



2008 Video Journalist of the Year Emmanuel Braun. A model for multimedia newsgathering, Emmanuel is pictured here with Chadian government forces during clashes with rebels, which he covered for television, pictures and text.

## 2008 JOURNALISTS OF THE YEAR

### VIDEO JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

Exceptional video footage on a variety of stories and events in 2008

#### EMMANUEL BRAUN

For coverage of Africa

“Emmanuel Braun’s bravery and tenacity as he travelled last year through a number of dangerous conflict zones, all the while filing not only video stories but accompanying text and photos as well, makes him the sort of journalist that distinguishes Reuters as the preminent source of multimedia dispatches from around the world—even its most hazardous corners.”

– David Schlesinger, Editor-in-Chief, Reuters

**WINNER OVERVIEW**

Emmanuel Braun has proved to be one of our most prolific multimedia journalists, repeatedly accompanying his TV exclusives with simultaneous scores for text and pictures. He has covered an impressive range of top African stories over the last 12 months with great skill and immense success, often in the most difficult of circumstances.

At the head of his impressive file is his outstanding performance while covering the rebel advance and refugee crisis last fall in the Democratic Republic of Congo. His exclusive pictures of atrocities committed by rebels in eastern Congo vividly portrayed the brutality of the conflict. As well as delivering his TV footage, Emmanuel filed a graphic eyewitness text account from the scene and provided stark still images of the slaughter.

An even more high-profile exclusive on the story was to follow. After an arduous 27-hour round trip through some of the world's most hostile terrain to the rebel stronghold Manu, he secured a world exclusive one-on-one with leader Laurent Nkunda. Emmanuel was rewarded with a hard-hitting interview in which the rebel general threatened to take his offensive to the capital Kinshasa unless the Congolese government agreed to talks.

Earlier in the year, Emmanuel was the first TV journalist to get into Chad to provide the world with dramatic pictures of thousands fleeing N'djamena as rebels besieged the city in a bid to oust President Idriss Deby. Again, Emmanuel filed text and pictures before going on to record the first images from inside N'djamena itself.

He was also the only agency crew to get into the Central African Republic, a forgotten crisis zone where conflict between rebels and government has displaced tens of thousands. When British mercenary Simon Mann went on trial in Equatorial Guinea, Emmanuel bravely carried on shooting subversively with a mini dv after his main camera was rendered useless by heavy-handed Guinean soldiers and he had been repeatedly threatened not to continue his coverage.

After nearly two decades with the company, Emmanuel's enthusiasm for the frontline story and his ability to innovate remain undimmed. Having started here using the most basic tape and landline delivery, Emmanuel now uses the most sophisticated technology in file transfer, moving same-day TV images on important stories in the remotest of locations to any corner of the world, pictures that once took days to get out.



Emmanuel was born in Paris in 1961. He became a photographer's assistant at 17, before leaving photography in the mid-eighties to become an assistant for TV journalists in Paris for the big three American networks. That's where Emmanuel had his first brush with breaking news, covering a wave of terrorist attacks that struck Paris.

When Emmanuel struck out on his own, his first story as a stringer was the fall of the Berlin Wall. He then joined the Visnews Paris office in 1990 as a soundman, and soon started shooting on his own. He soon found that he was far more comfortable covering war than French fashion shows, and has covered more than thirty conflicts in Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

Emmanuel moved to Ivory Coast in 2001 to work as a producer and cameraman. He is now based in Dakar, Senegal, where he is senior producer for west and central Africa.

**2008 JOURNALISTS OF THE YEAR AWARDS**

Recognize the best in Reuters journalism over the last year. Winners of 10 awards were honoured for their exceptional work on March 5, 2009, in New York City