

## Panel to Discuss Egyptian Election, Its Future

### EVENT PREVIEW: JUNE 19

Egypt's revolution isn't over, not by a long shot. Egypt continues to be a story that inspires, confounds and intrigues. The heady days of protests in Tahrir Square that toppled Hosni Mubarak last year were spell-binding. Veteran foreign correspondents, such as Tom Friedman of *The New York Times* described those 18 days as one of the most thrilling stories he's ever covered.

"Arab Spring" had such a romantic ring to it, but now a new reality has set in. The smoke is clearing and what is left behind in Egypt and the region is a confusing reality and an uncertain future. Democracy, elections, Muslim Brotherhood, disqualified candidates, Mubarak sentenced to life in prison, more demonstrations. The news in Egypt continues to be a dizzying ride.

A panel to discuss these issues will convene on Tuesday, June 19 at the Ford Foundation at 6:30 p.m. For the first time in Egypt's 7000 year history, the country will choose its leader through a free election. The first round of elections with multiple

candidates was held on May 23 and 24 with two candidates who emerged: Mohamed Morsi of the Muslim Brotherhood and Ahmed Shafik, a former prime minister under Mubarak. The run-off election is set for June 16 and 17. As Egyptians brace for a run-off election the choices are bleak for the young and predominantly secular protesters who instigated the revolution.

Panelists will have a dialogue about these historic elections and explain the forces at work in the Arab Spring, the election and give projections about where the election will



**Mohamad Bazzi**



**Charles M. Sennott**



**Calvin Sims**

lead Egypt and the Middle East.

Panelists include **Mohamad Bazzi** who is a senior fellow for Middle Eastern studies at the Council on Foreign Relations. From 2003 to 2007 Bazzi was the Middle East bureau chief for *Newsday*. As a long time observer of the Middle East, he will bring an historical perspective on Egypt and regional analysis.

**Charles M. Sennott** is executive

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## AP Apologizes to Fired WWII Reporter

### EVENT RECAP: MAY 8

by Susan Kille

Tom Curley, the top executive of The Associated Press and an OPC member, reached into the archives of the AP and realized he needed to apologize for action a predecessor took 67 years earlier: the firing of Ed Kennedy, the chief of the AP's Western Front staff, who on May 7, 1945 reported the unconditional surrender of Germany a day ahead of his competition.

Curley apologized May 4 and four days later, he spoke at AP's headquarters during a panel discussion of Kennedy and his memoirs.

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**Julia Kennedy Cochran, daughter of Ed Kennedy and author of the book speaks as Tom Curley looks on.**

Chuck Zoeller, AP

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## AP Event: *Continued From Page 1*

Kennedy defied military censors to report the German surrender. "His conduct was absolutely the right thing to do and beyond reproach," Curley said.

The apology was spurred by AP's own research and the publication of *Ed Kennedy's War: V-E Day, Censorship, and The Associated Press*, a book edited by Kennedy's daughter, Julia Kennedy Cochran. Curley, president and CEO of the AP, wrote the introduction to the book with John Maxwell Hamilton, provost at Louisiana State University who headed the panel discussion.

Kennedy was one of 17 reporters allowed to witness the formal surrender of German troops on the condition that they would keep it secret for a few hours -- but then the embargo was extended to 36 hours. The United States and the United Kingdom had agreed to suppress the news to allow Russia to stage a second ceremony in Berlin. But when Kennedy heard that German radio had announced the 12-hour-old surrender, he considered the embargo broken and he alone among the 16 reporters sent his story an hour later -- producing what is considered the biggest scoop in AP history. He did not tell his superiors about the embargo. He was rebuked and then fired.

Panelists at the discussion, attended by many OPC members, disagreed over whether Kennedy had acted properly.

John Darnton, a former foreign correspondent and editor for *The New York Times*, said Kennedy was treated shabbily but because "AP management was wrong, does not mean Kennedy was right." He said Kennedy should have told AP about the embargo and also could have talked to other reporters to create a "united front" to the military to lift the secrecy.



Chuck Zoeller, AP

**From left: moderator Jack Hamilton, John Darnton, George Bria, Richard Fine and Sally Buzbee.**

But former AP foreign correspondent George Bria cited the "rat race" competition of wire services and said Kennedy made the right decision once the embargo was broken. "He had to have it first and right, and he did the right thing as far as I'm concerned," Bria said.

In his memoirs, Kennedy wrote: "My deliberations hinged mainly on the moral aspects of the question: Which course did my duty as a reporter dictate -- subservience to political censorship which was contrary to the principle of a free press and in violation of the word of the government and the Army or action which I believed right and which I knew would bring plenty of trouble upon my head?"

Others on the panel were Richard Fine, a professor at Virginia Commonwealth University, and AP Washington Bureau Chief Sally Buzbee.

Julia Kennedy Cochran, who had worked as a journalist for the AP, Reuters and *Business Week*, said her family appreciated the apology from Curley and it would have meant a lot to her father, who died in a traffic accident in 1963.

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# A Somber Mood Strikes in France After Its Election

## OPINION

by Jacqueline Albert-Simon and  
Natalie Binn

It's not those glory days in 1981 when the French elected François Mitterrand the first socialist president since the founding of the Fifth Republic in 1958. For his supporters there was ardent hope and wild enthusiasm, while in the hearts and minds of many on the right they covered at home fearing the rumble of tumbrils before dawn.

Not so after Hollande's election in May. The old saying that whenever de Gaulle sneezed the republic got pneumonia translates today into Hollande's headache is the nation's migraine. True, the Socialist Party's exuberance and the gloom of the losers were classic, but short lived. Parliamentary elections scheduled for late June are being bitterly fought, and stakes are high, including the number of seats Marine le Pen's disturbing far right party might garner.

Domestic problems are overwhelming and not all created by Sarkozy's center right government. Less than six months in office, Sarkozy was faced with the global economic meltdown of 2008 and the resulting eurozone crisis in a country and continent ill prepared to accept the destructive realities of a post-bubble world. Not much improved, unfortunately.

As always, French reaction was and is irrationally rational, insisting that social benefits must remain and expand during recovery and since as always it was the government's fault, then a new government on the left would fix things. At least Hollande made promises it would. He must now take on recession, unemployment, the deficit, the debt, the burdens imposed by the best and highest social welfare benefits in all of Europe, and the weighty problems of the Eurozone, further



Francois Hollande in Perigueux, southwestern France in early May.

complicated by the initial Sarkozy-Merkel accord on the hated austerity he promised to re-negotiate. On that score he's already scoring points particularly since a number of European Union nations and many economists are in agreement that austerity without investment in growth is ineffective. In effect, it was Hollande who dominated the discourse at the recent Brussels summit, marking France's place as an independent force in the debate as opposed to the "Merkozy" alliance in which France was the junior partner. The euro bonds he sponsored, however, are still in question as we go to press.

Domestically the problems are his alone. Unemployment is close to 10 percent and the rate for the 18- to 25-year-olds appallingly higher. Think of frustration, even despair, which can mean crime and disruptive behavior especially in already troubled immigrant communities. Sharing the burden is not endemic to the French middle and upper classes, so higher taxes will be fought as, of course, so will any cuts in social services not only by the needy but in fact by all French citizens who care about social justice.

Wider issues, like France's budget deficit, predicted in Brussels

to be 4.2 percent in 2013 and well over the 3 percent E.U. countries pledged, and a deficit nearly 90 percent of the nation's GDP augur skepticism for promises made. Hollande's pre-election rhetoric "the Change is Now" morphs into presidential plans to increase back-to-school allowances, reduce right-to-retire age from 62 to 60, a 150,000 "jobs for the future" program for the young, hire 60,000 extra teachers and 5,000 more police, and then to vastly increase taxes on corporations and especially the wealthy among others, to pay for all that. Cuts in the name of austerity have not yet been mentioned. This time, rational irrationalism dominates Hollande's decent and honorable scenario, but France's migraine seriously hurts. Prescriptions will be hard to fill, harder to swallow and only increase the pain before it can get better. We wish Hollande the luck he needs.

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*Jacqueline Albert-Simon is the OPC treasurer. Natalie Binn received a joint MA degree from the New York University school of journalism and the Institute of French Studies in May 2012.*



# Gettleman Relays Experience Covering East Africa

by Nicole Schilit, CPJ

Jeffrey Gettleman, the Pulitzer Prize-winning *New York Times* correspondent, says he travels with “a small militia” whenever he reports from Somalia, a country afflicted by armed insurgency, poverty, and hunger. As intrusive as the security detail might be, he feels far more fortunate than the local reporters who face sustained and often deadly risks, or the freelance journalists who don’t have the extensive support system the *Times* can provide.

Gettleman spoke to a crowd of about 100 at the Half King pub in Manhattan on May 22 in the first event in the new CPJ discussion series, “CPJ Debrief.” Gettleman, the East Africa bureau chief for the *Times*, has worked in the region for six years. With East Africa’s needs so acute, and the volume of international reporting on the decline, the assignment has given him a chance to have a profound impact.

The stories affect him as well. On Tuesday, Gettleman read from a November 2011 *Times* piece in which he tells the story of a Somali man whose daughter died at age 3. “Somalis are not somehow wired differently from the rest of us. They are not numb to suffering. They are not grief-proof. I’ll never forget the expression on Mr. Kufow’s face as he stumbled out of Benadir Hospital into the penetrating sunshine with his lifeless little girl in his arms. He may not have been weeping openly. But he looked as if he could barely breathe.”

As important as the story is, though, it is intensely dangerous. On Tuesday, when an aspiring freelance journalist sought advice on going to work in a place like Somalia, Gettleman was blunt: “Don’t go.”

Even for experienced international journalists, both freelance and staff, security issues are significant. Get-

tleman said colleagues often contact him for advice in planning a reporting trip to the region. In one case, he recalled, an international journalist was held captive for more than a month in Somalia, in part because a local support worker was insufficiently vetted.

Yet the risks facing international journalists pale in comparison to those that local journalists endure every day. CPJ research shows that six journalists have been killed in Somalia in 2012 alone, and 42 have been killed in the last two decades, one of the highest tolls in the world. Gettleman said he’s impressed by the solidarity of the Somali press corps, and inspired by the way these local reporters share information and look out for each other. They work in a country without a long tradition of a free press, often among forces hostile to the free flow of information.

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## Egypt Event: *Continued From Page 1*

editor and co-founder of GlobalPost. Sennott covered the Egyptian revolts and the Muslim Brotherhood. His work for Frontline/WGBH titled “Revolution in Cairo” won an OPC citation for best online coverage of breaking news. Portions of his interviews with the Brotherhood will be shown.

**Calvin Sims**, Program Officer, Freedom of Expression Unit of the Ford Foundation will moderate. Sims spent two decades as a reporter for *The New York Times*; he was based in Buenos Aires, Tokyo, Seoul and Jakarta.

The Ford Foundation will host the program at its headquarters. Use the 320 East 43 Street entrance. Bring a photo ID for security check. Registration will begin at 5:45pm; Reception from 6 to 6:30 p.m. and the Talk in the East River Room on the 11th floor at 6:30 p.m. This program is co-sponsored by the Ford Foundation, the Overseas Press Club of America and Off-the-Record of the Foreign Policy Association.

## PEOPLE... by Susan Kille, [susan@opcofamerica.org](mailto:susan@opcofamerica.org)

### PRESS FREEDOM

**JERUSALEM:** Uri Blau, an investigative reporter for *Haaretz*, will be tried for possession of classified military documents, Israel's attorney general said May 30. In 2008, Blau used leaked documents to reveal that the Israeli military planned in advance to assassinate Palestinian political leaders and fighters, but then passed their deaths off as mishaps during attempts to arrest them. The OPC and other members of the international press community had argued against the indictment. Blau faces a possible sentence of seven years.



French journalist Romeo Langlois after being released.

**BOGOTA:** Roméo Langlois, a freelance correspondent for France 24 TV and *Le Figaro*, was released March 30 by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, after being held since April 28. Langlois, who had accompanied Colombian Army soldiers on a mission, said he was treated well and received medical attention for a wound received when he was caught in crossfire and captured. The Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) reports that in the past four months, three journalists have fled their homes after threats by alleged members of the FARC and criminal groups.

**BANGKOK:** During Thailand's 2008 state of emergency, thousands of comments were posted on the Prachatai discussion board as webmaster **Chiranuch Premchaiporn** and her staff moderated the most intemperate remarks. A court on May 30 found 10 comments insulted the monarchy under Thailand's Commuter Crime Act and Chiranuch received an eight-month suspended sentence. The court, which could have imposed a 50-year sentence, was under international scrutiny and showed leniency but press freedom groups reiterated protests that the law leaves Thai news sites vulnerable to unjustified and politically motivated prosecutions.

**NEW YORK:** In a May 28 report to the OPC Board, **Abi Wright** said the Freedom of the Press Committee had written 10 letters since the committee's last report in March. The letters argued against plans to prosecute Uri Blau in Israel, protested legal proceedings against journalists in Bolivia and Vietnam, condemned attacks on press freedoms in Nigeria and Turkey, and urged country officials to conduct prompt and thorough investigations of the murder of journalists in Brazil, Mexico, Nepal, the Philippines, with two letters going to Mexico.

**DHAKA:** On May 28, at least 15 men carrying machetes and other sharp weapons attacked the Bangladesh capital newsroom of *bdnews24.com*, which presents news in Bangla and English. News reports said nine journalists and an office administrator were wounded, with three undergoing surgery. AFP that the staff did not know the reason for the attack.

**KATHMANDU:** Journalists

throughout Nepal were targets during the period leading up to the constitutional deadline of May 27, which the country's constituent assembly failed to meet. The Federation of Nepali Journalists reported 24 acts of violence against journalists or media vehicles on May 20 alone. Reporters Without Borders (RSF) said on May 22 that more than 50 journalists had been attacked in the preceding two weeks. CPJ urged stronger guarantees of media freedom in the constitution to reverse this trend.

**ISTANBUL:** Bianet, a newsite in Turkey that publishes in English, reported on May 23 that a court banned *Demokratik Vatan*, a pro-Kurdish weekly newspaper, from publishing for one month. The court reportedly based its decision on an issue that included articles it considered "announcements" of the banned Kurdistan Workers' Party and all copies were ordered seized. The court also opened an investigation into Chief Editor **Arafat Dayan**.

**NEW YORK:** Seventeen members of the United Nations submitted recommendations to the U.N. Human Rights Council on May 21 to improve freedom of expression in Ecuador. While Ecuador said the criticism resulted from ignorance, the actions made clear that the global community is aware of President Rafael Correa's repressive tactics against the local media.

**STOCKHOLM:** In a case that RSF said could change Sweden's position in its press freedom index, a court in Malmö on May 18 convicted three journalists with the tabloid newspaper *Expressen* because one of them bought an illegal revolver while investigating how easy it is to

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acquire a gun illegally in Sweden. Reporter **Diamant Salihu** took just five hours to buy a revolver and a cartridge clip, after which he immediately handed in the gun to police. Salihu was sentenced to a fine of \$2,000; *Expressen* editor-in-chief **Thomas Mattsson** was fined \$41,000 for inciting Salihu to break the law, and former news editor **Andreas Johansson** was fined \$1,900 for complicity.

**JENIN, West Bank:** On May 17, Israeli troops arrested **Baha Khairi Attalah Mousa**, the director of the Palestinian Prisoner Channel, a satellite television station that launched April 1.

Broadcasting equipment, computers, video cameras and documents were seized. The station, which is privately funded and not affiliated with any political group, broadcasts news about Palestinian prisoners and their families and cultural programs. RSF issued a statement: "We call for the immediate release of Baha Mousa and the return of all confiscated equipment, especially since the raid, carried out in territory under Palestinian administration, is illegal under international law."



**Car Bombing in Bogotá, Colombia targeting Fernando Londoño Hoyos.**

**BOGOTA:** **Fernando Londoño Hoyos**, a former interior minister for Colombia who has become a journalist, survived a May 15 bomb

attack of his car, but his driver and bodyguard were killed and 39 others were injured when the blast occurred on a busy downtown street. Londoño, a strong supporter of a military solution to the FARC's continuing insurgency, is program director for Radio Súper and a columnist for several newspapers.

**DAMASCUS:** President Bashar al-Assad's regime has banned foreign reporters and Syrians who communicate with foreign news media run the risk of being threatened, detained, tortured, or even killed. In May, a Syrian court sentenced citizen journalist **Mohammed Abdel Mawla al-Hariri** to death for the crime of "high treason and contacts with foreign parties." He was arrested April 16 just after giving an interview with Al-Jazeera about conditions in his hometown of Daraa.

**NUEVO LAREDO, Mexico:** Shortly after it was attacked by gunmen on May 11, *El Mañana*, a newspaper in this border town, ran an editorial stating it would no longer publish stories about organized crime. The gunmen set off an explosion outside, then shot up the building's façade and parking lot. The damage was small, but the staff told CPJ the message was clear. In 2006, gunmen shot a reporter five times and threw a hand grenade into the newsroom. The reporter is in a wheelchair and the case is unsolved. The day the editorial ran, 49 mutilated bodies were left along a highway near Monterrey, less than 120 miles from Nuevo Laredo. CPJ reported there was nothing in *El Mañana* about the bodies.

**KHARTOUM:** **Faisal Mohammed Salih**, a freelance journalist and former editor of the newspaper *Al-Adwa*, was held by Sudanese security forces for six days before being released

on bail. He faces prosecution on a charge of refusing to cooperate with authorities. He was arrested May 9 after being made to report to the office of the National Intelligence and Security Services (NISS) daily since April 25 and spend six to seven hours there each time without being interrogated. The harassment began after he criticized President Omar Hassan al-Bashir in an interview for Al-Jazeera on April 19. Also, NISS confiscated the entire print run of the *Al Midan* and *Al Jarida* newspapers for six days in May.

**ISLAMABAD:** The Pakistani government blocked access to Twitter for much of May 20, after holding Twitter responsible for promoting what it described as a blasphemous cartoon contest to post images on Facebook of the Prophet Muhammad. Facebook was banned for two weeks in 2010 after protests erupted over a similar contest. *The New York Times* reported that critics of the government said that blocking Twitter seemed to fit with a long-term government plan to muzzle media freedom, and could be related to the vociferous opposition and criticism to the country's security apparatus on Twitter.

**NEW YORK:** CPJ has updated its list of the world's 10 most censored countries. Eritrea, where the government expelled the last accredited foreign correspondent in 2007, topped the list followed by North Korea, which had been No. 1 when the last list was published in 2006. The other countries, in order, are Syria, Iran, Equatorial Guinea, Uzbekistan, Burma, Saudi Arabia, Cuba and Belarus.

## MURDERS

**Bassel Al Shahade**, a Syrian filmmaker and Fulbright scholar who took a leave of absence from Syracuse University to cover the carnage in his native country, was killed May 28 while filming in the war-ravaged city of Homs. The university





**Bassel Al Shahade**

reported that Shahade, who was pursuing a Master of Fine Arts degree in film, died “while working as a citizen journalist and filming the attacks against the Syrian people by the government security forces there.”

A key witness to a 2009 massacre of 31 journalists in the Philippines was killed in what appears to be an attempt to eliminate or intimidate prosecution witnesses. **Esmail Amil Enog**, the third witness to be killed, testified last year that he had driven gunmen to the site of the massacre, where 57 people were killed in an ambush of vehicles en route to register an opposition candidate for provincial governor. News reports said Enog was mutilated and dismembered before being killed. He died in March, but prosecutors said they learned of his death in late May.



**Erick Martínez Ávila carries a rainbow pride flag.**

Two Honduran journalists were killed in May. The body of **Erick Martínez Ávila**, an opposition journalist and gay rights activist, was found May 7 at the side of the road between Tegucigalpa and Olancho, two days after his family reported him missing. Officials said Martínez appeared to have been strangled. After being kidnapped on his way to work, **Alfredo Villatoro** was found dead a week later on May 15 on the outskirts of Tegucigalpa. Villatoro, a

program coordinator and presenter at the radio station *HRN*, was shot twice in the head. Also, two television journalists survived attacks in late April. On April 26, gunmen shot at the house of **Selvin Hércules Martínez** at least 20 times and the next night, gunmen with AK-47s repeatedly shot at **Elder Joel Aguilar’s car** on a highway.

Three journalists from Baluchistan, a restive province in Pakistan, were murdered in May. On May 28, **Abdul Qadir Hajizai**, a school principal who worked part-time for a Baluchi-language TV channel, was gunned down by men on a motorcycle. On the same day, the home of **Irshad Akhtar**, president of the Turbat Press Club, was attacked by gunfire. The body of **Tariq Kamal**, 35, a crime reporter for a Sindhi-language paper, was found on May 9 with multiple gunshot wounds and what local papers said were signs of torture. News reports said **Razzaq Gul** a 10-year correspondent for Express News TV whose body was found May 19, had been shot in the head and chest at least 15 times.

**Ahmed Addow Anshur**, who worked for Shabelle Media Network, became the ninth Somali journalist killed in the last eight months when he was gunned down in Mogadishu on May 24 on his way home, the International Press Institute said. He is the third journalist for Shabelle, the leading independent broadcaster in Somalia, to be killed in 2012 while two others sustained serious injuries.

The tortured body of **Marco Antonio Ávila García**, a Mexican reporter who wrote about organized crime for the sister newspapers *Diario Sonora de la Tarde* and *El Regional de Sonora*, was found May 19 on the side of a road in Sonora. He had been kidnapped by gunmen the day before while waiting at a car wash. Since 2006, more than 45 journalists have been killed or disappeared in Mexico, according to CPJ research.

Five journalists were killed May



**A Mexican police handout showing Marcio Antonio Ávila García who was found dead and the car wash where he was abducted.**

9 in Indonesia when a Russian-built jetliner slammed into Mount Salak, a volcano south of Jakarta, during a demonstration flight. The English-language daily *Jakarta Post* reported that the journalists were **Femi Adi** of Bloomberg Market; **Dody Aviantara** and **Didik Nur Yusuf**, who both worked for the monthly *Angkasa* magazine; and **Ismiyati Sunarto** and **Aditya Sukardi**, who both worked for Trans TV.

**Aurangzeb Tunio**, a reporter in Pakistan for the Sindhi-language Kawaish Television Network, his brother and a family friend were killed by gunmen who entered the Kawaish bureau in the Sindh province. News reports said the gunmen were angry about a story Aurangzeb had aired about a failed marriage attempt between a man from the Tunio tribal group and a woman from the rival Mughairi clan.

## UPDATES

**BOSTON:** **Adam B. Ellick**, a correspondent for *The New York Times*, will be moving to Boston this summer to attend a 10-month master’s degree program at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. Ellick is an OPC Board member and an OPC award winner.

**GREENWICH, Connecticut:** OPC Past President **Roy Rowan** and his wife, **Helen**, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in style May 12 at the Greenwich Yacht Club. Guests included people from all parts of their lives from neighbors, *Time*,

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**Roy and Helen Rowan**

*Life* and *Fortune* magazine staffers, friends and of course, their four boys and one grandson.

Roy said that he has written many books and most of them were memoirs of his life as a journalist; as a present to Helen on this momentous anniversary he wrote and prepared a booklet about Helen, complete with photos of their lives together from their wedding in Frankfurt, Germany to postings in Hong Kong, trips to Machu Piccu, the Trans-Siberian railroad, Afghanistan to cruising on the Queen Mary. Each guest received the booklet, a beautiful tribute to a beautiful couple.

Sonya K. Fry

**LONDON:** Leading politicians and journalists gathered May 16 at a packed memorial service at St. Martin-in-the-Fields church to pay tribute to **Marie Colvin**, an American reporter who worked for the *Sunday Times* of London. She died February 22 during a rocket attack on a makeshift media center in the Syrian city of Homs. Her editor **John Witherow** described Colvin as the “greatest war correspondent of her generation.” BBC journalist **Lyse Doucet** spoke of how “the bravest of the brave was also the kindest of the kind.”

**NEW YORK:** The Newswomen’s Club, led by OPC board member **Toni Reinhold**, celebrated its 90th Anniversary on May 16 at the Taipei Economic & Cultural Office on 42nd Street. The soiree included food, drinks and a silent auction of world-class photography. In comparison, the OPC is a mere 73 years old; the Newswomen’s Club began on March 8, 1922.



**From left: Toni Reinhold and OPC Executive Director Sonya Fry at the Newswomen’s Club celebration.**



**Paul E. Steiger** will step down at the end of the year as editor in chief and chief executive of ProPublica, the nonprofit investigative news organization that he started nearly five years ago and led to two Pulitzer Prizes. Steiger, the former longtime managing editor of *The Wall Street Journal*, will become executive chairman, a position he described as part-time and focusing on fundraising and strategic decisions. **Stephen Engelberg** will step up from managing editor to editor in chief and **Richard Tofel** will move from general manager to president. The two, who have been with ProPublica since the beginning, will share the position of chief executive.



**Abigail Pesta**, an OPC board member and editorial director of Women in the World for *Newsweek* and The Daily Beast, won first place for magazine feature writing in June from the New York Press Club for “The Accidental Sex Offender,” a *Marie Claire* article about a man listed as a sex offender in Texas for having sex with his high-school girlfriend. The piece previously won third-place for magazine reporting in the National Headliner Awards and a PASS Award from the National Council on Crime and Delinquency.

**OKLAHOMA CITY:** **Anthony Shadid**, a longtime correspondent in the Middle East for *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The*

## Visa Denied in China, Chan Pays a Visit to the OPC

**Melissa Chan** was a Yale undergrad when she won the Alexander Kendrick Scholarship from the OPC Foundation in 2001. She went on to study at the London School of Economics; became a producer/reporter for Al Jazeera English in Beijing and was the bureau’s main correspondent last month when her expulsion from China received worldwide attention. The Chinese government refused to allow another correspondent to replace her, effectively closing the Al Jazeera English bureau. Al Jazeera’s original channel remains open in China.

Chan, who is an OPC member, was passing through New York en route to her 10th college reunion in New Haven, when OPC Executive Director **Sonya K. Fry** invited her to stop by after the May board meeting to meet members of the board. Chan said the reason for her expulsion remains unclear. The government started sending signals by cutting the time between visa applications from every 6 months to every few months. Chan said she hopes to return to China because she has gained knowledge about the country that it would be a shame to waste. Chan will spend the summer at the headquarters of Al Jazeera in Doha and then in September, she starts a Knight Fellowship at Stanford.



**From left: Michael Serrill, Tim Ferguson, David Andelman, Melissa Chan, Jackie Albert-Simon and Allan Dodds Frank.**



# New Books

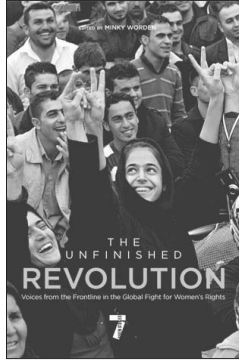
## GLOBAL

### WOMEN'S RIGHTS HAVE MADE IMPORTANT

advances in recent decades, particularly in the United States, but there's still a long way to go as detailed in a new book edited by **Minky Worden**, an OPC member and the director of Global Initiatives for Human Rights Watch. Despite changes to international human rights laws, major challenges remain to end inequality faced by women and girls.

Worden's book, *The Unfinished Revolution: Voices From the Global Fight for Women's Rights* [Seven Stories Press, May], draws on the insight and personal experiences of more than 30 writers to address hard facts, offer new approaches and suggest that women must unite to bring lasting global change.

**Christiane Amanpour**, an OPC member and Global Affairs anchor for ABC News, writes in the foreword: "It's a time of change in the world, with dictators toppling and new opportunities rising, but any revolution that doesn't create equality for women will be incomplete. The time has come to realize the full potential of half the world's population." Other contributors include Nobel Prize laureates Tawakkyl Karmen and Jody Wil-



liams, leading activists, top policymakers and victims of human rights abuses.

Worden is also the editor of *China's Great Leap: The Beijing Games and Olympian Human Rights Challenges* and co-editor of *Torture: Does It Make Us Safer? Is It Ever OK?: A Human Rights Perspective*.

## NORTH AMERICA

**WALTER CRONKITE AND MIKE WALLACE**, who were both OPC members, are the subjects of new biographies.

In *Cronkite* [Harper, May], **Douglas Brinkley**, a historian who has written biographies of Gerald Ford, Teddy Roosevelt and **Hunter S. Thompson**, traces Cronkite's life from his roots and the beginning of his career in Missouri and Texas, through his work for United Press during World War II, his recruitment by Edward R. Murrow in 1950 and beyond as he became the CBS anchorman known as "the most trusted man in America"

Publication of *Mike Wallace: A Life* by **Peter Rader** [Thomas Dunne, April] was accelerated after Wallace died in April. Rader, a filmmaker and screenwriter, explores Wallace's 60-year career and his courage overcoming personal adversity as he redefines the landscape of television news as one of the original correspondents for CBS' "60 Minutes."

— by Susan Kille

(Continued From Page 8)

*Boston Globe* and The Associated Press and an OPC member, was honored posthumously May 10 in his hometown, when **Nada Bakri**, his widow, accepted the Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum's Reflection of Hope Award on his behalf. Shadid, who died Feb. 16 while on assignment in Syria, is the eighth recipient of the award, which was given for his work as a foreign correspondent, his understanding of the Middle East and his role in giving people affected by terrorism and violence a voice through his storytelling. The memorial is on the former site of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building, which was destroyed in by a terrorist bomb in 1995.

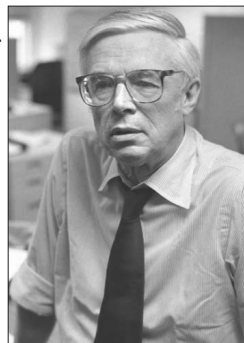
## PEOPLE REMEMBERED

**Michael J. O'Neill**, a former editor of the *Daily News* who died

May 29, was known for guiding the coverage of New York stories like the "Son of Sam" serial killer, the 1977 blackout and the city's fiscal crisis, but shared with OPC members a background and respect for foreign news.

O'Neill, who was 89, began his career after leaving the University of Detroit to serve as an Army journalist in Europe in World War II, earning a bronze star for battlefield reporting. He returned to the university and graduated in 1946. Moving to New York, he worked for a small wire service and then the United Press, advancing to Washington correspondent specializing in foreign affairs.

"Mike O'Neill, my close friend and neighbor, loved New York and



O'Neill in 1982.

was committed to helping its underprivileged. Yet in our frequent talks his primary concern often was foreign news coverage," said **Seymour Topping**, an OPC board member. "He was an intense public advocate of what he termed preventive journalism. He believed the United States can escape stumbling into

foreign policy pitfalls if probing reporters factually raise warning flags early enough. He lived by that vital credo as a reporter and editor."

After joining the *Daily News* Washington bureau in 1956, O'Neill became the newspaper's managing editor in 1968, executive editor in 1974 and executive vice president in 1979. He resigned in 1982 to "renew an old love affair with writing."

# Legendary War Photographer Horst Faas Dies at 79

by Edith M. Lederer

When I first met **Horst Faas** in San Francisco in the spring of 1971, he and **Peter Arnett** were just starting a trip across the United States to give Associated Press readers a view of America through the eyes of two foreigners, a German and a New Zealander.

For a young AP reporter, it was an incredible opportunity to show two Pulitzer Prize winners some of the sights of a city that was in the forefront of the anti-Vietnam War movement, with a strong hippie culture, a burgeoning black power movement and great nightlife. I recall going to a few clubs in North Beach and ending up at the Buena Vista for their famous Irish coffee at 2 a.m.

Horst's talent as a combat photographer was legendary. He won his first Pulitzer in Vietnam in 1965, and a second Pulitzer, with AP's **Michel Laurent**, for their photographs of Bengali soldiers bayoneting rebel Pakistani militia accused of rape during Bangladesh's war for independence later in 1971.

In the summer of 1971, I went to Vietnam on an around-the-world trip and stopped in Saigon as a "war tourist" without telling my parents. Little did I know that a year later, in October 1972, I would return to Saigon as the first woman assigned full time to cover the war by AP. Shortly before I arrived, Horst gave the green light to publish **Huynh Cong "Nick" Ut's** photo of a badly burned Vietnamese girl fleeing an aerial napalm attack that had left her naked which won the Pulitzer the following year and remains the most iconic image of the war. But Horst was much more than a photographer and photo editor. Above all, he was a Renaissance man. He was a wonderful writer, able to capture in words the images that he saw through the lens of his camera, and some AP stories from the field carried his byline. He loved art, music, books, good food and good wine. He had an impressive library and was an avid collector of Asian antiques, especially Chinese Ming porcelain. But his taste was wide-ranging and after he moved to London in 1976 he started collecting modern prints. He also had an impressive collection of oriental carpets.

When I arrived in Saigon, Horst took me under his wing, as he did all the Vietnamese photographers and darkroom staff.

I tasted my first bowl of "pho" sitting on a bench with him near the AP office. Late in the day, if things were quiet, he would take me with him when he went to prowls Saigon's antique shops. After several trips, I bought a blue and white plate, for about \$1.50. "You're hooked!" Horst said as I paid for it. He was right. I, too, became a collector of Asian antiques.

Horst transferred to London as AP's photo editor for Europe and Africa in 1976 and was a dynamo, organizing coverage of coups, wars, the Olympics and the British royals, to name just a few events he was responsible for until his retirement in 2004. Every morning, he would cycle to work and he'd return home to his art-killed apartment in Kensington the same way. I moved to London in 1982 and worked in the AP bureau and helped cover wars and disasters around the globe until 1998.

There were a number of old Vietnam and Asia hands in London, including **Dick Blystone** and **Bill Tuohy**, and I started a Chinese Eating Club. Horst and his wife, **Ursula**, were members and the club began the eternal search for the best Asian restaurants in the city. Horst also knew all the good pubs and wine bars near the AP and was a good lunchtime and after-work customer.

Though he was sometimes gruff and didn't tolerate fools lightly, Horst was incredibly generous with both advice and financial help if needed.

When my former AP colleague **Jeannine Yeomans** visited London, I introduced her to Horst and she asked him about taking photos. He drew a diagram for her about how to shoot in Vietnam in sun, rain, "fast running," and "for the rest, we save you in the darkroom." It hangs on a wall in her San Francisco apartment.

As a birthday present to myself in 1993, I returned to Vietnam for the first time since 1973, and Horst and a few others joined me. Horst had not taken pictures since he had been in London in his demanding photo editing job but he went out and bought a Canon for that trip.

We started in Cambodia, spent several days in Angkor Wat and then drove from Phnom Penh to the Vietnamese border where Nick Ut met us with a van. We drove to Ho Chi Minh City, and then up Highway One, the wartime highway of death, past spectacular beaches and beautiful

(Continued on Page 11)



Top photo: Horst Faas in Vietnam, 1967. South Vietnamese troops with U.S. advisers rested after waiting for a Viet Cong attack that didn't come, taken by Faas, 1965.

**A:** An editorial committee decides which videos are the most relevant and trustworthy. The Arabic channel has been on the air for nearly a year, so they have a system in place and trusted sources who provide material that is aired. The channel is a low-budget operation compared to the propaganda machine Assad's regime perfected over decades, and we understand that all we have is our credibility. Without it, we would not have the confidence of the Syrian people, dozens of whom have been tortured and shot to death while in the act of filming and transporting footage to Syria al-Shaab.

**Q:** How many journalists work on the website?

**A:** I'm working with about 20 Arabic-speaking journalists and we use information transmitted from Syria.

**Q:** No one could have predicted the political domino effect in the Middle East since the spring of 2011. What has prepared you the most to cover these events?

**A:** Indeed, I think Arabs are the most surprised by the uprisings. They are demanding freedom and democracy and they are not backing down, despite being arrested, tortured, fired upon and denounced by their own leaders.

It is just this type of totalitarianism in which extremism flourishes. With democracy and freedom – real, grassroots efforts toward this end – extremist elements will no longer have the space to grow.

No one knows how far the revolutions will go – recently, the most powerful figures under Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's regime, including Mubarak himself and his omnipotent former Interior Minister Habib Adly, sat in a dock in a packed courtroom outside Cairo. They were dressed down by the judge in their collective trial in the harshest of terms. It's not a sight I ever thought I would see.

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**Horst Faas:** *Continued From Page 10*

scenery that had been obscured by the fighting.

Two years later, we organized the first reunion of reporters, photographers and TV crew members who covered the Vietnam War. It was held in Saigon on April 30, 1995, 20 years after the city fell and the war ended. There were lots of reunions and war stories, antique shopping, a boat ride on the Saigon River and a memorable and hilarious post-dinner cyclo race back to the hotel. In 2000, Horst and I organized a reunion on the 25th anniversary of the war's end. And in 2005, we organized another on the 30th anniversary.

Days later, Horst was in Hanoi to give a photo workshop when he suddenly had terrible back pain. He ended up in a clinic and then in a hospital in Bangkok, paralyzed from the chest down as a result of what turned out to be a spinal hemorrhage. He returned to Germany, initially to a rehabilitation hospital, determined to live as

This is why I don't bother to read opinion pieces speculating about the future in the Arab world. It's unknown, and we continue to see that anything is possible.

I arrived in Damascus in the fall of 1999 with two suitcases and Arabic so bad that I couldn't get from the airport to the institute where I was to study. (The driver left me on the roadside nearby and somehow I found the place on foot). From that point to now, I spent these years traveling around the Middle East, studying Arabic, listening to people and doing my best to speak their language. I know the back story and what peoples' grievances are, and I lived them too. I have seen that life under varying degrees of tyranny (depending on the country) can be terrifying for Arab citizens.

**Q:** Is your site funded and if so, how/whom is it funded? What is the time frame of operation under your current funding situation?

**A:** A secular, pro-democracy Jordanian-American media entrepreneur who saw one of Assad's speeches early after the revolution began decided he wanted to take action to help the Syrian people. He has funded the channel Syria al-Shaab, which began airing in July 2011 from his own pocket simply because of this conviction that the people's version of the story is not being told due to a language barrier and lack of media access. The revolution has dragged on and the budget is tight.

It is a story that must now be told to English-speaking audiences in order for them to make sense of what is happening inside Syria. The recent massacres in Houla and Hama made it into the English-language media, but we see deadly incidents that do not. It is all part of a larger picture of what the Syrian regime really is. While Assad has plenty of supporters, the regime also has plenty of people in the Arabic-speaking world who understand full well how murderous it really is.

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normal a life as possible. He got a motorized wheelchair and had his antique-filled apartment adapted to deal with his disability. He traveled to the U.S. twice, to Paris and London, and remained an ambassador for photojournalism and contributor to books and exhibitions.

I visited Horst several times in Germany and was amazed at his fortitude and positive outlook. He accepted his disability and never wanted anyone to feel sorry for him. He wanted to return to Vietnam for the 35th anniversary reunion in 2010 but his doctor said no. Nonetheless, he still had great plans and photo projects, including hoping that his health would improve enough to return again to Vietnam. Alas it was not to be.

At the final dinner at all our reunions, we raise a toast to absent friends. At the next one in 2015, I'm sure, there will be a special toast to Horst, a man who was larger than life in every way and is irreplaceable.

Horst died May 10 in Munich. He was 79 and was an OPC member.



# OPC Scholar Launches Opposition News Channel

## Q&A WITH KRISTEN GILLESPIE

*Kristen Gillespie is a reporter based in Jordan and Syria. She graduated from Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism in 2005 and was a 2005 OPC Foundation scholar. She is working on the launch of the English-language news website for the Arabic-language news channel Syria al-Shaab, which means "Syria of the People."*

**Q:** You said the reality in Syria is different from what American see. What is happening?

**A:** Americans see Ban Ki-Moon announce that a recent double bombing in Damascus that killed more than 50 people was the work of Al-Qaeda. They see the Assad regime deny any responsibility for massacres, and they see uneven and confusing coverage due to the inability of the Western media to adequately cover the Syrian story. Even my own friends who are knowledgeable about the region noted how difficult it is to unravel what is really happening.

Still, there is plenty to be done to determine whether the regime is telling the truth. Why haven't journalists asked Ban how he concluded the bombings were the work of Al-Qaeda? The U.N. doesn't have an intelligence agency and did not conduct an inquiry. Yet no one asked where they got their information. Can the U.N. thus be considered an honest broker?

Why does the CNN reporter who interviewed Asma al-Assad a few months ago allow her to denounce the atrocities in Homs but does not ask why her husband committed them? Why are we not reading more about how the Syrian regime trained and sent fighters into Iraq to kill Americans?

**Q:** Is this activism or journalism?

**A:** We use journalistic practices to tell an untold story to the best of our ability given the circumstances. As a journalist, I'm not particularly comfortable relying on second-hand information. It's not the activism vs. journalism question that concerns me, but the fact that I'm working



**Kristen Gillespie with Mohamed Jazar, who is from Syria and is wanted by the intelligence for anchoring the news. Recently, journalists working for the opposition were given the death sentence if caught.**

blind. Ideally, I'd be inside Syria covering events myself but I believe the Syrian government has already killed several journalists, including Marie Colvin. In addition, any Syrians I talked to could be subject to arrest or worse. This is why journalists are not inside Syria - the government won't allow it. Why not? Because they are killing citizens and by barring reporters, it allows them to cast doubt on accounts of the crimes because journalists are not there themselves. What I can say for sure is that credibility is our priority.

**Q:** Who is vetting the videos that your 10,000 volunteers are sending? What is the criteria for them to be posted on your website?

*(Continued on Page 11)*

**Coming up...**

**Panel:  
Egypt Election**

**Tuesday, June 19  
Reception at 6 p.m.  
Talk at 6:30 p.m.  
At the Ford Foundation  
320 East 43rd Street**

**see page 1 for details**

Overseas Press Club of America  
40 West 45 Street  
New York, NY 10036 USA