

Hitler From American Ex-Pats' Perspective

EVENT PREVIEW: MARCH 19

by Sonya K. Fry

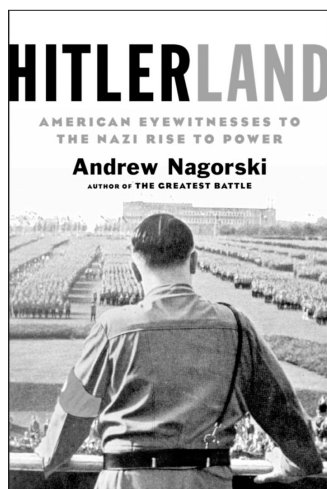
There have been many history books written about World War II, the economic reasons for Hitler's rise to power, the psychology of Adolf Hitler as an art student, and a myriad of topics delving into the phenomenon that was Hitler. Andy Nagorski's new book *Hitlerland* looks at this time frame from the perspective of American expatriates who lived in Germany and witnessed the Nazi rise to power.

In researching *Hitlerland*, Nagorski tapped into a rich vein of individual stories that provide insight into what it was like to work or travel in Germany in the midst of these seismic events.

Many of the first-hand accounts in memoirs, correspondence and interviews were from journalists and diplomats. There were those who sensed early on how dangerous Hitler was and yet many more who dismissed him as a flash in the pan, a political curiosity whose anti-Semitism and grandiose plans to restore Germany to glory were laughable.

Inside...

Rooney Memorial.....	2
OPC President Letter.....	3
Scholars Luncheon Recap.....	4-7
People Column.....	8-14
People Remembered: Esper.....	14
Tribute to Anthony Shadid.....	15
New Books.....	16



Andrew Nagorski

Andrey Rudakov

Even those who did not take Hitler seriously, however, would concede that his oratory skills and charisma would propel him into prominence.

Nagorski looks at Charles Lindbergh who was sent to Germany in 1936 to obtain intelligence on the Luftwaffe. Karl Henry von Wiegand, the famed Hearst correspondent was the first American reporter to meet and report on Hitler. Other prominent American correspondents included Edgar Ansel Mowrer of the *Chicago Daily News*, OPC member Sigrid Schultz of the *Chicago Tribune*, Louis Lochner and Angus Thuermer (AP), future TV anchor Howard K. Smith, William Shirer (CBS) and Richard Hottelet who was jailed by the Gestapo in 1940.

One of the more interesting stories is that of William Dodd, a historian from the University of Chicago, who served as ambassador to Berlin under Franklin Roosevelt. Dodd's daughter Martha scandalized the embassy with her procession of lovers, her initial infatuation with Nazis and later her affair with a Soviet diplomat that turned her into a spy

for the Kremlin.

Others who came to Germany curious about what was going on there include the architect Philip Johnson, the dancer Josephine Baker, a young Harvard student John F. Kennedy and historian W.E.B. Dubois.

Andy Nagorski is an award winning journalist with a long career at *Newsweek*. He served as the magazine's bureau chief in Hong Kong, Moscow, Rome, Bonn, Warsaw and Berlin. He is currently Director of Public Policy for the EastWest Institute, an international affairs "think tank" with offices in New York, Brussels and Moscow. He has authored four previous books and written numerous articles for countless publications. He also won a 1978 OPC award for business reporting for *Newsweek International* as well as two Citations.

Hitlerland Book Night will take place on Monday, March 19 with a reception at 6 p.m. and Nagorski's talk at 6:30 p.m. Books will be available for purchase and signing. RSVP by calling the OPC 212-626-9220 or e-mailing sonya@opcofamerica.org.

Andy Rooney Memorialized by Family and Friends

by Allan Dodds Frank

Longtime OPC member Andy Rooney would have loved the January 12 memorial service in Rose Hall at Jazz at Lincoln Center starring his four children, his girlfriend and his friends from CBS.

His son, Brian Rooney, flawlessly emceed the ceremony with clarity and humor. Brian, a longtime ABC News correspondent and soon-to-be CBS News contributor, lovingly showed that he, too, has his father's talent as a storyteller and writer. "My father was a character, but it was not an act," Brian said. "What you saw was the same show that ran at the end of the dinner table."

After Rooney died at 92 of complications from a surgical procedure just a month after retiring from CBS, his family began sifting through the mountains of memorabilia he had saved, including a CBS check for \$6,000 he never cashed and letters he had written to various top CBS executives, letters so virulent or insulting that it was a wonder he was not fired, Brian said. To one new CBS News President, Rooney wrote: "Keep in mind, I have more experience being bossed than you have bossing."

Andy Rooney's powers of observation were the key to his popularity, Brian said. "He knew his thoughts so precisely that they were the thoughts of millions of other people who did not realize it until he put it into words... he saw the universal in the particular."

Each of Rooney's daughters: Emily, Martha and Ellen recalled how he loved to tease them regularly by telephone. Emily — a TV host and producer in Boston



Brian Rooney paid tribute to his father.

— said her father liked to sign off with: "Call if you get work." Martha, a librarian at the National Institutes of Health, said her dad loved calling at 4:55 p.m. to say he was checking to see if his "tax dollars" were still at work. Ellen, a photographer and editor in London, recalled her father's usual gambit was: "What time is it there anyway?" Brian Rooney

also treated everybody with some of his father's favorite family rules. As a supporter of the volunteer fire department that covered the Rowayton section of Norwalk, Connecticut, where he lived, Rooney regularly dragged his children out of bed to see local fires. Brian loved this one: "When your neighbor's house is on fire, you have an obligation to go watch it burn down."

CBS News chairman Jeff Fager summed up Andy: "He didn't know how to sugarcoat anything. What came out of him, under any circumstance, was pure unvarnished truth as he saw it." Fager continued: "Andy was also the unofficial conscience of CBS News. If something happened at CBS News he didn't like, that went against the finest traditions of our organization, he would say so, even if it meant taking on the owner of the company."

After being introduced as "Andy Rooney's girlfriend," Beryl Pfizer, who frequently attended OPC events with Andy, put the finishing touch on the celebration of his life. She said: "What strikes me is how lucky we all were to have him in our lives and how lucky I was to have him in mine."

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International Board Meeting Begins Gala Preparations

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

PARIS — The knock on the door of my hotel room behind the Place Vendome in Paris came at a quarter to midnight on January 30. It was **Marcus Mabry**, OPC First Vice President and Editor-at-Large at the *International Herald Tribune* and it was time for the monthly OPC board meeting. I was spending a week here for the launch in France of the magazine I edit, *World Policy Journal*, and Marcus had just braved the record Parisian chill — part of an Arctic-style cold wave sweeping across Europe at the moment. Braving temps in the teens (Fahrenheit), catching one of the evening's last metro trains from the *Tribune* offices in the suburb of Neuilly, he made it to our tiny hotel, the townhouse where Stendhal died in 1842.

Fortunately, his *Times*-issued Blackberry phone worked because my Skype connection didn't. So as midnight struck and my wife nodded off, we dialed into the global conference call number in New York. Along with the *Financial Times*'s **Gillian Tett** calling in from London, we were present-and-accounted-for when the board meeting began — only the second such session in club history when we had members dialing in from abroad. Bloomberg's **Michael Serrill**, second vice president and our yeoman awards chairman, presided in our absence.

We began working through a most exciting agenda, at the top being a record number of entries for the OPC Awards competition. Some 521 have been received — all, for the first time, applied for online. For the first time, as well, the OPC has welcomed the submission of Twitter posts — already emerging as a new front line of innovative, deadline journalism. The first two such entries were received this

year about the earthquake in Japan and the uprising on Tahrir Square. Indeed, for most categories, the award materials have all arrived online as well. The last time there were more than 500 entries was 2007, but with today's higher entrance fees, the OPC realized an all-time revenue record. All this is a tribute to the ease of submission and to the perceived value they add by distinguishing greatness in an increasingly crowded and diverse media universe. And with Executive Director **Sonya Fry** at the helm, all arrived with world-class efficiency on the desktops of our judges.

All this led into a discussion of our awards Gala on April 25, again at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel ballroom in Time Warner Center. The program is beginning to fill in: **Ted Turner** — founder of CNN who in his lifetime truly transformed the entire media landscape — has accepted my invitation to receive the President's Award for lifetime achievement. He will accept and, I strongly suspect, deliver a Turner-esque acceptance message that is not to be missed. We've continued to fill in our Gala roster. After a personal intervention from Marcus, **Alison Smale**, the extraordinary executive editor of the *International Herald Tribune*, has agreed to serve as awards presenter — the centerpiece of our evening. Alison is a career veteran of our craft, beginning as East European bureau chief for the Associated Press. She covered the fall of the Berlin Wall, moved to *The New York Times* where, as deputy foreign editor, she organized much of the paper's coverage of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan before moving to the *IHT* as managing editor, then upward to executive editor three years ago.

We are fortunate to have two dinner co-chairs this year: the indomitable master journo-marketer, **Bill Holstein**, who, wearing his

other hat, serves as president of the OPC Foundation; and Thomson-Reuters newest editor-at-large, the brilliant editor **Sir Harold Evans**. Between the two, they are already setting up a record year revenue-wise with sponsorship of our pre-party booked by **Lenovo** and the after-party by **Thomson-Reuters** in tribute to Sir Harold. Many of our most generous regular guests are starting to come in and some welcome newcomers.

Finally, there was the OPC Foundation's Scholarship Luncheon in February at its customary venue at the Yale Club across from Grand Central Station and where more than 200 guests and 14 award winners, representing seven scholarships and seven funded internships, were awarded. The ceremonies opened with a moving tribute from GlobalPost Executive Editor **Charlie Sennott** for his long-time friend, **Anthony Shadid**, whose death inside embattled Syria had just been disclosed the previous evening. The afternoon closed with a stirring call to arms from **Jeff Fager**, Chairman of CBS News and Executive Producer of "60 Minutes" who saluted the next generation of foreign correspondents. Some 175 applicants from 72 colleges competed for the awards that will launch many of them into careers around the world. *World Policy Journal* has been privileged to have published pieces of reportage from two former award winners.

Two more months until our Awards Gala, so spiff up your tuxedos and gowns and mark April 25 on your calendar!

Cheers,



David A. Andelman

Career-Starting Opportunities at Scholars Luncheon

EVENT RECAP: FEBRUARY 17

by Aimee Vitrak

At a time when the journalism industry is faced with bad news daily, the OPC Foundation Scholarship Luncheon provided some good news and even optimism as it celebrated 14 students to become tomorrow's foreign correspondents. Each scholar had the opportunity to explain to everyone in attendance at the annual Scholarship Luncheon at the Yale ballroom the stories they have already told and the stories they'd like to pursue in places like Mumbai, the Chinese countryside, Uganda, Ghana and Jerusalem. On the morning after the announcement of Anthony Shadid's death in Syria, the Scholarship Luncheon on February 17 was an opportunity for the journalism community to gather, reflect and regroup. The scholars' enthusiasm for the craft of storytelling served as a reminder for how people are pulled into journalism, and why the pursuit of the truth may be a cause worth the risk.

Last year's keynote speaker Charles M. Sennott led the luncheon like a coach at halftime, calling Shadid, whom he had worked with at the *Boston Globe* the greatest Middle East correspondent of our generation and went on to buoy the audience's spirits. "His death is a time to take stock and as editors to be incredibly vigilant about those to whom we send out in the field...and prepare our correspondents to work safely." He asked for a moment of silence in honor of Shadid.

OPC Foundation President William J. Holstein then began the scholarship presentation by saying the luncheon and awards served as a career starting place for many of the winners who had two days of networking opportunities at a reception hosted by Reuters for current and past winners at its Time Square headquarters the night before the luncheon. On the morning of the luncheon, scholars met with veteran international journalists at a breakfast hosted by Holstein. Then there's the luncheon itself, which had more than 200 people in attendance, some are on the hunt for an ambitious scholar for an internship or foreign posting. After the luncheon, scholars mingled with journalism luminaries like Jeff Fager and Charlie Rose and business cards and promises of Facebook friending flew. The winners then toured The Associated Press and met with editors. "We are launching careers here today," Holstein said.

The scholars' thank-you speeches were inspiring and left many in the audience in awe of the languages they speak, including the language of technology with one scholar, Lauren Rosenfeld from the University of California at Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism, able to produce stories across all "platforms," meaning video, writing and multimedia, or what's known as the modern-



Jeff Fager of CBS News gave the keynote address.

day journalism triple threat.

Sophia Jones of George Washington University began her interest in journalism at the age of 16 in Nepal where she worked for a local publication. It was there, she said, that she understood for the first time that "war has many faces, not just men with machine guns," when she witnessed a Nepalese girl hiding from gunmen.

Catherine Ryan Gregory of the University of Oregon said she liked telling a larger story through a smaller one as she learned after seven weeks in Ghana where she wants to return this summer and eventually publish a book about witchcraft around the world and how it reflects on women's rights. Georgia Wells of Stanford University said she returned to Egypt this winter after writing her essay for the OPC Scholarship Foundation and went to Tahir Square where the population has changed from students to eight-year-old boys, one of whom told her that now was the "most noble" time in his life.

Lauren E. Bohn from American University in Cairo gave an appropriate quote from legendary "60 Minutes" producer Don Hewitt by including in her speech, "we don't do stories on the issues, we do stories on the people caught up in the issues." Jeff Fager, Chairman of CBS News and Executive Producer of "60 Minutes," invoked that same quote during his keynote address. Fager said that being based overseas was the "best job in my CBS career and the most important opportunity of my career." He added, "the second best was landing at '60 Minutes' as a producer. I was confident, maybe a little cocky, and went to Executive Editor Phil Scheffler looking for a raise. He suggested I should start looking for another job." He called Scheffler and Bill Owens who is now Executive Editor tough, "You need to be, in that job."

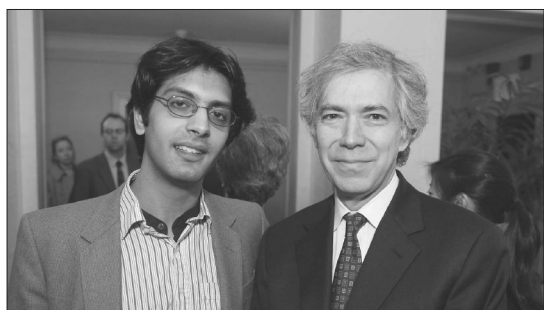
An award-winning journalist in his own right, Fager became the first chairman of CBS News a year ago after more than 30 years of experience at every stage of the TV news business, including 15 years at the executive producer level, seven of those at the helm of "60 Minutes." He has helped to usher in an international news renaissance at CBS News and said he believes if fascinating stories are produced, the audience will follow.

OPC Scholarship Luncheon

Photos by Michael Dames



From left: OPC Foundation President William J. Holstein, Charlie Rose and keynote speaker Jeff Fager.



IF Stone winner Nizar Manek with Rick MacArthur, publisher of *Harper's Magazine*.



Jack Howard-Potter and Pamela Howard flank the Irene Corbally Kuhn Winner Catherine Ryan Gregory.



OPC Foundation scholars Beibei Bao and Rachel Will with Charlie Rose and Allan Dodds Frank.



Roy Rowan with his 2012 winner, Beibei Bao.

MANY THANKS

The OPC Foundation is especially grateful for its Patrons and friends who supported the 2012 Scholarship Luncheon. Their contributions ensure the continued success of our scholarship/internship program.

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OPC Foundation board member Bill Rukeyser with Schweisberg winner, James Jeffrey.

2012 OPC Foundation Scholarship Winners



From left: Sophia Jones, Georgia Wells, Eva Dou, Elisa Mala, Beibei Bao, James Jeffrey, Catherine Ryan Gregory, Max Seddon, Lauren Rosenfeld, Rachel Will, Jia Feng, Lauren Zumbach, Lauren E. Bohn, and Nizar Manek

Following is a list of the 14 scholarship recipients for 2012, their affiliations, the prize they won, the presenters, and brief descriptions of their winning applications. The winners emerged from a highly competitive selection process consisting of 175 applicants from 72 different colleges and universities.

Lauren Zumbach
Princeton University
**ALEXANDER KENDRICK
INTERNSHIP**

Sponsored by Daimler; presented by Han Tjan, Head of Corporate Communication for Daimler

Lauren spent last summer at the *Jakarta Globe* where she covered Indonesia's mismanaged emergency care system. In her essay, the Princeton undergrad discussed how its ineffectiveness was harming not only its residents but also its plans for global development. Fluent in French, Lauren has the Foundation's first internship with *Forbes* magazine and will spend the summer with *Forbes-India* in Mumbai.

James Jeffrey
University of Texas at Austin
**DAVID R. SCHWEISBERG
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**
*Sponsored by the Schweisberg Family;
presented by Matthew Schweisberg,
David's brother*

James has already led the life of a foreign correspondent. As the son of a British Army dentist he grew up in various locations throughout Europe, a trend that continued when his own time as an army officer took him to Kosovo, Iraq and Afghanistan, among other places. An inveterate traveler, his essay discussed what he gleaned on a month-long study in China, chief among them, the frantic energy and momentum both on the city streets and in the countryside.

Sophia Jones
George Washington University
REUTERS SCHOLARSHIP
Sponsored by Reuters; presented by Eddie Evans, Deputy Editor for News

While only a college junior, Sophia has experience as a freelance journalist in the Middle East and Africa. This summer she has an internship in the Reuters bureau in Ramallah. Currently studying Arabic in Cairo, Sophia aims for a career as a war correspondent. Her winning essay detailed the chilling story of a bus ride through an Israeli checkpoint where her burka-clad seatmate hid under her feet and prayed.

Nizar Manek
Columbia University Graduate
School of Journalism
**HARPER'S MAGAZINE
SCHOLARSHIP**

in memory of I.F. STONE

Endowed by John R. MacArthur and the Pierre F. Simon Charitable Trust; presented by Rick MacArthur, publisher of Harper's Magazine

Nizar's passion is Africa, no doubt fueled by his own family's exodus from Uganda to escape Idi Amin's economic war on Asians. With a law degree from the London School of Economics, he wants to cover the potential for civil unrest in Nigeria. His essay was about South Africa's "Secrecy Bill," a clear attempt by the ruling African National Congress to inhibit whistleblowers and a free press.

Catherine Ryan Gregory
University of Oregon
**IRENE CORBALLY KUHN
SCHOLARSHIP**

Endowed by the Scripps Howard Foundation; presented by Jack Howard-Potter

Catherine's essay was about the fate of women accused of witchcraft in Ghana, a story she covered as a reporter for *The Accra Mail*. Ghanaese women are subject to violence and exiled to witch camps for "looking at a neighbor the wrong way or angering a co-wife." A graduate of the University of Oregon now pursuing a master's degree in literary nonfiction, she hopes to return to Ghana to cover this and other stories of African life for western audiences.

Lauren E. Bohn
American University in Cairo
H.L. STEVENSON INTERNSHIP

Funded by the Gamsin family and sponsored by Stevenson family and friends; presented by Sharon Gamsin

Lauren is currently in Cairo studying Arabic as part of her Fulbright grant and combing the countryside for stories of Arab Spring aftershocks. A graduate of NYU with a master's degree from Northwestern, she wrote about the plight of Egypt's Coptic Christians who fear their minority status in a Muslim country is

now even more imperiled, a story she first covered for GlobalPost. A multimedia journalist, Lauren has an OPC Foundation internship in the AP bureau in Jerusalem.

Max Seddon

Columbia University
Graduate School of Journalism
STAN SWINTON INTERNSHIP
Endowed by the Swinton Family; presented by Helen Swinton, Stan's widow

Fluent in Russian, Max took a year off his studies at Oxford to spend a year at the *Moscow Times* where he became the only English-speaking art critic in Moscow. His essay was about a Belarusian artist and nationalist, ironically named Alex Pushkin, and his quixotic crusade against collective farm fascism. Also proficient in French, Max will return to Moscow as an OPC Foundation intern in the AP bureau.

Georgia Wells

Stanford University
EMANUEL R. FREEDMAN SCHOLARSHIP
Endowed by family; presented by his daughter Alix Freedman, Global Ethics Editor of Reuters

When the protests turned to revolution in Egypt, Georgia "couldn't bear to not be in Tahrir Square." She took time from her graduate work in journalism at Stanford and flew to Cairo, a city where she had previously studied Arabic. Now fluent, she worked her sources to find the spokesman for the Muslim Brotherhood and endured his rants to get a story, the subject of her essay.

Jia Feng

Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies
THEO WILSON SCHOLARSHIP
Sponsored by donations from family and friends; presented by Barbara Burns

In her essay, Jia makes a compelling argument that if China accedes to American pressure and appreciates its currency, the impact would be harmful to the American econ-

omy. She is interested in the inner workings of the financial world and their effects on peoples' lives. She has an OPC Foundation internship in the Reuters bureau in Beijing.

Beibei Bao

Columbia University
Graduate School of Journalism and School of International and Public Affairs
ROY ROWAN SCHOLARSHIP
Endowed by family, friends and admirers; presented by Roy Rowan

Pursuing dual graduate degrees in journalism and international finance policy, Beibei intends to devote her career to producing quality business news, the kind that benefits the public by improving market transparency. She has an OPC Foundation internship in the Reuters bureau in Shanghai. In her essay, she wrote about the under-reported issue of Chinese debt, both at the local and national level, and the risks it poses to China's economic health.

Elisa Mala

Columbia University
FLORA LEWIS INTERNSHIP
Endowed by the Pierre F. Simon Charitable Trust; presented by Flora's friend Jacqueline Albert-Simon

The daughter of Thai immigrants and Jewish converts, by five, Elisa was fluent in English, Thai and Hebrew. While still determined to graduate from college, she has already collected 300 bylined articles in 15 countries on three continents. Her essay described her coverage of the bombing in Oslo that led to her front page story in *The New York Times*. Elisa has an OPC Foundation internship in the AP bureau in Bangkok.

Eva Dou

University of Missouri
S&P AWARD FOR ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS REPORTING
Endowed by Standard & Poor's; presented by Bob Arnold, S&P Vice President, Global Editorial
As a former Reuters intern in

the Beijing bureau and an exchange student at Shih Hsin University in Taipei, Eva is confident she has the language and cultural skills to succeed as a correspondent in China. Fluent in Mandarin and conversant in French, she wrote about high unemployment among China's recent college graduates and the largely ineffective measures China has taken to combat the issue, if only to limit the potential of political unrest.

Rachel Will

University of Southern California
JERRY FLINT INTERNSHIP FOR INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS REPORTING
Endowed by family and friends; presented by family friend
Allan Dodds Frank

Having already interned in Hong Kong and Jakarta, the college senior will next travel to Malaysia where she has an OPC Foundation internship in the Reuters bureau in Kuala Lumpur. Rachel fell in love with this part of the world from the first "sticky-humid-exhilarating breath." In her essay, she wrote about China's "stadium diplomacy" in Costa Rica, where it has now contributed to the building of 85 sports facilities.

Lauren Rosenfeld

University of California at Berkeley
Graduate School of Journalism
THE WALTER & BETSY CRONKITE SCHOLARSHIP
Supported by CBS News and friends; presented by CBS News president
David Rhodes

From the first documentary she created in Chili with little more than the equipment she carried, Lauren has had a love affair with Latin America. Fluent in Spanish, she wrote about the Voices of Kidnapping radio show, where the families of Colombian kidnap victims send messages of hope and maintain some semblance of contact with loved ones. A video producer and multimedia journalist, she is able to produce content across all platforms.

PEOPLE...

The People column was written by Susan Kille. For news tips, e-mail susan@opcofamerica.org.

OPC FOUNDATION SCHOLARS: Leah Finnegan, winner of the 2010 Stan Swinton Scholarship, left the Huffington Post to join the op-ed page of *The New York Times*. "Couldn't have done it without my OPC experience, naturally," said Finnegan in an e-mail to Foundation Executive Director **Jane Reilly**. After she won her scholarship, the Foundation sent her to Cairo on an internship with The Associated Press.

Alex Pena, who in 2011 won the first Walter & Betsy Cronkite Scholarship last February, reported in January he filed his first post graduation story as a "professional journalist" following his December graduation from Florida Gulf Coast University in Fort Myers. He is in East Africa working as a freelancer and scored his first assignment in South Sudan for ABC News. "Thank you again for all the support the OPC has given me, and I look forward to being in touch!" Pena wrote in an email.

Sisi Tang, who won the 2011 David Schweisberg Scholarship, has joined Reuters in Hong Kong as a reporting intern, covering politics and general news. She most recently interned in Hong Kong on an OPC Foundation grant. In her winning essay, the 2011 Northwestern graduate wrote about the environmental consequences of mining in South Africa's West Rand.

Edward Wong, who won the David Schweisberg Scholarship in 1998, continues a distinguished line of coverage, ranging far and wide from his posting in China. After a weeklong reporting trip in northern Myanmar, Wong landed a front page story January 20 in *The New York Times* about human rights concerns

among American officials over the Burmese military's offensive against the Kachin in northern Myanmar.

WINNERS

David Rohde, a two-time Pulitzer Prize winning author and foreign affairs columnist, was named by the International Press Institute as its 63rd World Press Freedom Hero. The award recognizes contributions defending and promoting press freedom, especially, but not only, involving resistance or bravery under harsh conditions. Rohde spent more than seven months in captivity in the mountains of Afghanistan and Pakistan after members of the Taliban kidnapped him and two Afghan colleagues in November 2008. He escaped in June 2009.

The IPI honor was announced January 17 and will be presented during the group's 2012 World Congress, set for June 23-26 in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago.



Samuel Aranda, a Spanish freelance photographer working in Yemen, was awarded the 2011 World Press Photo of the Year for his picture of a burqa-clad woman holding her wounded son in her arms at a mosque in Yemen that was being used as a field hospital by demonstrators against the rule of President Ali Abdullah Saleh. **Manoocher Deghati**, Middle East regional photo director for The Associated Press, was a judge in the contest and said: "The photo is the result of a very human moment, but it also reminds us of something



World Press Photo of the Year was awarded to Samuel Aranda, a Spanish freelance photographer. Here, a woman holds her wounded son in her arms, inside a mosque used as a field hospital by demonstrators against the rule of President Ali Abdullah Saleh, during clashes in Sanaa, Yemen on 15 October 2011.

important, that women played a crucial part in this revolution."

PRESS FREEDOM

"We mark with sadness and deep concern the first anniversary of our letter to you about your government's repression of freedom of the press in your nation," Tom Squitieri and Larry Martz of OPC's Freedom of the Press Committee wrote January 6 to Recep Tayyip Erdogan, prime minister of Turkey. The letter said at least "80 journalists remain jailed for alleged terrorism-related charges that lack foundation" and decried the continuing case against Nedim Şener, the 2010 World Press Freedom Hero of the International Press Institute, and 13 other defendants on charges related to abetting a terrorist organization.

The letter ended: "Your Excellency, we ask that Turkey end the lawsuits, incarcerations and court sentencing targeting journalists, and that freedom of the press be permitted to take root and flourish in your country. Until Turkey gets its own house in order, it will never be a fully credible leading country advising others in the region what to do."

BEIJING: After a 16-month detention and following a closed trial nine months ago, **Li Tie**, a Chinese writer and activist, was sentenced on January 18 to 10 years in prison for subversion of state power. The evidence against Li, 52, included membership in the opposition group China Social Democracy Party, his comments on websites and a collection of essays that took issue with the government. **Tom Squitieri** and **Larry Martz** of the OPC's Freedom of the Press Committee joined other media advocacy groups in criticizing the sentence. They wrote to Hu Jintao, president of China, and Wen Jiabao, prime minister, noting that before China won the right to stage the Olympic Games "your government promised reforms for personal freedoms, to allow unfettered reporting, and to soften your harsh human rights crackdowns. Now, you have sentenced a journalist to ten years imprisonment for doing the very things you promised to permit."

SANTO DOMINCO, D.R.: **Johnny Alberto Salazar** was convicted January 18 to six months in jail and ordered to pay a \$26,000 fine for defaming Pedro Baldera, a lawyer who also directs a local human rights organization, news reports said. Salazar runs Vida FM radio station and the news website Vida Dominicana in the northern town of Nagua. Salazar had accused Baldera of using the organization to defend criminals with ties to drug traffickers. Baldera denied the accusation and filed a criminal defamation complaint in July. An appeal is planned.

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia: Ethiopian journalists, **Woubishet Taye** and **Reyot Alemu**, were sentenced on January 26 to 14 years in jail and an exiled blogger was sentenced to life imprisonment on charges of conspiring with rebel groups against the government, the

second case in a month targeting the media. In December, two Swedish journalists were sentenced to 11 years in jail for entering Ethiopia illegally and aiding a rebel group, prompting anger among human rights groups and concern over media freedom. Alemu is a columnist for the Amharic-language weekly *Fitih* and Taye was deputy editor of now-defunct *Awramba Times*. U.S.-based **Elias Kifle**, whose pro-opposition website www.EthiopianReview.com often criticizes the government, was tried in absentia and sentence to life on similar charges.



Yoani Sánchez

HAVANA: Prominent Cuban blogger **Yoani Sánchez** was denied permission to leave her country after she was granted a visa by the Brazilian Embassy in January to attend a film festival. "I feel like a hostage kidnapped by someone who doesn't listen nor provide explanations. A government with a ski mask and a gun in a holster," tweeted Sánchez on Feb. 3 after the Cuban government denied her request to travel to Brazil. She said it was the 19th time Cuban officials have turned down her request to leave. As in the past, officials gave no reason for the rejection.

TEHRAN: Iran's supreme court in January confirmed death sentences for three Internet advocates, news reports said. **Saeed Malekpour**, a 35-year-old Canadian resident who was imprisoned in October 2008 while visiting his dying father in Iran, claims he was tortured into confessing that he developed and promoted porn websites. His family said that he is a

programmer whose photo uploading software was used by a porn website without his knowledge. Information technology student **Vahid Asghari**, 24, faces death for allegedly hosting a pornography network. **Ahmadreza Hashempour**, who is 40 and holds a doctorate, was sentenced to death after being charged with "membership in anti-religion and blasphemous websites."



TEHRAN: A revolutionary court on February 7 sentenced **Mehdi Khazali**, editor of the Baran blog, to 14 years in jail, 10 years of internal exile and 70 lashes. He was arrested on January 9 for the third time in less than two years. Khazali is the son of Ayatollah Abolghasem Khazali, an influential member of the Council of Guardians of the Iranian Constitution for the past three decades. Mehdi Khazali's blog is no longer accessible.



Protesters hold a banner that reads 'for Hrant, for justice' outside the court in Istanbul.

ISTANBUL: An Istanbul court on January 17 acquitted 19 men of conspiring to kill Turkish-Armenian journalist **Hrant Dink** and gave one man a life sentence for instigating the January 2007 murder. The suspected shooter, a teenage ultranationalist named Ogün Samast, was sentenced in July to 23 years in prison. Dink's allies say there was a wider conspiracy. Fethiye Çetin, lawyer for Dink's family, said the ruling "means a tradition was left untouched: the state tradition of

(Continued on Page 10)

(Continued From Page 9)

political murders.” Attorneys for Dink asked in February that the Istanbul Deputy Chief Prosecutor’s Office file criminal cases against 24 public officials for their alleged role in Dink’s murder.

BANGKOK: Indonesian authorities detained Czech journalist **Petr Zamecnik** on February 8 and then deported him for reporting from a restricted area of the country without official permission. He was arrested in the West Papuan town of Manokwari after photographing an independence rally, news reports said. Foreign journalists entering West Papua and neighboring Papua, home to an insurgency against Indonesian rule, require special permits from the foreign affairs and communication ministries, as well as from the local police.

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia: **Hamza Kashgari**, a columnist for *Al-Bilad*, was forcibly repatriated February 12 by Malaysian authorities to Saudi Arabia. He had fled Saudi Arabia and a possible death sentence following Twitter posts deemed insulting to the Prophet Muhammad. He reportedly was on his way to request asylum in New Zealand when he was arrested at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport. His lawyers won an injunction against deportation from a Malaysian High Court judge but Kashgari was sent back to Saudi Arabia. In a letter to the crown prince of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and to the principal private secretary to the prime minister of Malaysia, **Kevin McDermott** and **Larry Martz** of OPC’s Freedom of the Press Committee denounced the blasphemy charge, the forced repatriation and “the disgraceful conspiracy” by the two countries to deny Kashgari “his right as a human being to think and speak freely.”

QUITO, Ecuador: Since taking office in early 2007, President Rafael

Correa has repeatedly clashed with journalists. Two decisions in February against Ecuadorian journalists in cases brought by Correa were widely criticized by international press groups, including the OPC. **Jeremy Main** and **Larry Martz** of the Freedom of the Press Committee wrote Correa protesting both cases as well as a measure going into effect next year that would limit reporting about candidates for office.

On February 16, Ecuador’s highest court upheld a criminal libel conviction against *El Universo*, one of the country’s most widely read newspapers; the three brothers who own the paper, **Carlos, César** and **Nicolas Pérez Barriga**; and an editor, **Emilio Palacio**. Correa sued after Palacio wrote a column in February 2011 in which he repeatedly referred to Correa as “the dictator.” All four were convicted in July and sentenced to three years in jail and fines totaling \$40 million. Lawyers have said the fines could bankrupt the newspaper. The ruling exhausts *El Universo*’s legal appeals in Ecuador but the case is under review at the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, part of the Organization of American States.



Journalists **Juan Carlos Calderon**, left, and **Christian Zurita**

On February 7, a civil court in Ecuador ordered journalists **Juan Carlos Calderon** and **Christian Zurita** to pay Correa \$1 million each and an additional \$100,000 for legal costs in damages for *The Big Brother*, a book that details government contracts worth about \$170 million awarded to businesses linked to

Fabricio Correa, the president’s older brother. President Correa denied knowledge of the contracts and sued. An appeal is planned.

MURDERS

Christopher Guarin, 41, a radio commentator who purchased time on Radyo Mo Nationwide and the publisher of local newspaper *Tatak News*, was shot and killed by gunmen on a motorcycle while driving home after his evening broadcast on January 5 with his wife and young daughter in General Santos City on the southern island of Mindanao, news reports said. His wife was injured.



The January 6 murder of **Raul Quirino Garza**, a Mexican journalist who worked for *The Last Word* in Nuevo León, spurred a January 16 letter from the OPC’s Freedom of the Press Committee to Mexican President Felix Calderon saying that Garza’s death follows 10 violent murders of journalists in 2011 – all unpunished. **Jacqueline Albert-Simon** and **Larry Martz**, noted that the committee wrote Calderon twice in 2011 about previous murders “listed still supposedly under investigation, but with no published results. What progress has been made in each of them?” Garza, 30, died after unknown gunmen fired 18 bullets into him as he was driving near Monterrey in Nuevo León.



Gilles Jacquier, 43, a journalist for the French public broadcaster France2, was killed January 11 while covering a pro-regime rally in Homs. Jacquier, an award-winning foreign correspondent, was traveling with reporters when the group was caught in a rocket explosion. Eight Syrians were also killed. Foreign journalists have been banned from Syria since March 2011. Jacquier was with a group of 12 journalists invited on a

government-authorized trip to Homs.



Wisut “Ae” Tangwittayaporn, 44, a reporter and owner of the newspaper *Inside Phuket* in Thailand, was shot and killed January 12 by two men on a motorcycle while driving in Phuket with his wife, news reports said. He died from gunshot wounds to the shoulder, chest, and throat but his wife was unharmed. A local police official said Wisut was likely targeted for his reporting on a series of controversial land claims. Police arrested one suspect and another later surrendered but two more are being sought.



Two gunmen killed **Mukarram Khan Aatif**, a freelance broadcast reporter, on January 17 as he left a mosque in Shabqadar, Pakistan, following evening prayers. A correspondent for the private TV station Dunya News, Aatif also worked for Deewa Radio, a Pashto-language service of Voice of America. Taliban spokesmen took responsibility for the killing. **Kevin McDermott** and **Larry Martz** of the OPC’s Freedom of the Press Committee wrote Pakistan President Asif Al Zadari on January 20 urging “officials in Pakistan to take vigorous action to find and prosecute our colleague’s murder, but we are too freshly aware that only last week, an official commission set up to investigate the murder of Saleem Shahzad last May, announced that it had no clue who might have been behind his assassination — despite worldwide awareness that Shahzad was killed in retaliation for his reporting on the infiltration of Pakistan’s military by Islamic extremists.”



Two Nigerian journalists were killed within a week as terrorist

Two Journalists Killed in Syria Shelling

Marie Colvin, a veteran war correspondent who wore a rakish eye patch to cover a shrapnel injury, and French photojournalist **Rémi Ochlik**, died February 22 when government forces shelled a makeshift media center where reporters were working to cover a bombardment of that started February 4.



Marie Colvin, left, and Rémi Ochlik

Colvin, 56, was from East Norwich, New York. She was not well known to the American public but she was a legend in Britain, where she spent more than 25 years working for the *Sunday Times* as a foreign correspondent specializing in reporting from the world’s most dangerous places. She lost her left eye in 2001 in Sri Lanka, while covering the conflict between the government forces and the rebel Tamil Tigers.

Ochlik, 28, was considered one of the finest talents of a new generation of photographer-reporters. In January he won the World Press Photo award for General News for his coverage of the conflict in Libya.



A photo from Ochlik’s World Press Photo award. Here, a young Libyan shows the gun he has just stolen from the compound of Libyan leader Colonel Muammar Gaddafi; September 23, 2011.

violence escalates in Africa’s most populous country. **Enenche Godwin Akogwu**, 31, a television reporter for independent station Channels TV and a contributor to Reuters, was gunned down on January 20, while trying to interview witnesses of bombings that killed scores of people in the northern city of Kano. A day before, **Nansok Sallah**, 46 and an editor for the government-owned radio station Highland FM, was found dead, facedown in a shallow stream, not far from a military checkpoint near Jos. The Committee to Protect Journalists has called for an investigation, saying assassination is suspected because valuables were found on Sallah’s body.



Hassan Osman Abdi, 29, be-

came the third leader of Shabelle Media Network, the leading independent broadcaster in Somalia, to be killed in as many years when he was ambushed January 28 by unknown gunmen and shot five times in the head and chest as he was entering his home.

Nicknamed “Fantastic,” Abdi was the producer and presenter of three news programs and in the weeks before his murder had aired investigative reports detailing alleged corruption at Mogadishu’s seaport and the regional administration.



Hassan Osman Abdi at the studio in Mogadishu,

(Continued on Page 12)

◆

Mazhar Tayyara, a videographer and photojournalist who contributed to Agence France-Presse, *The Guardian* and *Die Welt*, was killed February 4 by government forces' fire in Homs, Syria. He died while reporting from the Al-Khaldiye neighborhood when government forces shelled the district, news reports said. As Tayyara, 24, assisted people injured in the blast, "a second volley of shells fell and he was hit," a friend told AFP.

◆

The body of Brazilian journalist **Mario Randolph Marques Lopes** was found February 9 in the city of Barra do Piraí in Rio de Janeiro state. Randolph, 50, was the editor-in-chief of the news website *Vassouras na Net*. He survived an attack last July where a gunman burst into the newsroom and shot him in the head, leaving him in a coma for three days. After he recovered, he worked from home. He and his companion were abducted from his home and both were shot to death. Randolph had frequently accused local officials of corruption, according to news reports.

◆

Brazilian journalist **Paulo Roberto Carlos Rodrigues**, who went by the name Paulo Rocaró, was driving home late at night on February 12 through the center of Ponta Porã when he was shot dead late by two assailants on a motorcycle. The gunmen reportedly fired 12 times, with at least five bullets hitting the journalist. A police investigator told Brazilian media that the journalist's murder showed clear signs of being a targeted attack.

UPDATES

James Risen of *The New York*

Times sent the OPC and its Freedom of the Press Committee a thank-you note for opposing the U.S. government's appeal of court decisions quashing subpoenas to force Risen to testify against a former CIA officer accused of leaking national security secrets. Risen wrote in January: "I've been on a book leave, and just returned to *The Times*, and just found in the mail a copy of the letter you wrote in October to Attorney General Holder concerning my case. I apologize for not seeing it earlier. I want to express my deepest gratitude.... Your support means a great deal to me. My fight with the government has turned into a marathon legal battle. The Justice Department has now appealed Judge Brinkema's ruling to the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, which will hear the case sometime in the next few months. But fighting on will be easier knowing that I have the support of leaders in journalism like you."

◆

Mort Rosenblum, an OPC member and a former editor of the *International Herald Tribune*, recently reported in with an update. Rosenblum, winner of OPC's 1989 Hal Boyle Award, has launched Reporting Unlimited on Facebook, with the goal of organizing training for journalists "who want to get it right." This spring, he will teach International Reporting at the University of Arizona.

◆

David Schlesinger, chairman of Thomson Reuters China and a former member of the OPC Foundation board and OPC board (2001-2005), is leaving Thomson Reuters in August. Schlesinger, 51, joined Reuters in 1987 as a correspondent in Hong Kong. From 1989 to 1995 he managed Reuters editorial operations in Taiwan, China, and the Greater China region. He was appointed

editor-in-chief in January 2007 after a spell as global managing editor. He became chairman, Thomson Reuters China, in February 2011 when **Stephen Adler** became editor-in-chief. "I loved being editor-in-chief; I've had a blast being Chairman, China; I'm happy to be able to end it like this," he wrote in a memo to Reuters staff members.



David Schlesinger

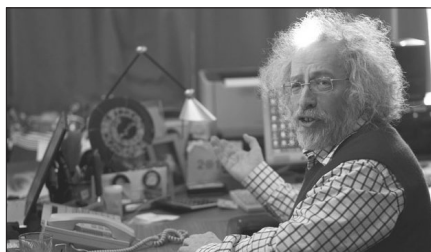
BANGKOK: **Rodney Tasker**, one of the bright journalistic lights of the *Far Eastern Economic Review* in its glory days, seemingly disappeared after the Hong Kong-based magazine, then owned by Dow Jones, closed in 2009. But **Derek Williams**, once a cameraman for CBS who is now based in Bangkok, tracked down Tasker in Lampang Province, a remote area of Thailand, and sent an email describing what he found. Tasker, who must be about 70, is suffering some sort of memory problem. "His short-term memory is pretty much gone, so extended conversations got quite circular," Williams wrote. "He could remember some events and people from a long way back, yet it is was a bit frightening at how he had forgotten (or appeared to have, anyway) some fairly major milestones in his life." Tasker is living with a Thai family, who said a doctor had diagnosed *Alzheimer's*.



Rodney Tasker

"Anyway, I am very happy we made the effort to see him, and it was very clear to us, as Rodney's eyes sparkled during conversations about the fun things he was able to recall, that he was happy to see us also," said Williams, who traveled with other people. "When I mentioned Saturday morning tennis, his eyes lit up and he asked, 'Is that still going

on?" He reckoned he could still get out on the court and have a good hit, but sadly, that is unlikely to happen."



Aleksei A. Venediktov

MOSCOW: Aleksei A. Venediktov remains editor in chief of radio station Ekho Moskvyy in Moscow, but he stepped down February 14 from the station's board of directors after its government-controlled owners announced changes in the board's membership, including the removal of its only two independent members. Prime Minister Vladimir Putin had recently rebuked the station for its criticism of the Kremlin. In 2008, Venediktov was the last winner of the OPC Artyom Borovik Award.

PYONGYANG, NORTH KOREA: The Associated Press became the first international news organization with a full-time presence to cover news from North Korea in words, pictures and video when on January 16 it formally opened its newest foreign bureau here. AP President and CEO **Tom Curley**, an OPC member, and a delegation of top AP editors attended the opening, which resulted from nearly a year of negotiations. In 2006, the AP opened a video bureau in Pyongyang.

NEW YORK: Reuters, which makes its money from electronic information, is said to be considering getting into the print business after producing a successful one-off magazine in January for the World Economic Forum annual meeting in Davos. "I would be very surprised if there wasn't a print product in our future," said **Jim Impoco**, Executive Editor of Thomson Reuters Digital.

He said Reuters believes there is an opening for "a sophisticated, well-designed magazine that doesn't dumb down" its financial, business and foreign policy coverage.



The Knight-Bagehot Fellowship in Economics and Business Journalism is accepting applications until March 1 from journalists who want to enhance their understanding and knowledge of business, economics and finance in a year-long, full-time program administered by the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. Fellows take courses at Columbia's graduate schools of journalism, business, law and international affairs; participate in off-the-record seminars and dinner meetings with corporate executives, economists and academics; and attend briefings and field trips to media companies and financial institutions. Fellows receive free tuition plus a stipend to offset living expenses.

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND: The International Reporting Project is accepting applications from senior U.S. editors and producers interested in being part of a 13-day Gatekeeper Editors Trip to Saudi Arabia. Applications are due March 15. The trip will focus on issues such as energy, religion, environment, education and women's issues.

WEDDING

Pulitzer Prize winning photographer **Max Desfor** married **Shirley Belasco** on January 28 at their condominium in Silver Spring. Friends and relatives had gathered for Belasco's 90th birthday party. Desfor, 98, stunned guests by announcing the surprise nuptial. "It was the best kept secret," he said. "Only a few people knew of the ceremony beforehand."

Belasco was an office manager and accountant before she retired. Desfor was a photojournalist for The Associated Press for 45 years and lat-



Max Desfor and Shirley Belasco

er photo chief at *U.S. News & World Report*. He covered World War II and the Korean War for AP, winning the Pulitzer Prize in 1951 for his shot of Korean refugees swarming across a bombed-out bridge over the Tae-dong River.

It was the second marriage for the bride and groom. Both their previous spouses are deceased. They plan to honeymoon in Delray, Florida.

PEOPLE REMEMBERED



Richard Threlkeld, who covered the Vietnam and Persian Gulf wars and the collapse of the Soviet Union, died January 13 in a car accident on Long Island. Threlkeld, 74, spent 33 years as a television network correspondent, working two stints at CBS — from 1965 to 1982, and again from 1989 to 1998 — with the intervening seven years at ABC. He was co-anchor of "CBS Morning News" from 1977 to 1979.

On April 29, 1975, Threlkeld was on one of the last helicopters to lift off from the American embassy as Saigon fell to the Communists and he was in Beijing during the Tiananmen Square demonstrations in 1989. He reported from Moscow as the Soviet Union crumbled in the 1990s, leading to a 2001 book, *Dispatches From the Former Evil Empire*.

(Continued on Page 14)

(Continued From Page 13)

He won six OPC Awards. He is survived by his wife of 28 years, **Betsy Aaron**, a former CBS, ABC, NBC and CNN correspondent.



Homai Vyarawalla, a photojournalist celebrated in India and published around the world, died January 15 in Vadodara, in west India. She was 98. Vyarawalla was hailed as the first Indian woman to work as a photojournalist and was famous for chronicling the country's march toward independence and capturing enduring images of Mohandas K. Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and world leaders visiting India. She worked for the Far Eastern bureau of the British Information Services in New Delhi, and did freelance work for *Time*, *Life* and *The Illustrated Weekly of India*, among other publications.



Arthur R. Kavalier, who served for 46 years as reporter, editor and eventually publisher of one of the publications that became ICIS Chemical Business, died January 19. He was 91. Kavalier was an outspoken editor with strong convictions, who made a large impact on chemical industry journalism. He was active with The Chemists Club, the OPC, and the National Press Club. After retiring in the late 1990s, he took courses at Columbia University and traveled extensively with his wife Lucy, science writer, novelist and human rights activist. At the time of her death in 2010, they had been married 62 years. He was a graduate of New York University and in 1946 earned a Master's degree at the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism.



People Remembered: George Esper

by Richard Pyle

George Esper, an Associated Press reporter who covered the Vietnam War for a decade and was among the few western journalists who refused to join the U.S.-run evacuation of foreigners as Saigon fell to communist forces in 1975, died at age 79 in his sleep on February 2 at his home in Braintree, Massachusetts.

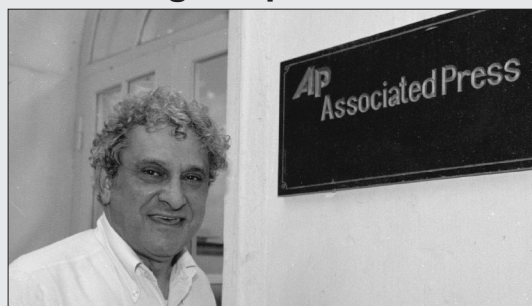
During the Vietnam War, Esper became a legend among media colleagues and military officials for his reporting skills and relentless style that led to a steady string of often-stunning news beats. The last of these was his scoop — if only by minutes — on the surrender of South Vietnam on April 30, 1975, ending the 15-year conflict. It earned him the rarity of a wire service byline on page 1 of *The New York Times*.

After retiring from a 42-year AP career in 2000, Esper spent another ten years as a professor of journalism at West Virginia University, his alma mater, where he earned new accolades for inspiring his students — many of whom were, like Esper himself, the first in their families to attend college. He retired from teaching in 2010 due to health issues, including heart disease.

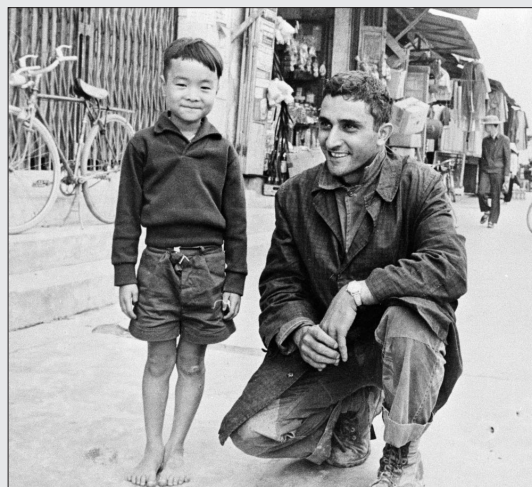
Esper wrote his most memorable story as Saigon fell to the North Vietnamese. He and two other AP reporters, **Peter Arnett** and **Matt Franjola**, decided not to join the evacuation of foreigners as North Vietnamese forces menaced the South Vietnamese capital. Two Hanoi soldiers entered the bureau, with a longtime freelance photographer for the AP who revealed that he had been a communist spy, and assured reporters they were safe. Esper offered them Coca-Cola and stale cake, then interviewed the soldiers who showed snapshots of their families back home. Esper said afterward he was struck by how similar young North Vietnamese soldiers were to the American GIs he had covered.

While he considered his coverage of the dramatic end of the 15-year Indochina conflict the high point in a 42-year career of deadline reporting, it was far from the only one for a reporter famed for his dogged style in war and in peace. Other major stories he covered were the Jonestown massacre in Guyana in 1978, the 1991 Gulf War and Bosnia in the late 1990s.

On his reporting style, Esper said in an interview in 2000, "You don't want to be obnoxious and you don't want to stalk people, but I think persistence pays off."



George Esper outside the AP's Hanoi bureau that he opened in 1993. Esper was the AP's last bureau chief in Saigon from 1973 to 1975 and he re-established AP's presence in Vietnam with the Hanoi bureau.



AP special correspondent George Esper poses with a Vietnamese boy in Quang Ngai Province, south of Da Nang, 1966. Photos: AP

Journalism Loses One of Its Finest, Anthony Shadid

by John Daniszewski

Soon after I heard the heart-wrenching news that Anthony Shadid had died in Syria, I had occasion to look back at the stories he wrote more than a decade and a half ago when he first came to the Middle East to work for The Associated Press. Those pieces still impressed.

We were both based in Cairo then, and I remember how there was something special in his copy, a penetration into the mind of the Arab street that eluded so many correspondents. He had an especially graceful way of capturing the feel and spirit of the place through intelligent use of detail and quotes. Not yet 30, equipped with some conversational Arabic he'd gotten growing up in his Lebanese-American family in Oklahoma, he was even then on a quest to understand the region as deeply as an outsider could and, eventually, to share what he learned with the rest of us.

Those early stories foreshadowed the great journalist he was to become. He did not romanticize and yet almost everything he wrote conveyed a sense of history and sympathy for the people of that region fraught with so many problems and conflicts. He was prescient in his choice of topics, writing long before 9/11 about the plotting of Islamic militant cells in Europe, or the buzz surrounding the son of a wealthy Saudi contractor then living in Sudan, someone called Osama Bin Laden.

I left Cairo in 2000 and he left the AP around then to go to the *Boston Globe*. In early 2003, we met again in Baghdad on the eve of war. There was tremendous pressure on correspondents to leave the city before the imminent U.S. assault. Scores of journalists there were fighting their own frenzied battles on two fronts: opposing the Iraqis' desire to evict them and editors' demands that they leave for their safety. I remember one anguished evening with Anthony in the Information Ministry, soon to be set alight during the "shock and awe" bombardment. His editors wanted him to leave, he said, but he would not, could not, miss such an important story, even if it meant losing his job. Eventually he prevailed and the window to leave the country closed anyway.

In the next few weeks, we who stayed tried to chronicle the experience of ordinary Iraqis. No one captured the drama and surrealism of the ousting of Saddam Hussein quite as skillfully as Anthony. He would manage to sneak off with his driver and sit in curtained living rooms, listening to Iraqis speaking hopefully of the free days that would follow Hussein's fall, or else, hear their anxiety about the chaos that would surely ensue. For his work that year, he won his first of two Pulitzer Prizes.

Across the region, people liked to talk to him. His name means "martyr" in Arabic and that often gave him an opening. Iraqis were fascinated by the chance to speak directly to an American in their own tongue. He was unfailingly patient and polite, taking notes on his



Nada Bakri, Shadid's wife, lit candles for her husband.



OPC member **Anthony Shadid**, a gifted foreign correspondent who wrote for *The New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *Boston Globe* and The Associated Press for nearly two decades in the Middle East died at 43 of an asthma

attack on February 16 while on assignment in Syria for *The New York Times*. **Tyler Hicks**, a *Times* photographer, carried Shadid's body to Turkey.

From the moment the news of his death hit the wires, it left those in the journalism community stunned. Many have picked up their pens to write remembrances of him, some of the very best can be found at *The New York Times* online and **Dexter Filkin's** essay on *The New Yorker's* website.

Shadid won the 2003 OPC Hal Boyle Award for reporting titled "The Soul of Iraq: From War to Resistance and Rebirth" in *The Washington Post*. He also had book nights at the OPC, most recently on November 15, 2005 for *Night Draws Near*. He signed his book to the OPC: "To the OPC – Helping make journalism what it should be. All the best. Anthony Shadid." Shadid just became an OPC member in June 2011.

pad, saying "huh," after a particularly interesting remark, asking more questions and sipping more tea. And at the end of the day, in a candlelit room back at our electricity-challenged hotel, he would hunch over his laptop and write. When things grew tough or he had a problem to ponder, he would call his father back home in Oklahoma for advice and comfort.

After that year, his acclaim grew, both among his colleagues and the public. But it never seemed to change him. He was formidable as a reporter, formidable as a writer, and formidable in his courage and knowledge. But he was unfailingly humble to those around him. His focus and curiosity was mostly on the Iraqis and their society, not on the Americans who had come to occupy it. When the easy victory proved not to be so, and the country shattered along ethnic and sectarian lines, he covered that too.

John Daniszewski is Vice President and Senior Managing Editor, International News and Photos at The AP.

New Books

GLOBAL

BURNET HERSHEY, A PAST president and a founder of the OPC, is remembered fondly in *Memoirs of a Geriatric Ski Bum*, [Xlibris, October 2011] recently published by his nephew, Stanley Hirsch. It was a 1972 trip to Switzerland to track down a codicil to Hershey's will that began Hirsch's skiing adventures. Remembering his uncle in his book, Hirsch wrote:

"It seems only fitting to end these memoirs with a few words about family and the person through whom my life of skiing began, my Uncle Jack (known in his professional life as Burnet Hershey).

"In his early adulthood, Jack Hirsch was a promising young violinist. He looked forward to continuing in the musical tradition of my grandmother's family....

"Unfortunately, a finger on Jack Hirsch's left hand, the fingering hand, became paralyzed, thereby ending his promising concert career. He moved on to another great interest, journalism, and through the years worked for *The Brooklyn*



Burnet Hershey in Paris.

Eagle, the *New York Herald Tribune* and *The New York Times*.

"Jack was the youngest journalist to attend the Versailles Peace Conference following the First World War. After each session, he gathered the papers left on the conference table and compiled a 20-volume history of the event. He donated the only copy to Princeton, in honor of his friend, Albert Einstein.

"As president of the Overseas Press Club, he was called upon many times to deliver a eulogy for a departed member. He often started with these words: "Death is more universal than life. Everyone dies, but not everyone lives. Not everyone experiences and writes about the world as has this prominent member or our press corps."

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

ASIA

CHINA'S SOARING ECONOMIC growth is fueled by annual influxes of up to 200 million poorly educated peasants migrating to China's urban centers. There, they *chiku* or "eat bitterness" by enduring hardships and working in difficult, low-paying jobs that nevertheless offer better options than rural farming.

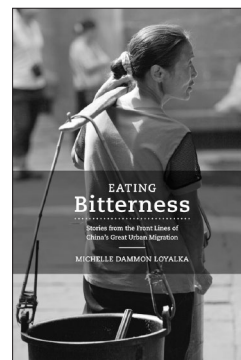
In *Eating Bitterness: Stories from the Front Lines of China's Great Urban Migration*, [University of California Press, March 2012] **Michelle Dammon Loyalka** profiles eight

people who moved from the countryside into cities with the determination to save their wages and capture a piece of the newly imported American

Dream. Loyalka, who won the 2006 Irene Corbally *Kuhn* Scholarship from the OPC Foundation for an essay that ultimately grew into "*Eating Bitterness*," writes about the difficulties the migrants face and the varied directions this journey takes them.

The profiles tell the stories of individual pain, self-sacrifice, and uncertainty as it underlies China's dramatic national transformation.

— by Susan Kille



Coming up...

**Book Night:
Hitlerland
March 19**

See page 1 for details

**Save the Date:
OPC Awards Dinner
April 25, 6 p.m.**
Details in the April Bulletin
Call the OPC for ticket and
table info: 212-626-9220