.B. Sawant, a retired judge and former Press Council chairman. The picture was not shown in later reports. Times Now ran an apology for five days. The district court that set the fine ruled that

an appeal would be heard only after Times Now deposited Rs. 200 million and guaranteed the remainder.

PRISTINA, Kosovo: **Veton Surroi**, a Kosovo journalist, publisher, politician and human rights activist, on November 24 received the 2011 SEEMO Human Rights Award. The South East Europe Media Organization praised Surroi's non-violent methods and consistent "commitment to human rights." In 2000, Surroi, who founded the Koha Media Group, received the Award of the Year from the International Federation of Journalists.

CAIRO: **Mona Eltahawy**, an Egyptian-American journalist, re-

Gold Rush to Asia Not Far Fetched Nor Too Far Away

EVENT RECAP: NOVEMBER 29

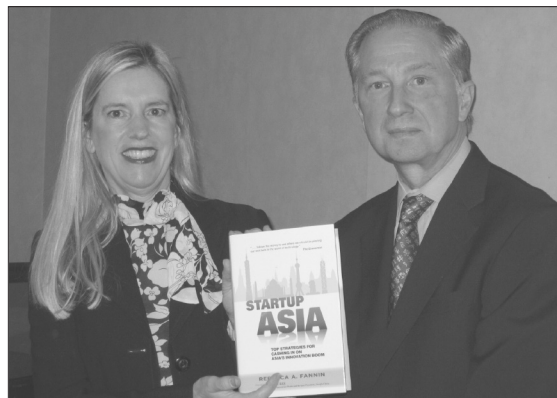
by **Aimee Vitrak**

OPC member Rebecca Fannin spoke at an OPC luncheon to discuss her book, *Startup Asia: Top Strategies for Cashing in on Asia's Innovation Boom* [Wiley, October 2011]. Fannin travels extensively between the American East Coast, Silicon Valley and the hot spots of East Asia. This is her second book, following *Silicon Dragon: How China Is Winning The Tech Race* [McGraw Hill, 2008.] Fannin said *Start Up Asia* is a continuation of her first book.

Hosting the session was OPC Foundation President William J. Holstein, who also has deep experience with innovation on both sides of the Pacific. About 22 people gathered around the table, many of whom also have a deep understanding of the region and the emerging markets, although a few, including Fan-

nin, noted that where there is great reward in startups, there is also a great amount of risk.

Fannin noted a slew of facts to lead off the luncheon. Since 2006, there are more than six thousand startups funded at the early stage — the money being spread largely between China and India. China is second in venture capital funding in the world, with India in the number three position and with a leg up over the region because of the predominance of English. China, Fannin said, is a leader in patent applications, and that research and development money is on the rise. Largely spiked by the U.S. stagnation, American venture capitalists have started to look eastward, especially as China is slowly — Fannin acknowledged — stretching from



Aimee Vitrak

Rebecca Fannin and Bill Holstein

a purely manufacturing country and copying ideas from the west — to actually becoming innovative. Twitter China, Fannin said, is way ahead of its U.S. model having instituted video and photo sharing.

When asked if Asia was indeed experiencing a modern-day gold rush, Fannin said, "I think not yet, but not too long." The luncheon was sponsored by Lenovo, the Chinese multi-national tech company.



Mona Eltahawy

ported she was sexually and physically assaulted while being detained for 12 hours following her November 23 arrest by Egyptian riot police. She emerged to criticize her treatment wearing two casts, one for a broken arm and one for a broken hand. Before moving to the U.S. in 2000, Eltahawy was a Reuters correspondent in Cairo and Jerusalem and covered the Middle East for *The Guardian*. She is a widely published columnist and participated in the OPC Awards Dinner program in April by lighting the Press Freedom Candle in memory of the 44 journalists killed in 2010. Egyptian-American filmmaker **Jehane Noujaim**, director of “Control Room,” a 2004 documentary about Al Jazeera, was detained the same day as Eltahawy and held for 36 hours but said she was not physically harmed. **Caroline Sinz**, a journalist for French TV channel France 3, said she was sexually assaulted on November 24 in Tahrir Square when a crowd attacked her and her cameraman. Sinz said the attack went on for about 45 minutes until a rescue by a group of Egyptians.

ISTANBUL: Ten journalists are on trial accused of links to a shadowy group seeking to overthrow the Turkish government. The defendants include Nedim Şener, who in 2010 was named a World Press Freedom Hero by the International Press Institute following the publication of his book on the murder of fellow Turkish journalist **Hrant Dink**; **Ahmet Şik**, an investigative journalist; and Oda TV executive **Soner Yalçın**. After the first hearing on November 22, the trial was postponed until

December 26. The defendants, imprisoned since March, remain in custody. The IPI and other international journalism groups on November 24 demanded that Turkey release all 64 journalists it has detained.

BRUSSELS: In a landmark decision, Europe’s highest court ruled November 24 that copyrights cannot be protected at the expense of basic rights to freedom of information and privacy. The Court of Justice of the European Union overruled a Belgium court that would have required Internet service providers, or ISPs, to snoop on users. An association of authors, composers, and publishers, had gone to court to force ISPs to use filtering or blocking to prevent illegal downloading of music.

MINDANAO, Philippines: A radio journalist who reported on corruption and drug trafficking survived a November 24 shooting. **Michael James Licuanan**, known as James Dacoycoy to listeners of Bombo Radyo, was riding home on a motorbike when two assailants, also on a motorbike, shot him. Although seriously injured, he managed to seek help. The attack occurred one day after the International Day to End Impunity, which marks the 2009 massacre of 32 journalists and 26 civilians in the Philippines. The killers have not yet been brought to justice.

DUBAI: The president of the United Arab Emirates pardoned blogger **Ahmed Mansoor** and four other pro-democracy activists on November 28, a day after they were sentenced to two to three years in prison on charges of publicly insulting the country’s rulers and disrupting public order. Along with at least 130 other Emiratis, the men signed a petition in March, calling for constitutional changes and free elections.

HO CHI MINH CITY: An appeals court on November 29 reduced the prison sentence against **Pham**

Minh Hoang, convicted of writing anti-government documents, from three years to 17 months but upheld a sentence of three years house arrest following the prison term. Hoang, who has French and Vietnamese dual citizenship, used the blog name of Phan Kien Quoc to write about education, environment and Vietnam’s sovereignty disputes with China.

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras: A security guard was injured when gunmen in a car attacked the office of *La Tribuna* in the early hours of December 5, after the daily newspaper published reports that linked local police to recent murders. *La Tribuna* reported 10 shots were fired, leaving bullet holes in the walls and shattering a glass door. **Martin Ramirez**, the editor, said police arrived at the scene five hours later.

MURDERS: Since September, the mutilated bodies of three bloggers and a newspaper editor who opposed drug cartels have been found in Nuevo Laredo in northeast Mexico. The latest victim, found November 9, was known by the nickname “Rascatripas” (Belly-Scratcher) and helped moderate “Nuevo Laredo en Vivo,” a website about organized crime. In September, the beheaded body of **María Elizabeth Macías**, editor in chief of *Primera Hora* in Nuevo Laredo, was discovered in the same location. The mutilated bodies of a man and a woman were hung from a bridge in Nuevo Laredo. All four bodies were found with written warnings of similar fates for those who report about organized crime.

Ferzat Jarban, a freelance television cameraman in Syria, was found dead November 20, a day after he was seen being arrested while filming an anti-government demonstration in Al-Qasir, a town in the province on Homs. Press reports said his mutilated body was found in the middle of a main road in Al-Qasir. The Committee to Protect Journalists

(Continued on Page 6)

(Continued From Page 5)

said Jarban was the first journalist to be killed in Syria in connection to his work since CPJ kept detailed records in 1992.

Rafiq Tağı, an outspoken Azerbaijani journalist, died November 23, four days after being stabbed repeatedly by an unknown assailant in Baku. Tağı, who press reports said appeared to be recovering from his wounds, claimed the attack was retaliation for a recent opinion piece criticizing the government of Iran. In 2007, Tağı was sentenced to prison for inciting hatred with an article critical of Islam but he was granted amnesty following international pressure.

Vitaliy Rozvadovsky, a photojournalist for the Ukrainian weekly *2000*, was stabbed to death November 28 in Kiev. Police say they have a

suspect and do not believe the assault was related to Rozvadovsky's job but the International Press Institute has called for a full investigation.

Charles Ingabire, a Rwandan journalist and critic of the Rwandan government, was fatally shot December 1 in Kampala, Uganda, where he lived as a political refugee since 2007. He was editor of the opposition website Inyenyeri News, which reported that Ingabire had been threatened by Rwandan government agents and that he recently spent two weeks in a hospital after another attack. Ugandan police are investigating the murder.

UPDATES

HONG KONG: Sheridan Prasso, an OPC member and a veteran of Agence France-Presse, The Associated Press, *Business Week* and *Fortune*, has transferred to Hong Kong to work for Bloomberg. She will be writing about financial markets. **Robert Friedman**, her former editor at *Fortune*, was instrumental in organizing the move. He now holds a senior position at Bloomberg.

JERUSALEM: Rina Castle-no, a photojournalist for *The New York Times*, received a 2005 John Faber Award for her pictures of Israeli settlers being forced out of their homes in Gaza and the West Bank by Israeli soldiers. She had planned to come to New York to receive her award in person, but her husband needed an operation and she wanted to stay with him. When OPC Executive Director **Sonya Fry** was on a tour of Israel with her church group this fall she contacted Rina, who proved a gracious host arriving in a beat-up, mud-splattered van and taking Sonya to various sites including lunch outdoors in East Jerusalem. Rina, her husband **Jim Hollander**, also a photographer with Reuters until recently, and Sonya talked shop for several hours at their home before going to dinner. Sonya is proud of this picture of Rina at a café. When



Rina Castlenovo in a photo taken by Sonya Fry at a café in East Jerusalem.

Rina saw the photo, she responded to Sonya "...you are a photographer."

KILLINGWORTH, CONN.:

Ed Ricciuti, an OPC member, has begun a column called "Outdoors With Ed Ricciuti" for Patch, AOL's network of hyperlocal news sites. He writes about natural history, conservation issues, wildlife management, fishing, hunting and biology.

Although he writes for the Patch network in Connecticut, his column and other contributions to Patch are used across the country. Outside of journalism, Ricciuti has begun a new venture, assuming co-presidency of Green Hill Martial Arts in Killingworth, Connecticut. Ricciuti, 73, is a second-degree black belt in combat hapkido, which he teaches at the school. He also studies jun fan gung fu/jeet kune do and black dragon kung fu.

LONDON: Stanley Reed, an Arabic-speaker with experience in the Middle East, told former *BusinessWeek* friends that he was leaving *Bloomberg Business Week*. Reed, an OPC member, said he was looking forward to new opportunities.



Club Quarters is planning a new hotel at Lincoln's Inn Field in London set to open in the spring of 2012. This will make four Club Quarters hotels in London and four Club Quarters hotels in New York City.

Overseas Press Club Foundation

Annual Scholarship Luncheon
Friday, February 17, 2012

Keynote Speaker
Jeff Fager
Chairman, CBS
News and Execu-
tive Producer of
"60 Minutes"



Grand Ballroom, Yale Club
50 Vanderbilt Avenue
New York City

Reception: 11:30 a.m.
Luncheon: Noon to 2 p.m.

Benefactor Table: \$8,000
Patron Table: \$5,000
Friend Table: \$2,000

OPC Members: \$75
Non-members: \$125

For tickets contact: Jane Reilly at
foundation@opcofamerica.org
201-493-9087

NEW YORK: Dan Rather, an OPC member, received CPJ's Burton Benjamin Memorial Award from the Committee to Protect Journalists for his lifelong work in the cause of press freedom. The award was presented during the 2011 International Press Freedom Awards at the Waldorf Astoria.



John Bussey, a former OPC board member, has relocated from Washington to New York for *The Wall Street Journal*. Formerly based in Tokyo, Bussey is assistant managing editor and executive business editor of *The Journal* and writes a weekly column.



Randall Lane, a one-time *Forbes* correspondent who created the Doubledown media empire (with magazines such as *Trader* and *Dealmaker*) before it collapsed, has re-emerged as managing editor of *Forbes*.



Reuters is engaged in sweeping personnel changes. **James C. Smith**, chief operating officer, will replace **Thomas Glocer** as chief executive on Jan. 1. New Editor-in-Chief **Steve Adler** has hired **Alix Freedman** from *The Wall Street Journal* to manage ethics. Freedman is on the OPC Foundation board, which grants a scholarship in the name of her father, **Emanuel Freedman**. Long-time magazine journalist **Jim Gaines**, an OPC member, also has taken a senior position, and **Sir Harold Evans** now is global editor at large for Reuters. Former New York Bureau Chief **Mark Egan** took a new role within Reuters, while OPC Foundation board members **Betty Wong** and **Jack Reerink** have left Reuters.



Terry Anderson, who survived more than six years as a hostage in Lebanon, is a visiting professor teaching international journalism for the 2011-2012 academic year at Syracuse University's Newhouse School of Public Communications. Anderson, who was The Associated Press bureau chief in the Middle East when he was kidnapped in 1985, marked the 20th anniversary of his release on December 4.



TURKEY: Two Turkish journalists died in eastern Turkey when a hotel collapsed during a 5.6-magnitude earthquake on November 14. **Cem Emir** and **Sebahattin Yilmaz**, both of Turkey's Dogan News Agency, were killed while reporting on the aftermath of a 7.2 earthquake that struck October 23. Press reports have questioned whether the hotel, where 25 died, should have been closed following damage in the October quake.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Aimee Vitrak, editor of the *Bulletin* and OPC website and her husband, Alex, welcomed **Lev Nicholas Vitrak**, their first child, into the world on December 1. Aimee reports that she and her son are "happy, healthy and tired." Lev, who nicely timed his arrival with Aimee's production schedule for the *Bulletin*, has showed an attribute editors appreciate — getting in before deadline.



PEOPLE REMEMBERED

Christopher Ma, 61, a veteran journalist who became a senior vice president for the Washington Post Co., died November 23 after suffering a heart attack. Ma was a Washington correspondent for *Newsweek* magazine in the 1980s, covering eco-

nomics and foreign affairs, including the Iranian hostage crisis. He later was an editor and a deputy editor of *U.S. News & World Report* until 1996, when he became the editor and developer of *washingtonpost.com*. He joined the Post's corporate staff in 2000 and launched a free daily tabloid for commuters in 2003.



Anthony Miller, 68, a reporter and editor for United Press International, The Associated Press, Reuters and the Israeli newspaper *Haaretz*, died November 23 after a long battle with prostate cancer.

During a 40-year career, Miller lived and worked in 26 countries. His work on UPI editing desks included handling the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the fall of communism in Europe. He once said he considered the highlight of his journalism career his coverage of the Gulf War in 1991.



Tom Wicker, 85, whose coverage of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy is a journalism legend, died November 25 of an apparent heart attack.

Wicker, the only *New York Times* reporter who traveled with the president to Dallas that day, dictated a report that filled two columns on the front page and another page inside. Americans were glued to their televisions after the killing, but Wicker was the one who provided the most comprehensive report of what happened. He spent the rest of his career at *The Times*, becoming Washington Bureau chief and a columnist before retiring in 1991. He published 20 books, including *A Time to Die* about his experience as an observer and mediator of the uprising at the Attica prison in upstate New York.

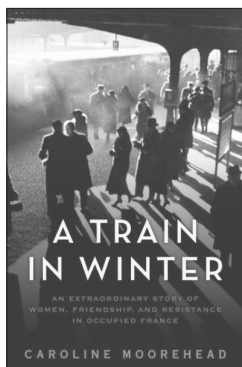
New Books

EUROPE

THE 230 WOMEN OF THE

French Resistance sent to Auschwitz in January 1949 were from many walks of life and different ages ranging from schoolgirls to scientists. They came from different parts of the country and had been strangers to each other but they had important things in common: hatred of their Nazi occupiers and courage.

They realized that to survive the inhuman suffering of a death camp, they had to work together and they did. Friendship and solidarity, however, was not enough to overcome starvation, disease and cruelty. After 2 1/2 years only 49 were alive to return to France. Even the survivors found themselves forever changed after their mental and



physical health were broken in Auschwitz

The story of these remarkable women and their life-extending alliances is told in *A Train in Winter: An Extraordinary Story of Women, Friendship, and Resistance in Occupied France* [New York: Harper-Collins] by Caroline Moorehead, a human rights journalist, author and trustee of the Index on Censorship. Moorehead is best known for biographies of Bertrand Russell and Martha Gellhorn and for *Human Cargo: A Journey Among the Refugees*, a book about refugees in the modern world.

A Train in Winter is not an easy read but it tells an important story. Moorehead draws on interviews with the surviving women and their families; German, French, and Polish archives; and documents held by World War II resistance organizations.

GLOBAL

THE DRAMA OF THE LAST

A few months of the cold war and the consequences of duplicity and betrayal in both Moscow and Washington are the topics Dusko Doder, a former Washington Post correspondent, explores in his first novel, *The Firebird Affair* [e-book from Diversion Books].

After Emily Martin, the wife of *Washington Tribune* reporter Todd Martin, collapses in a Moscow res-

taurant in 1991, her death was declared a heart attack by Russian authorities and her body was sent back to the United States.

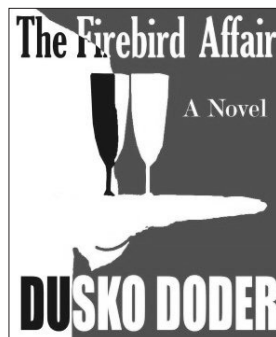
More than a decade later, however, a Russian spy suggests that a KGB mole inside the U.S. government might have been involved in Emily's death. Todd wants to find out what really happened. He makes a harrowing trip to Russia and uncovers countless secrets as he turns former allies into enemies.

Doder knows the territory he is writing about. His dispatches from Moscow were awarded the Overseas Press Club Citations for Excellence in 1982 and 1989. Although this is his first novel, Doder is author of several non-fiction books includ-

ing *Shadows and Whispers: Power Politics Inside the Kremlin from Brezhnev to Gorbachev*, and a biography of Mikhail Gorbachev, *Heretic in the Kremlin*.

The Firebird Affair, an e-book, is available on Amazon, Barnes & Nobel and other online outlets.

— by Susan Kille



Coming up...

**OPC Book Night:
Eating Mud Crabs in
Kandahar
Wednesday, January 4
6 p.m.**

See page 1 for details

**Save the Date:
OPC Scholarship
Luncheon, February 17
See page 6 for details**

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New York, NY 10036 USA